

STICKS & STONES

We have all heard this saying that we were taught from an early age.

"Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me!"

Whoever thought up that rhyme is full of crap!

I don't know about you but I've been hurt many times by the words that people say. At our last guys mentoring night I shared with them how the tongue, your words, is a restless evil full of deadly poison. It has the power to corrupt the entire body.

"... the tongue is a small thing, but what enormous damage it can do. A tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is full of wickedness that can ruin your whole life. It can turn the entire course of your life into a blazing flame of destruction, for it is set on fire by hell itself."
James 3: 5-6

I talked about how their words have the power to breathe life into someone or to completely destroy someone's spirit. I told them that they can never know how certain words may affect the rest of someone's life. I challenged them to choose their words carefully, to be someone who is known for breathing life into others not destroying their spirit.

"Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of malicious behavior. Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you."
Ephesians 4: 31-32

I also talked about how just one act of kindness can alter a person's day or the rest of their life. For example: If there is a person in school who is not necessarily popular or maybe an outcast, if they drop their books or their papers fly all over the place what would change in that person if you were to help them pick up their stuff? You never know how that one simple act can alter that person's life. Maybe they had been contemplating suicide and by showing kindness you could have been the one person to place value on their life.



It was a very powerful night. My son, JT, told me afterward that he saw an amazing reaction by the guys after the talk. They were all being very helpful to one another. They older ones were teaching younger ones to play pool. Others were helping clean up, and there



just seemed to be a positive feel to the rest of the night; the realization that everyone truly mattered. Please pray that the words we speak and the example of Christ that we share to these teens at Bighouse will pierce their hearts and follow them throughout the rest of their life!

-Jay

"Therefore, I a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for have been called by God. Be humble and gentle, be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Always keep yourselves, united in the Holy Spirit, and bind yourselves together with peace."
Ephesians 4:1-3

A Big Deal

This has been a great school year! We are amazed that in the fall we will be starting our 5th school year! Wow! Where has time gone!

We have been so blessed by many of you who have come along side us as we provide a place for teens. We are proud to say that we have always stayed "in-the-black". The economy has been difficult for all of us and as a non-profit we are very aware that when gas prices increase and groceries go up that our donations go down. We have lost some monthly donors if you would like to give a tax deductible donation to Bighouse please mail a check to

Bighouse Youth Outreach
 P.O. Box 1223
 Prairie Grove, AR 72753

or

feel free to give online at
www.bighouseyouthoutreach.com

If you would like more information please visit our website or reach us by email or phone.

Director: Jay Gresham cell: 479.445.2255 bighouse@pgtc.com

Thank you for giving the teens of Prairie Grove a safe place to come after school!

Our mission is to reach teens in their environment, to encourage them to dream big, and provide a safe place for them to come and be energized. We want to see their lives changed to give them hope and a future. Most importantly, show them the unconditional love of Christ.

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