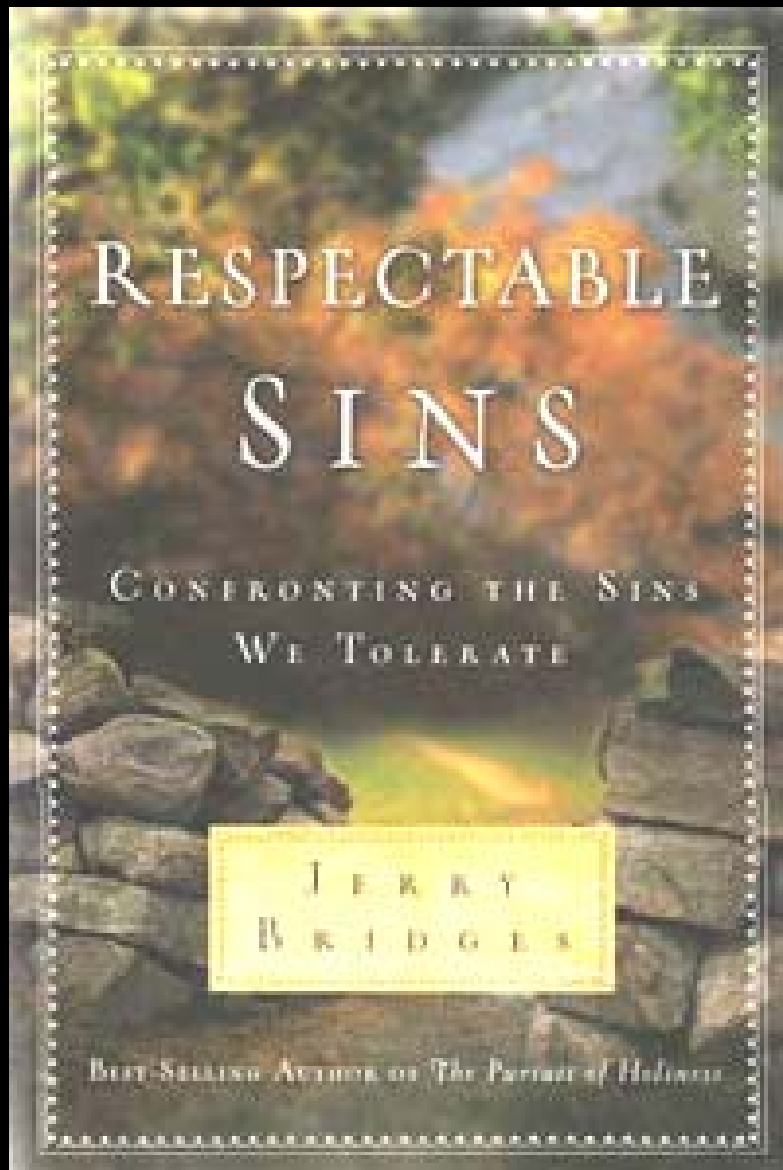


Respectable Sins

Confronting the
Sins That We So
Easily Tolerate

Sundays
Thru August 10th





Respectable Sins

*Confronting
the Sins We
Tolerate*

Jerry Bridges

BIG DEAL

NO BIG DEAL

Adultery
Homosexuality
Murder
Abortion
Assault
Child, Spousal, or
Substance Abuse

“Respectable”
sins

BIG DEAL

Adultery
Homosexuality
Murder
Abortion
Assault
Child, Spousal,
Substance
Abuse

NO BIG DEAL

Ungodliness
Unthankfulness
Anger
Judgmentalism
Worldliness
Anxiety

Respectable Sins

This morning
the sins of

the tongue





The Tongue

Can do much
– both
GOOD and
EVIL!

Proverbs 12:18

Reckless words pierce like a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Proverbs 15:4

The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.

Proverbs 18:21

The tongue has the power
of life and death.

James 3:5

Likewise the tongue is a **small** part of the body, but it makes great boasts.

Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.

James 3:6

The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

James 3:10

Out of the same mouth
come praise and cursing.

My brothers, this should not
be.



Using our tongues for EVIL:

- Obscenities or profanity

- Lies

- Gossip

- Slander

The “gray” areas of lying:

Telling a half-truth as a whole truth?

Exaggerating the truth?

Telling a “little white lie?”
(a “fib”)



Using our tongues for EVIL:

- Obscenities or profanity
- Lies
- Gossip
- Slander

Definition of gossip:

Gossip is the spreading of negative or unfavorable information about someone – even if it is true!

Proverbs 18:8

The words of a **gossip** are like choice morsels.

“Indulging in gossip seems to feed our sinful ego, especially when the information we’re passing on is negative. It makes us feel self-righteous by comparison.”

**Jerry
Bridges**



Beware of the “gossip
under the guise of
sharing a prayer need”
maneuver!

If you hear “bad news” about
someone:

Pray about it – then shut up
about it!



Using our tongues for EVIL:

- Obscenities or profanity
- Lies
- Gossip
- Slander

Definition of slander:

Slander is to make a false statement or misrepresentation about another that defames or damages that person's reputation.

James 4:11

Brothers, do not slander one another.



Using our tongues for EVIL:

- Obscenities or profanity
- Lies
- Gossip
- Slander



Using our tongues for EVIL:

- Critical words
- Harsh words
- Unkind words
- Sarcastic, cutting words



So what can
we do to
keep our
tongues in
check?



“Sticks and
stones may
Not true!
but
charms will
never hurt me!”



Three-fold strategy
to keep our tongues
in check . . .

1. A prayer to pray

Psalm 141:3

Set a guard over my **mouth**,
O LORD; keep watch over
the door of my **lips**.



Three-fold strategy to keep our tongues in check?

1. A prayer to pray
2. A pause to practice

Proverbs 10:19

When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.



Three-fold strategy to keep our tongues in check?

1. A prayer to pray
2. A pause to practice
3. A verse to “talk by”

Ephesians 4:29

Do not let any

unwholesome talk come

out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.



“Unwholesome talk”

- Obscenities or profanity
- Lies
- Gossip
- Slander



“Unwholesome talk”

- Critical words
- Harsh words
- Unkind words
- Sarcastic, cutting words

Put off... Put on...

- v. 25 **Put off** lying and
put on truth-telling
- v. 28 **Put off** stealing and
put on honest labor
- v. 29 **Put off** unwholesome
talk and
put on helpful talk

Ephesians 4:29

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but **ONLY** what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

We must strive with our
speech to **MINISTER** to
others – meeting their needs
and NOT seek to
MANIPULATE others thru
our speech to get them to
meet our needs!

A paraphrase of Ephesians 4:29

“BUILD UP or SHUT UP!”

A great verse to “talk by!”





**Beneath this stone,
a lump of clay,
Lies Arabella
Young,
Who, on the twenty-
fourth of May,
Began to hold her
tongue.**



Three-fold strategy to keep our tongues in check?

1. A prayer to pray
2. A pause to practice
3. A verse to “talk by”