



STUDY GUIDE: June 7, 2026

Message Series: More Than Gold
Message Title: The Power of Words
Teaching Pastor: Brian Hughes

Warm-up / Icebreaker (10 min.)

What's a compliment, encouragement, or statement someone said to you that you still remember years later?

Pray:

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift and power of words. Help us to recognize how deeply our words can impact others. Teach us to speak life, healing, encouragement, and truth. Guard our hearts and our mouths so that our words reflect Your love and grace. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Get Started (30 min.)

- When you hear the word "powerful," what comes to mind?

"Words carry power and weight. With a word we can build a bridge and with a word we can blow it up. With a word we can speak life into someone or take life from someone." -Pastor Brian Hughes

Read **Proverbs 12:18** and **Proverbs 15:1**.

- Why do you think words can affect people so deeply?
- Can you think of a time when someone's words brought healing or encouragement into your life?

"Kind words heal and help; cutting words wound and maim." -Pastor Brian Hughes

Read **Proverbs 15:4**.

- Why is it often easier to speak harshly than gently, especially with the people closest to us?
- What are some practical ways we can become more intentional with our words this week?

Reflect and Commit (30 min.)

The message reminded us that our words have the power to shape relationships, homes, and even entire lives.

"There are so many life-giving ways to use your words... 'I'm with you.' 'I'm proud of you.' 'You can do this.' 'I love you.'" -Pastor Brian Hughes

Read **Ephesians 4:29**.

- According to this verse, what kinds of words should come out of our mouths?
- Which of the life-giving phrases mentioned in the message do you think people need to hear more often today?

“Three words that are surprisingly difficult to say: ‘I am sorry.’” -Pastor Brian Hughes

Read **James 5:16**.

- Why can apologizing feel so difficult sometimes?
- Is there someone you may need to apologize to, encourage, thank, or simply remind that you love them?
- Take 30–60 seconds of quiet reflection and ask:
“God, how am I using my words right now?”
“Who needs life-giving words from me this week?”

“May your words be used to help. May your words be used to heal. May the power of your words lift people up and point everyone around you to the One who gave you the power of words in the first place.” -Pastor Brian Hughes

Gather Prayer Requests (5–10 min.)

Share prayer needs and take time to pray for one another.

Closing Prayer:

Father God, thank You for the incredible gift and responsibility of words. Forgive us for the times we have used our words carelessly or hurtfully. Help us speak words that heal, encourage, restore, and bring life. Teach us to apologize quickly, encourage generously, and love sincerely. Let our conversations reflect Your grace and truth so that the people around us experience Your love through us. In Jesus' name, Amen.