

## **Growing Together Discussion Questions from Sunday's Sermon**

*(For Personal Study, Review, Meditation and Mid-Week Group Discussion)*

### ***Wisdom on Communication: Positive Speech – January 27, 2013***

#### **I. Getting to know you (Questions for Group Discussion):**

- a. What was your most memorial birthday?
- b. How do you most like to celebrate – a big party with lots of people or a small group of intimate friends?
- c. Who has been the biggest encouragement to you? How did their encouragement positively influence your life?

#### **II. Getting into the Bible / Points from Sunday's Message:**

##### **a. Key Sermon Points:    A Commitment to Positive Patterns of Speech**

- i. To change what comes out of our mouth, we need to guard what goes into our heart. (Prov. 4:23)
- ii. We need to speak less and listen more. (10:19; 11:12; 13:3; 17:27-28; 21:23)
- iii. We need to make it our ambition to speak only what is good about others. (Prov. 10:18; Titus 3; Philippians 4:8-9)
- iv. We need to deal with offenses biblically. (Matt 18:15-17)

##### **b. Key Scripture:    **James 3.****

#### **III. Getting into Life:**

- a. If guarding our hearts is first priority in improving our speech, then, at the present, what "guards" need to be established in your life to protect what goes into your heart? (What most tempts you to think and live according to your pre-saved life?)  
At the present, what is most helpful to your faith development? What is currently helping your heart be more firmly rooted in Christ and in the promises of God?
- b. What disciplines will need to be worked in your life to practically speak less and listen more? How do you practically apply this wisdom to your personal life?
- c. If you carried out a commitment to only speak good about others, what effect would that have upon your personality? ...your character? ...your spiritual development... your relationships?
- d. Instead of slandering offenders, we need to work to restore relationships. Instead of talking **about** offenders, we need **to** talk to offenders. Are there relationships that you should be working to restore? What steps could be taken toward that end?