

Rhythms of Grace Part 3: Speaking With Grace

(Matthew 11:28 MSG) "Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly."

Measuring Grace

(Luke 6:45 NIV) A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

✓ Gracious words give life.

(Proverbs 18:21 MSG) Words kill, words give life; they're either poison or fruit—you choose.

(Proverbs 15:4 NLT) Gentle words are a tree of life.

✓ Gracious words bring instruction.

(Proverbs 16:21 NIV) The wise in heart are called discerning, and gracious words promote instruction.

✓ Gracious words bring healing.

(Proverbs 16:24 NIV) Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.

Speaking With Grace

(Colossians 4:3-6 NIV) And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

1. Pray for clarity and wisdom.

(Colossians 4:3-4 NIV) And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should.

(1 Kings 4:29 NIV) God gave Solomon wisdom and very great insight, and a breadth of understanding as measureless as the sand on the seashore.

2. Ponder the best approach.

(Colossians 4:5-6a NIV) Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be...

(Galatians 6:10 NIV) Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

3. Pour out grace.

(Colossians 4:6 NIV) Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

(1 Timothy 1:14 NIV) The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

(Psalm 19:14 NLT) May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O lord, my rock and my redeemer.