

THE WEIGHT OF YOUR words

Part 3: Intent Doesn't Remove the Dent

Even when our words are accidental, they can still hurt someone.

Discussion Questions

1. Can you remember a story (funny or otherwise) when you said one thing and meant something entirely different? What happened?
2. Why do we rush to explain ourselves rather than simply owning our guilt? Explaining feels urgent and appropriate in the moment. Why?
3. Read **James 3:5–6**. What stands out to you? What are some ways our words compare to a fire?
4. Generally speaking, are you a fire container/explainer or an extinguisher? What makes you say that? Would those closest to you agree?
5. What can you do to remind yourself to opt for humility and sensitivity rather than an explanation next time you start a word fire?

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.

—Ephesians 4:29