

Part 1: Way More

We've all heard the adage that actions speak louder than words. But the words we've heard have shaped us and the words we speak have the power to shape others. And some words weigh more than others.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Whose words have shaped you the most? Why?
- 2. Which comes easier to you: criticism or encouragement? Does it depend on the relationship? Why?
- 3. Read Ephesians 4:29.
 - What are your observations about this passage? What key words stand out?
 - What's an example of helpful words?
 - How can we evaluate our words in light of the recipient's needs?
- 4. In the message, Andy suggested that the ratio of our affirmation to our criticism influences how even constructive criticism is received. How have you seen that play out in your relationships?
- 5. Where do you have work to do with your words? Who hopes you'll get to work soon?
- 6. What is one step you can take to ensure that your words are helpful and beneficial?

Changing Your Mind

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