

2026-03-04 Points

Title: What's In Your Heart? Speaking Truth in Love

Sermon Summary:

This sermon challenges believers to examine what truly fills their hearts, as evidenced by their words and actions. Using the book of Job as a framework, particularly focusing on Elihu's speeches, the pastor explores how our speech reveals the content of our hearts. The message emphasizes that while Job's friends spoke extensively about God, modern Christians must ask themselves how much they truly know about God from Scripture versus assumption. The sermon calls believers to move beyond superficial faith to deep biblical knowledge, authentic prayer ministry, and speaking truth in love rather than gossip or resentment. The central teaching revolves around Jesus' words that "out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks," challenging the congregation to fill their hearts with God's truth so their words and actions glorify Him.

Key Points:

- Christians should be able to articulate what they believe about God and support it with Scripture, not just personal feelings or assumptions
- God is sovereign and unchanging—our sin doesn't make Him less God, nor does our righteousness make Him more God
- We should pray with people, not just tell them we'll pray for them, overcoming fear of saying the wrong thing
- Out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks—our words reveal what truly fills our hearts
- Resentment harbored in the heart will inevitably come out through our words and attitudes
- True repentance means aligning our thinking with God's truth and saying "not my will, but yours be done"
- We must speak truth in love to fellow believers when needed, not gossip to others about their struggles
- Contentment is learned through relationship with God, recognizing He provides more than we deserve
- Every careless word will be accounted for on judgment day—our words

either acquit or condemn us

- Ministry means serving others where they are, not just being nice or offering empty sympathy

Scripture Reference:

- Job 34:31-36:33 (primary focus on Elihu's speeches)
- Matthew 12:30-37 (out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks)
- Luke 6:43-46 (parallel teaching about good and bad fruit)
- James (reference to being doers of the word, not just hearers)

Stories:

- The pastor's personal testimony of almost avoiding ministry altogether and what he would have missed
- Example of a person claiming God approved their divorce despite it contradicting Scripture
- Illustration of growing up with a good family name that gave him advantages based on his father's and grandfather's reputation
- Story of the grain elevator/conveyor belt on the farm—illustrating how what goes in at the bottom comes out at the top, just as what fills our hearts comes out through our mouths
- Humorous anecdote about walking into a room where someone sprayed air freshener but it didn't cover up the real smell—comparing it to trying to filter our language without changing our hearts
- Reference to Facebook "friendships" that dissolve over political disagreements, illustrating harbored resentment