LIVING IN THE LIGHT

THE POWER OF OUR WORDS (Romans 16)
Talk-it-Over Notes | October 24-25, 2026

REVIEW IT

Romans 16:1-24 highlights the profound impact of our words as Paul closes his letter with personal greetings and heartfelt affirmations. He names and commends individuals within the early church, demonstrating the importance of encouragement, gratitude, and unity in the body of Christ. Paul's example reminds us that our words can build others up, strengthen relationships, and foster a spirit of community. As followers of Jesus, we are called to use our speech wisely—speaking life, blessing, and affirmation into the lives of those around us, just as Paul did, to reflect Christ's love and nurture unity among believers.

When we greet others, we dignify them
Greetings help us to invite others in rather than push them out

As a Christian, I can:

1. Learn to speak carefully
2. Speak the truth lovingly
3. Heed the truth, even when it's hard to hear

Spend some time in the Word: Read Romans 16 (You can play an audio Bible of the this chapter)

TALK ABOUT IT

1. Our words matter and have the power to create lasting memories. Can you remember a time when someone's words were gracious and brought you relief? (Proverbs 16:24)

2. Can you recall a time when someone's words—positive or negative—had a lasting impact on your faith journey? How did it affect your relationship with God and others?

3. Have you ever fell for the trap of labeling someone before you even met them, rather than greeting them? ("They don't want me to talk to them. They won't like me. I won't like them. Etc.")

4. Is there anyone or anything you've written because you didn't like the way it was said, but there was still some truth in it?

ACT ON IT

What specific situation or with whom do you need to apply this message this week? Is there a situation or person you need to be careful with your words, speak the truth lovingly and heed the truth even when it's hard to hear?

PRAY ABOUT IT

Take time to ask how you can pray for and support one another in prayer. Then, close in prayer.

Lord, thank You for the gift of Your Word and the reminder of the power our words hold. Help us to speak encouragement, truth, and love to those around us. Guide our hearts so that our conversations reflect Your grace and bring unity to our community. May our words honor You and build up others, just as Paul demonstrated. In Jesus' name, Amen.