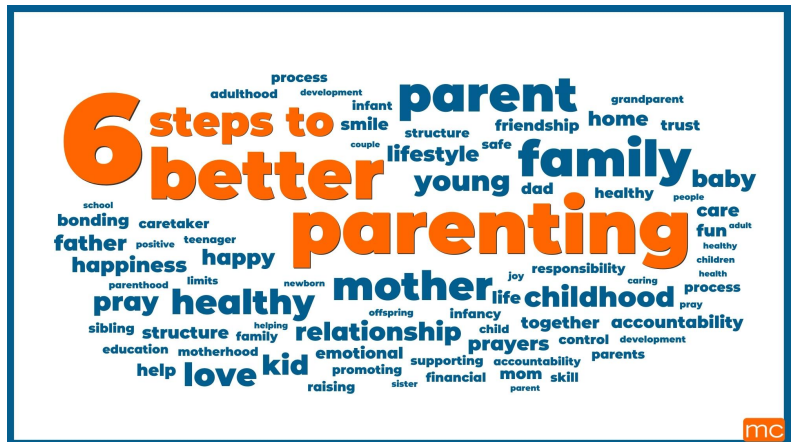


Talk It Over

Questions are prepared each week and are designed to prompt insights, questions, and the life experience of each listener. If these are used immediately following the sermon, it would be much the same as what was done in Israel at the time of the early church.

Discuss:

1. Read the creation song found in Genesis 1:1-2:3. What is the role of God's speech in this poem? What do God's words bring forth?
2. The Bible begins with God speaking, and is filled with stories that contain the words "God said." Jesus is described as "The Word" that becomes flesh. What are the biblical authors trying to say to us about the power of words?
3. Read James 3:1-12. If words are so powerful, why do we use them so carelessly?
4. Recall a time in your life when someone's words—spoken, written or typed—served as an encouragement or changed your life for the better?
5. What does it look like to "tell the truth with a positive slant." Do you agree that this is how we should always speak to other people—especially to our children?
6. How would each day be different for you if you saw each day as an opportunity to create life and goodness through your words? Would this give us all a good reason to get up every morning?



Wrap Up:

Spend time in prayer.