

"A gentle tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit." (Proverbs 15:4, NRSV)

What you say can have a huge impact on the people around you. The key question is: will it impact them for good or for bad?

There is an English proverb that goes:

"Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me."

The Bible, and Proverbs in particular, disagree strongly with this assessment. Words really do matter. They can really hurt people. That is the point of the second part of the Proverb at the top of the page.

A perverse tongue may not break people's bones, but it can break their spirit. Indeed, Proverbs warns us about all kinds of foolish ways of speaking: wasting time trying to persuade a fool, joining in with arguments that aren't yours, lying, quarrelling, gossiping and flattery to name but a few. Used wrongly, the tongue is an all-consuming fire lit by hell (James 3:6).

Yet, words can also bring support and life. They can warn, encourage and guide. Just the right words can bring people comfort when they are in the depths of sorrow, courage to face great challenges and inspiration to find a fresh vision.

For us as Christians of course, we know that it is only by hearing someone tell us the good news about Jesus that we can find our ultimate joy and salvation. As it says in Romans: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" It can indeed be a tree of life leading us to heaven.

Paul Worledge

This Sunday's Services on livestream:

[Sunday 3rd July – A Wise Tongue, Proverbs 26](#)

Click the above link to access the livestream for this week's service. You can also use the link to watch the service at a later time.

Weekly Calendar

Friday 1st July

Play and Praise (St. Luke's Church Hall) – 10:00-11:30am

Gather, Women's Drop-In (St. Luke's Church) - 12:30-2:30am

Saturday 2nd

Prayer Breakfast (St Augustine's Church) - 9:00-10:00am

Claire's Ordination (Canterbury Cathedral) – 5:30pm-6:30pm

Sunday 3rd

Family Service (St. Luke's Church), Proverbs 26:4-7, 17-28 –
11:00am-12:00pm

Picnic Celebration for Claire's Ordination, (St. Luke's grounds), 12:30-2:00pm

Youth Initiative (St. Luke's Church), 5:00pm-7:30pm

Wisdom for life (Dorothy Drive), 5:30pm-7:00pm

Monday 4th

Daily Prayer (St. Luke's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Wisdom for life (Margate Road), 7:30pm-9:00pm

Tuesday 5th

Daily Prayer (St. George's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Wednesday 6th

Wisdom for life (Lyndhurst Road), 2:00pm-3:30pm

Wisdom for life (South Eastern Road), 7:30pm-9:00pm

Thursday 7th

Daily Prayer (St. Luke's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Cafe4All (St. Luke's Church), Coffee and Chat for all - 10:00-11:30am.

Friday 8th

Play and Praise (St. Luke's Church Hall) – 10:00-11:30am

Gather, Women's Drop-In (St. Luke's Church) - 12:30-2:30am

Saturday 9th

Daily Prayer (St. George's Church) - 9:30-10:00am

Vicarage BBQ (St. Luke's Vicarage) – 5:00-8:00pm

Sunday 10th

Family Service (St. Luke's Church), Proverbs 27:5-18 –
11:00am-12:00pm

Youth Initiative (St. Luke's Church), 5:00pm-7:30pm

Wisdom for life (Dorothy Drive), 5:30pm-7:00pm

Claire's Ordination

Claire our curate is being ordained as 'Priest' at **5:30pm on Saturday 2nd July** at Canterbury Cathedral. This is an important moment in her journey of ministry and it would be great if a good number from both churches could come to support her at the Cathedral.

Claire will take her first Eucharist / Holy Communion at the 9:30am service at St. George's on **Sunday 3rd July**. We will also have a bring and share (picnic) lunch in St. Luke's Vicarage Garden from **12:30-2:00pm** later on that day. Everyone is welcome to join us for the picnic. Please come up the driveway between the church and the hall and enter the garden behind the church through the gate on the right.

Sailor's Church

Evening services start this evening at the Sailor's Church in the Harbour. They will run on each Sunday through July. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Prayer Requests

Be assured I will do my best to check that people are happy for the requests to be shared before including them. Please pray for...

- Claire as she goes on retreat this week and is ordained on Saturday at Canterbury Cathedral.
- Kate Page who is having treatment for breast cancer.
- Rita Ryan and family after the sudden death of Colin recently.
- Healing for Gloria's left knee following an incident last week.
- Emma (friend of Kelly) undergoing treatment for breast cancer.
- Alison and David Hawthorn and family, after the death of David's daughter.

- Baby Hope as she has a few appointments/tests with her cardio team over the coming weeks for her heart defect.
- Ken Tipler that the pain can be kept under control.

Please also continue to pray for: Michelle (Terry De Vere's wife), Mitch Styles, Flo Baldock, Jean Hann, Shirley Crabb, Joy Smithers, Nathan Court, Pauline Emptage, Collette Judge, Barb (Gloria's daughter's friend), Rita Ryan, David Perkins.

Volunteering Survey

We are really grateful to the large number of people who volunteer at St. Luke's in all kinds of different ways. Without such volunteering, we would not be able to operate as a church.

However, we want to renew our volunteer teams for September, both to make sure people are on the right teams, but also to ensure that we are covering all areas effectively – at present we are short in some areas.

It would be really helpful, therefore, whether you are already volunteering or not if you could fill in a short form to express your interest in volunteering in different areas either this Sunday or next or using [this online form](#). Please make sure you click, 'Submit' at the end of the form.

Gather Drop-In Volunteer Event – Friday 8th July

Gather is a Drop-In for women that runs at St. Luke's church on Friday afternoons, 12:30-14:00pm. If you are female, you could be part of the amazing drop-in team. From 11am, there will be information about Gather, how to apply and the opportunity to stay for a Gather session.

Vicarage BBQs

There should be an invitation to one of the Vicarage BBQs for all our regular members. You will be invited to come on either Saturday 9th or 30th July, but if you cannot make the date you are invited on, then you can choose the other date. Please sign the list at the back of church to let us know you are coming.

Thanet Light Orchestra Concert – St. Luke's Sat. 16th July

This concert will include a century old Thanet Concert overture amongst other great music. It will be on 16th July, 7pm at St. Luke's, with the Thanet Light Orchestra. Tickets will be £10 on the door, under 18s will be free. You can purchase tickets in advance for £5 from Fiona. [Read more about the history of Thanet Concert Overture.](#)

Book to see the vicar:

If you would like to arrange to see Paul the vicar about anything, then please use this following link to book an appointment: <https://calendly.com/worldedge/meet-with-paul>

Links to Share:

Last week's Sermon:

[A Heart for Wisdom \(Proverbs 23:12-26\)](#)

Proverbs are written to help form a wise character. In this talk we consider two things to embrace and two things to avoid as we seek a wise character formation.

Video on Holiness

One of the Biblical concepts that is perhaps hardest to understand is that of 'holiness.' Yet, this is a crucial idea in the Bible. In Isaiah's vision of God, the seraphim cry, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God almighty." Check out this video from the Bible Project to help you understand the concept better.

[Watch Video.](#)

A different perspective on refugees

A CMS mission partner invites the prime minister to visit southwest Uganda – to gain some perspective and more compassion when it comes to refugees. [Read the article..](#)

Finally, let's pray that God will help us to speak with real wisdom that brings life.

Yours in Christ,

Paul Worledge
(Vicar, St. Luke's Ramsgate)