

# Word of Encouragement

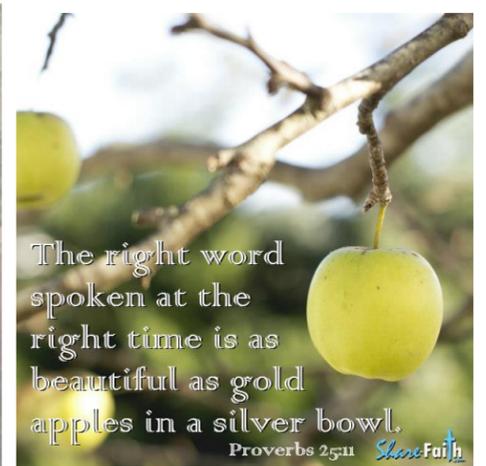
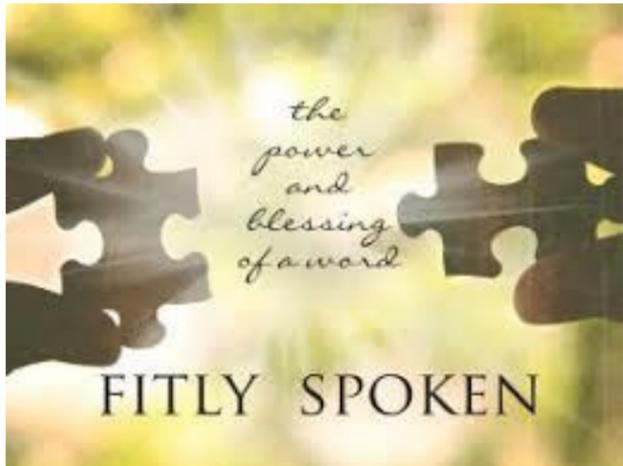
Getting smarter ... Becoming wiser ... **is fun!** And rewarding ... and it makes us feel good to be improving ourselves.

When I learn something new – I try to “lock it in” ... Write it down ... Capture it ... so I can access it when needed!

Many years ago, I created a “wisdom book” to capture “smart things” I learned from Books & Movies.

There is a proverb of Solomon that captures this concept awesomely ...

Pro 25:11 A word fitly spoken *is like* apples of gold In settings of silver.



For today's Word of Encouragement ... let's look at some different categories of **wise words from Jesus – our example!**

- **Timely Words** - Rev 2:4-5 Nevertheless I have *this* against you, that you have left your first love. Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent.
- **Brilliant Words** - Mat 22:17-22 Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, "Why do you test Me, you hypocrites? Show Me the tax money." So they brought Him a denarius. And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription is this?" They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." When they had heard these words, they marvelled, and left Him and went their way.
- **Counselling Words** - Luk 18:18-24 Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, "Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" So Jesus said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. You know the commandments: 'DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY,' 'DO NOT MURDER,' 'DO NOT STEAL,' 'DO NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS,' 'HONOR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER.'" And he said, "All these things I have kept from my youth." So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me." But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, "How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God!"
- **Words of Reproof** (*ie "an often kindly intent to correct a fault"*)- Joh 21:15-17 So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs." He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Tend My sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep."
- **Words of Encouragement** - Joh 15:13 Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you. (*Jesus didn't "assume" they knew – he said it!*)
- **Words of Clarity** - Mat 5:21-22 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'YOU SHALL NOT MURDER, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. (Spirit of the Law! ... other topics clarified = Adultery, Divorce, Oaths, Eye for eye, Hate enemies)
- **Silent words of Empathy and "shared sorrow"** - Joh 11:32-35 Then, when Mary came where Jesus was, and saw Him, she fell down at His feet, saying to Him, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died." Therefore, when Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her weeping, He groaned in the spirit and was troubled. And He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept.

Truly, we draw inspiration and joy from the wise words of our Lord ... they are *like* apples of gold In settings of silver So...Seek to Hear wisdom around us & open your heart to share wise words with family, loved ones, brethren & our fellowman.