

**Speech**

**Ephesians 4:29**

What types of speech are unwholesome? Look up the following terms in a dictionary:

Boast (Rom. 15:17; 1 Cor. 15:31; 2 Timothy 3:2; James 4:16):

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Grumble (cf. Philippians 2:14):

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Gossip (Proverbs 20:19; 2 Cor. 12:20; 2 Timothy 2:16):

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Quarrel (Proverbs 20:3; 2 Timothy 2:24):

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Busybodies (1 Timothy 5:13):

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Sarcasm (Proverbs 16:24):

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Slander (Colossians 3:8; Ephesians 4:31):

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Coarse (Ephesians 5:4):

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Flatter (Psalms 5:9; Proverbs 7:5; 29:5):

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Are all negative words about someone else wrong (cf. 2 Timothy 2:16, 4:14; 3 John 9-10)?

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What should be the goal of our words?

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What is the remedy for unwholesome speech from this verse? What more can we learn from the immediate context (4:17-32)? What more can we learn from the book context of

Ephesians?

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Unwholesome words are Any negative communication about another person without the intent and the possibility of edifying the hearer.

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Consider carefully and prayerfully the areas of speech in your life that need attention. Which type of speech do you fall short in?

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