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**The Right to Remain Silent**

**September 8, 2024**

**Read:** Proverbs 18:21

How have you experienced this power in your own life, either positively or negatively? Why do you think the Bible emphasizes both speaking boldly and restraining our speech? How do you balance these two principles in your daily life?

**Read:** 1 Thessalonians 4:11

What do you think it means to “lead a quiet life”? How can we practice this in a noisy, opinion-driven world?

**Read:** Proverbs 17:28

How does restraining our words give them more power? Can you think of a time when silence spoke louder than words?

When we speak on every issue, we risk losing credibility on the most important matters. What are some ways to discern which matters deserve our voice and which do not?

**Read:** 1 Peter 2:23

How can we cultivate a reputation for speaking with compassion and truth, as Jesus did? What might that look like in practical, everyday situations?

**Read:** Proverbs 18:2

Why do you think people are often eager to express every thought? What are the potential dangers of this behavior?

**Read:** Proverbs 27:2

Why is it important to "let someone else praise you,"? How does humility play a role in how we speak about ourselves?

**Read:** Proverbs 18:8 & Proverbs 26:20-21

How can we be "the one where rumors come to die"? What practical steps can we take to stop gossip in its tracks?

**Read:** Ephesians 4:26, Proverbs 18:13 & Psalm 4:4

How do you typically respond when you’re angry? What are some benefits of practicing silence in moments of anger?

What is one area of your speech or listening that you feel challenged to improve after considering these scriptures and principles? How can we as a group encourage one another to practice these principles in our daily interactions?