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What Seasoning Is in Your Speech?

"Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person" (Colossians 4:6 NASB).

Everyone has different issues and needs that only God knows. We all have different joys, struggles, and traumas. God knows this. He created each of us and knows us better than we know ourselves. This is why we ought to only season our speech with the Words of God, which bring Life. Unfortunately, we often season our speech with our flesh (pride, skepticism, judgment, frustration, correction, etc).

God did not leave Believers to themselves to understand the Words that He spoke by His Son, Jesus. He gave us the Holy Spirit, and it is only by the Spirit that each of us come to the Truth. Jesus said God's Truth was "eternal life; therefore the things I speak, I speak just as the Father has told Me" (John 12:50b), and He told His disciples "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak... He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you" (John 16:12-14). The Holy Spirit guides Believers into God's Words—into His Truth. Yet, no man knows God as he is known by God—no one "owns" God's Truth, "for we know in part and we prophesy in part; but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away...for now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known" (1 Corinthians 13:9, 12). When we think we "own" God's Truth, we don't wait what the Spirit says to the churches" (Revelaton the Holy Spirit—we respond to each person

indiscriminately in our imperfect understanding of God's Truth. Our pride in this imperfect knowledge puffs us up, for "knowledge makes arrogant, but love edifies. If anyone supposes that he knows anything, he has not yet known as he ought to know; but if anyone loves God, he is known by Him" (1 Corinthians 8:1b-3). The point of being a Believer is not to "own" God's Truth, but to be known by Him and to wait on His Spirit. The goal of our speech is not to gain influence over people, nor to defend or justify ourselves, but to speak as the Spirit directs us the Words of God, "furthering the administration of God which is by faith" (1 Timothy 1:4b). If God knows you, you are not to "worry about how or what you are to speak in your defense, or what you are to say; for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say" (Luke 12:11-13). If we don't wait on His Spirit, we'll get tangled in "strange doctrines," "mere speculation," and "fruitless discussion" (1Timothy 1:3-7).

Jesus said, "I can do nothing on My own initiative. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is just, because I do not seek My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me" (John 5:30). We are not to judge things according to our knowledge, but according to what we hear from God, for even Jesus said to the Pharisees, "I have many things to speak and to judge concerning you, but He who sent Me is true; and the things which I heard from Him, these I speak to the world" (John 8:26). Jesus did not speak everything that He had a right to speak-He restricted Himself to the exact Words God gave Him to speak, so they would minister to the hearers exactly as God wanted them to.

May the Holy Spirit season our speech with grace, for only He knows how to respond to each person. "He who has an ear, let him hear ion 2:29). That's you and me! Amen!

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