

Sticks and Stones

by Michael Pickford

Hello dear friends. I'm Mike Pickford, preacher for the Southside church of Christ in Smyrna, TN, and this is your Moment of Truth.

As a child, I often heard the phrase, "Sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me." Sounds good doesn't it? I think we probably used that phrase specifically because those words DID hurt us, but we didn't want the "bully" to get the satisfaction of knowing it. Whatever the reason for the phrase, Jesus certainly disagrees with it! The reality is, "Sticks and stones can break my bones but my words may EVER hurt me." Jesus said, "*For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned*" (Matt. 12:37). This places a great importance upon the words we choose to speak. We should speak kind words to others whether we be in the work place, our homes, or the market place. We must always take care to season our speech with salt, that it may impart grace to the hearers. That "bully" spoke words to hurt others, when in reality he was only hurting himself. Be careful little mouth what you say.

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