

June 23, 2016



## A Weapon So Powerful!

*James 3:7-10 (NLT)*

*7 People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, 8 but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. 9 Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. 10 And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right!*

Recently I enjoyed time away on annual leave with my family, where we attended a circus in Hervey Bay, Queensland. As the lions came out you could hear the crowd in awe and amazement of the marvelous, majestic and mighty creatures. In a matter of seconds, these animals could destroy the lion tamer and yet, they did as he requested: jumping, sitting, roaring and rolling without hesitation or rebellion.

James notes that even these magnificent animals can be tamed, but not the human tongue, while Proverbs (18:21) teaches us that the power of life and death is in the tongue. Words are a powerful thing. They give us the power to heal and the power to hurt. The power to give hope and the power to discourage. The power to build up and the power to tear down. There is no marriage, family, friendship or church that isn't either made stronger or made weaker by how you choose and use your words.

It is interesting to consider that one of the first things that a physician does when examining a patient is look at his or her tongue, since it so often gives an indication to the health of the rest of the body. In the same way, that which is produced by the tongue - words - also act as an indication to the health of the spiritual body - the heart.

As leaders we are to speak a certain language:

1. A language that is full of life and not death

2. A language that is understandable to those listening to us
3. A language filled with wisdom and truth
4. A language that attracts and does not repel
5. A language which builds faith
6. A language which is quick to ask for forgiveness
7. A language that is filled with praise for the King of Kings

A distinguishing characteristic of a leader is that they speak words that others can and want to follow. Those around us love to be in our presence because we are speaking life, faith and truth into them and the situations around us.

Let us never take for granted or think that we have our tongues 'under control,' as even the Bible declares that it is impossible. Therefore, we must remain diligent to ensure we are, to the best of our abilities using this powerful weapon to bring life!

**Steve Morrison**  
**NLT Member**

## **From the Field**

### **Care for China**

The Apostolic Church have been supporters of the Care for China work for many years. This year the work in China celebrates 40 years of growth and development of child care, health care and education.

The work which started with English teachers serving the Chinese community has now developed into three NGO's totally run by Chinese, as well as foreigners who take the opportunity to still go and serve in a teaching capacity.

Just returning from my annual trip to Xian, I am amazed at what God has done through faithful people that thought beyond themselves.

The work there continues to rescue children from abandonment, health crisis, special needs and brings them to a place of wholeness. Our dedicated Chinese family work so hard to see this happen. Our prayer support is critical, our giving is necessary and our going continues to put courage into each one that needs to be lifted up with kind words and gentle hugs.

Every year I take a team to visit, and I love to see what God does in every individual's life as their focus is shifted from themselves to others less fortunate. I love seeing hearts open up to be involved. To watch them tuck an orphaned child in at night and pray with them as they would their own, and realize this child doesn't have a parent to do that.

To see tears run down their face, as little toddlers cling to their legs calling out 'Mumma', because they don't want to miss being picked up and cuddled by the team. It is so heart-warming to watch the team give of their time, often for the first time in their life, to a special needs teenager that is so excited to have a new friend give them attention. It is often the simplest things being done that make the biggest difference.

If you have never been on a missions trip, let God break your heart for what breaks his, by signing up to go.

**Karen Hewitt**  
**NLT Member**

## From the Office - Admin

### June Ministry Account Reports

A reminder to all Ministry Account Holders that your June 2016 Quarterly Report is due by 7th July 2016. As this is the final report for the end of the financial year it is imperative that your report is submitted on time to allow us to meet our legal obligations. For those reports that are not submitted on time, your entire allocation for the June quarter will be listed as personal drawings.

If you have any questions or issues with the report submission please contact Erica at the National Office ([erica@apostolic.org.au](mailto:erica@apostolic.org.au)) prior to the 7th July.

## Update your details!

Moved house? New number? Changed email? Church Name Changed?

It's essential that you update your details with us, so we can keep you in the loop.

It's really simple, all you need to do is log on to the website using your login details and update.

