

Sermon Notes
The Business of Being a Christian
“Holiness Training for the Mouth”

I. Introduction & Thesis Statement

A. The perception of being known as Evangelical or worldly has become so closely aligned that life-style choices are nearly identical.

1. Jesus – Matthew 12:35-37

B. Unbelievers are watching how we use words.

1. Behavior of believers and unbelievers is all too often similar.

2. God is watching, too.

a. *Coram Deo* – Living life before the face of _____.

II. Key Texts on Speech.

A. Ephesians 4:29-30

B. James 3:4-11

C. Ephesians 5:4

D. Titus 1:7

E. James 5:12

III. Integration of Christian beliefs with daily practice.

A. Proper appraisal of sin

1. C.S. Lewis

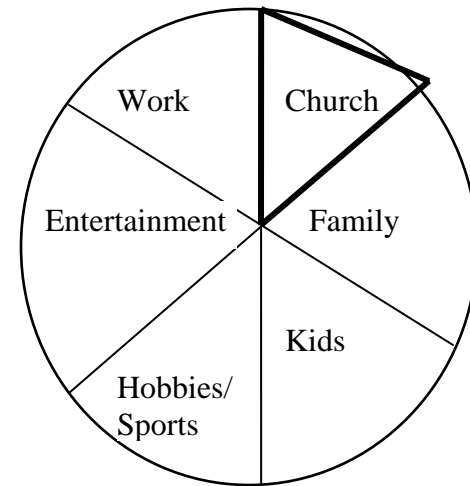
2. Peter Barnes

B. Sin as cancer

1. Jerry Bridges on sin as a malignancy.

C. Beware of compartmentalizing your life.

1.



IV. The only worthy goal (The Point for Reflection).

A. *Coram Deo*

1. Ralph Venning, a Puritan, and Jerry Bridges.

B. Be circumspect about sins of the mouth.

1. Boasting

2. Greed

3. Foul language

4. Verbally making commitments we can't keep.

5. Gossip

6. Outbursts of anger.

C. We do not want to be a cause for the unbelieving world to blaspheme God, do we?

1. What we must do.

2. Ephesians 5:1-21