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| Shape  Description automatically generated with low confidence |  | Dr. Larry Osborne  September 3-4, 2022  Message #35 / 2 Samuel 16:5-14 |
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**When People Talk   
& The Words Hurt**

**A Critic Named Shimei**

2 Samuel 16:5-14/ 2 Samuel 19:16-23/ 1 Kings 2:1, 8-10

**When Words Hurt: *The Shimei Principles***

**A Wise and Proper Response**

1. Don’t be **SURPRISED**.

John 15:18-20

2. Look for the **SEEDS** of **TRUTH**.

2 Samuel 16:7-8

3. Never dialogue with a **FOOL**.

Never wrestle with a **PIG**.

Proverbs 26:4-5; 18:2 & 9:7-8/ Proverbs 17:14 & 26:20-21

4. If it’s not **YOUR BATTLE** – stay out of it.

2 Samuel 16:9-10/ Proverbs 26:17/ Matthew 5:9/ Proverbs 29:8/ Proverbs 30:10

5. Don’t let a great **FRIENDSHIP** be ruined by

a few **HURTFUL WORDS**.

Proverbs 16:28/ Ecclesiastes 7:21-22 & Proverbs 20:9/ Proverbs 19:11 & 20:3

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**Food for Thought for the week of September 4, 2022**

1. In this weekend’s message, we saw how David responded to Shimei’s slanderous words and how his response is applicable to any of us who find ourselves on the receiving end of slander, gossip or hurtful words. James 3:3-8 illustrates the power of our words. Which of the illustrations from the passage paints the strongest picture for you when you consider the power of your words?

***James 3:3-8 New International Version (NIV)***

*3When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. 4Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. 5Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. 6The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one’s life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.7All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, 8but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.*

Are there any situations where you need to be more aware of the power of your words?

2. When someone says something negative or unfair about us, we can feel like retaliating in a similar fashion. But Romans 12:17-21 instructs us to react differently. What relationship in your life would benefit the most from this instruction?

***Romans 12:17-21 New International Version (NIV)***

***17****Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone.****18****If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.****19****Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God’s wrath, for it is written: “It is mine to avenge; I will repay,” says the Lord.****20****On the contrary: “If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head.”* ***21****Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.*

How could living this way impact your life as well as others?

3. One of the Shimei principles Larry gave in his message was about not letting a great friendship be ruined by a few hurtful words. Think of a time a friend’s words hurt you. What would it look like to respond to them the way Colossians 3:12-14 describes?

***Colossians 3:12-14 New International Version (NIV)***

***12****Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.****13****Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.****14****And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

Is there someone in your life who has responded to you this way, whom you can thank for showing you this kind of forgiveness?

Is there a takeaway you learned from their response?