

# *A Map to Peace*

From day of birth God's child  
is full of conflict;  
The world around him  
mixed with bad and good.  
His struggle through  
this life escaping error,  
Is doing what he should,  
not what he would.

Within this tug-of-war  
the good and evil  
Are ever battling  
to be supreme;  
While man is trapped  
and caught up in the struggle

Upon the battle line  
somewhere between.  
In helplessness he  
searches for a savior  
As he is tossed up high,  
then dropped below.  
He stands, then staggers  
as he faces battles,  
And looks around  
to find which way to go.

With strength all gone  
he lifts his eyes to heaven,  
And cries aloud,  
"I must somehow find peace!!!"

A still, small voice speaks  
in a gentle whisper,  
"Just come to me  
and lean in full release."

"Just open to me,  
giving me your problems,  
Give me your burdens.  
I will make them light.

I promise I will be  
here close beside you,  
To guide you, pointing  
out the wrong from right."

"And if you want me  
for your close companion,  
There are some things  
of you I must require.  
You must deny yourself --  
that is not easy:  
To turn side from  
self and its desire."

"Let your consideration  
be for others,  
Discerning pain, heartache,  
and dark despair.  
Do what you can to help  
remove the darkness,  
Creating light and  
bringing sunshine there."

By simply heeding  
that still quiet whisper,  
God's children could  
turn the world around  
By living down temptations  
which are evil,  
And clinging to the good  
where joy is found.

Therefore, embraced  
by good, man rests completely,  
His soul feels sheltered,  
safe, and set apart.  
He finds contentment,  
peace and knows that truly  
All peace begins  
within the human heart.

Peace only will  
abound upon this planet  
When it takes root  
and thrives to bursting bloom  
Within the hearts  
and souls of all God's people,  
For evil disappears  
as love consumes.

by Sis. Nena Holder  
(deceased)  
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# "Words"

by Sis. Sally Tucker  
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Words of right and wrong can make one weak or to grow strong. Words can lighten or brighten your view. Desire or desert the Word: hold or fold the Word. We can desire the Word by receiving it and live by holding on to God; or we can desert the Word and die by rejecting it, and folding under Satan's grip.

We can strengthen, shorten, or lengthen with words. Speaking words of encouragement can give hope and strength to one whose faith has grown weak. Speaking the right words at the right time can really lift one's spirit.

Give and take words: how "giving and "taking" words can make such a difference. Abound or abuse with words. A time for all things. A time to speak, a time to keep silent. We can deliver or destroy with words. By speaking negative words, we destroy. We deliver by speaking positive words. Words of assurance from God's Word can help us get grounded, settled and established. "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 2:5) "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." (Rom. 8:1)

Words can cause us to increase or decrease. When words of encouragement are spoken, it builds our confidence and faith, causing us to rise to a higher level. Speaking the right words at the right time can really uplift your spirit. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Or a word spoken in due season (just at the right moment) How good it is!

Words can help us or hinder us; Make us or break us; Build us up or let us down; turn us off or turn us on; turn us in or turn us out. Words can wound or make us whole. We can encourage or discourage with words. Words can lead you along the right path or they will take you down the wrong path. How little do we realize that the words we hear will either help us along life's path or hinder us. Words can build confidence into people or destroy their faith and confidence. Biting, stinging words can rob your efficiency throughout the day, but loving, tender, beautiful words will fill your day with strength that leads to victory.

Did you know that the atmosphere in our homes is primarily a product of our words? What are we building into children? Defeat or failure? Or power, the love of God and success? We can't afford to talk failure, doubt, unbelief, fear or dread. Negative words register on your heart, building failure into your life. They take control of your life.

People always speaking negative words will eventually receive the consequences. Their words produce failure, defeat, and sorrow. Words to defeat, words to defend, but on God's Word you can depend.

You see, words are containers. Bad conversation is filled with godliness, hate, doubt, fear and unbelief. Good words filled with godliness, love, joy, peace, happiness and faith. Words can curse or words can bless. Words filled with the power of God will linger with you, and can literally change your life. Words are powerful, and few of us

realize the power of our words. The words we say affect people, either for good or bad.

Once we say something, we can never unsay it. That would be like trying to unscramble an egg. No way, once it's scrambled, it's scrambled. It is vitally important what you say about yourself and others. Every day you are faced with this crucial decision! "What do I choose to say today? How can I fashion my words to determine my future today? Will I build up those around me, or will I tear them down with my words?"

Be a wise steward of your words! Base your words on what God's word says, so they can cause wonderful things to happen in your life. Let our words be used to comfort and bless others, by ministering grace and blessing, help and encouragement.

Words can hurt,  
Words can heal,  
Words can damage,  
Words can kill!

*"Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and curing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be." (James 3:10)*

*"But I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by they words thou shalt be condemned." (Matthew 12:36,37)*

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