

SHOCKING CLAIMS OF JESUS – *Episode 4: Power of Speech*



Team Member Name: _____ Date: _____

Game Strategy – Do you believe we will be held accountable for every careless word we utter? You better believe it. It’s one of the shocking claims of Jesus.

Be ready to take the field for this workout by completing the **Pregame Film Study**. Your contributions to the Huddle Discussion in our workout are vital to our team success. Remember we win and lose as a team!

Pregame Film Study

1. View or listen to the episode referenced above.
2. Go deep with the Scripture References, Coaching Tips and Catechism Connection on page 2.
3. Reflect upon the **Huddle Up** questions below and jot down your thoughts.

Huddle Up – Use these questions for personal reflection to share with your team at the workout.

Warm-up Questions:

1. What particular point(s) caught your attention the most in this episode?
2. What is something useful that you learned from viewing this episode that you can apply in your own life?

Workout Questions:

1. James 3:9 mentions that the tongue can build up or tear down. Name some ways that we can “build up” others with our tongue. Name some ways that we can “tear down” others with our tongue.
2. When was the last time you acknowledged, praised, thanked or encouraged someone? Did it come easily for you? What was their response?
3. Have there been occasion(s) when your words really hurt the feelings of another? How did that person react? Afterwards, how did you feel? Did you apologize?
4. Does your conversation with others take on a positive outlook or do you tend to be negative? Explain. Read Philippians 4:8. In light of this verse, how can your conversations become more positive?
5. Take a few moments to do an inventory of your speech in the following areas:
 - Gossiping about others?
 - Cursing – especially taking God’s name in vain?
 - Telling dirty jokes?
 - Not telling the truth?

How can you improve in these areas?

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Team Workout Plan - Watch the Kickoff, Game Plan and Red Zone video segments as a team. Break into huddles for discussion of the questions.

Postgame Recap - Watch the End Zone video segment as a team. Take note of the tips from the CTG team:

1. Jesus does not condemn us. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom!
2. Bear witness to the truth with your life!
3. Your speech has a powerful impact on those you love!

Complete your **Personal Action Item**. 

Scripture References

Matthew 12:36-37
James 3:6-10

Philippians 4:8
2 Corinthians 5:9-11

Coaching Tips

Knowing that we will be held accountable - we need to change ourselves. It is easy for us to wound those we love. We must give our hearts freely and often. Examine how we express our love to others - especially our wives - especially in front of our children. Do we ridicule? Are we insensitive? Do we ignore? Are we violent? Are we sexually abusive or disrespectful?

Out of the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks.

The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom.

Before you talk – Think and Listen!

Even though my heart isn't where it needs to be today, Lord, You alone can lead me to where it needs to be.

Catechism Connection

2151 Rejection of false oaths is a duty toward God. As Creator and Lord, God is the norm of all truth. Human speech is either in accord with or in opposition to God who is Truth itself. When it is truthful and legitimate, an oath highlights the relationship of human speech with God's truth. A false oath calls on God to be witness to a lie.

2468 Truth as uprightness in human action and speech is called *truthfulness*, sincerity, or candor. Truth or truthfulness is the virtue which consists in showing oneself true in deeds and truthful in words, and in guarding against duplicity, dissimulation, and hypocrisy.

2480 Every word or attitude is forbidden which by *flattery, adulation, or complaisance* encourages and confirms another in malicious acts and perverse conduct. Adulation is a grave fault if it makes one an accomplice in another's vices or grave sins. Neither the desire to be of service nor friendship justifies duplicitous speech. Adulation is a venial sin when it only seeks to be agreeable, to avoid evil, to meet a need, or to obtain legitimate advantages.

See Also: **1459, 1849, 1853, 2143, 2152, 2475, 2485**

Personal Action Item

Develop a plan of action based upon our prayer and discussion related to the topic. How does the Lord want this topic applied in your life? Keep it simple – one or two action items.

I commit to becoming spiritually fit by...