***Nuggets From The Word***

Pastor Billy Burchfield

**Wednesday, August 3, 2022**

**“Living in the Power and Promise of God’s Word”**

**Know When To Keep Silent: Joshua 6:10, “***Now Joshua had commanded the people, saying, “You shall* ***not*** *shout or make any noise with your voice, nor shall a word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I say to you, ‘Shout!’* ***Then*** *you shall shout*.**”**

There are times to be loud and times to be silent. Walking around Jericho was a time of silence for the Israelites. Being silent was not to be just an isolated day. Joshua instructed the Israelites to remain silent for seven days as they marched around Jericho’s walls. Joshua probably had several reasons for telling them to stay quiet: perhaps to eliminate grumbling, questions, fear, doubt, discouragement, negativity, and more. Negative talk is like breathing on a spark in a dry forest. Negative thoughts and speech can ***burn out*** faith and our focus on God. All of us have a proverbial Jericho; things that seem impossible to overcome. We need to be careful what we say about these seemingly impossible obstacles. Sometimes, it’s better to say nothing than let our mouths run away with fear and doubt.

When we verbalize our doubts and fears, we open an opportunity for Satan to come against us and enhance destructive thoughts and actions in our minds. As believers in Jesus Christ, we need to consider our habits of speech. Satan hears and can use our words against us. He is a most insidious enemy.

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