**“Better Than Rubies – Pt 3”**

**June - 15/16, 2024**

**Speaker: Tom Hughes**

**Opening:** [15 mins] We suggest you begin with an opening prayer and then a brief “catch up” or “icebreaker” before moving into the *scripture reflection* and *application questions*.

**Scripture Reflection:** [20 mins]Read **Matthew 12:33-37 & James 3:3-17.** After allowing the group time to reflect on the passage, ask them to share what most stands out to them.

**Application Questions:** [40 mins](*These questions will help you and your group dig deeper into the weekend sermon. Feel free to edit or use only those which fit your allotted time.)*

1. Tom reminded us that words reveal hearts - he said “*Jesus is clear: If you want to know the condition of someone else’s heart, listen to their words.”*
   1. Can you give an example in your life that you have noticed this principle?
   2. What would your words reveal about the condition of your heart?
   3. Are there any changes you would want to make in this area?

*Proverbs 29:11: A fool gives full vent to anger, but the wise quietly holds it back.*

1. Tom challenged us to go 7 days without speaking negatively about or to someone.
   1. How did you do with that challenge?
2. Tom’s second point was “words created worlds.”
   1. How have you seen your words shape and create your world?
   2. How do you know when to speak or when to listen?
   3. Are there any changes you would want to make in this area (speak more or listen more?)
      1. How can you remind yourself to do so?
3. Tom ended by saying “The words you listen to will define who you become. Choose carefully.”
   1. What are the voices that most influence or shape you?
      1. Are you content with these or are there changes you’d like to make?
   2. How can you filter what becomes life changing words?
   3. How much is the word of God a defining voice in your life?
      1. How can you grow in they area?

**Closing & Prayer**: [15 mins]

* Have each person in your group share a prayer request, asking the lord for wisdom and then have someone pray.
* Pray for Holy Spirit fruitfulness in the people of CA.
* Pray for those who made first-time commitments or recommitments to Jesus at Easter.