

WEEK 12: The Conversation

[WARM-UP]

[THINK] James 1:19

[READ] Proverbs wisdom:

LISTEN

The way of a fool is right in his own eyes,
but a wise man listens to advice (12:15).

Whoever is slow to anger is better than the mighty,
and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a
city (16:32).

Whoever restrains his words has knowledge,
and he who has a cool spirit is a man of
understanding (17:27).

If one gives an answer before he hears,
it is his folly and shame (18:13).

The one who states his case first seems right,
until the other comes and examines him (18:17).

Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue
keeps himself out of trouble (21:23).

SPEAK

When words are many, transgression is not lacking,
but whoever restrains his lips is prudent (10:19).

There is one whose rash words are like sword
thrusts,
but the tongue of the wise brings healing (12:18).

A soft answer turns away wrath,
but a harsh word stirs up anger (15:1).

The wise of heart is called discerning,
and sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness
(16:21).

The heart of the wise makes his speech judicious
and adds persuasiveness to his lips (16:23).

Gracious words are like a honeycomb,
sweetness to the soul, health to the body (16:24).

SLOW TO ANGER (LOGICAL FALLACIES)

AD HOMINEM: *Attacking the person (motive or
character), rather than the topic of argument.*

Whoever belittles his neighbor lacks sense,
but a man of understanding remains silent (11:12).

STRAW MAN: *Misrepresenting a person's
argument so that it can easily be knocked down.*

A truthful witness saves lives,
but one who breathes out lies is deceitful (14:25).

NON SEQUITUR: *"It does not follow," jumping to
flawed or unrelated conclusions from a premise.*

A fool takes no pleasure in understanding,
but only in expressing his opinion (18:2).

[CONSIDER] 1 Peter 3:15-16

TAKEAWAYS:

- The *content* of our argument/defense of faith is important, but just as important is our *manner* of argument.
- "Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time. Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person." (Col 4:5-6).