

Embrace  
Holy  
Living

# RE- FLECTING GOD

**07/07/13 - Gracious Words**

RG AUDIO 070713

Proverbs 16:16-25

As a young boy, our family home for several years was in a heavily wooded rural area. This was years before the very large trees had made their way to the lumber mill. One large tree had been a victim of a strong wind. It lay rotting away, covered with vines, and nearly hidden. It was an exciting day for us kids when a very active honey bee colony was discovered in the fallen trunk. My Dad and a neighbor donned the appropriate protective garb and proceeded to smoke the bees out. Their efforts yielded two wash tubs of golden honey in the comb.

Many claim that honey has many benefits. As a boy, I didn't know about all of that, but I did know that a finger slyly dipped into the tub resulted in a satisfying taste of sweetness.

The Message puts it this way: "Gracious speech is like clover honey?good to the taste; quick energy for the body." The Proverb writer tells us that pleasant or gracious words promote instruction (16:21). May the Lord help us to speak gracious words to someone today.

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