

## Speak Up!

## **Description**

Proverbs 31:1-9

People become voiceless in many ways. Some become silent because speaking is painful. Some fear retribution, even death. Proverbs tells us to be the voice for those who have none.

You'd be surprised how many voiceless people you know. They are the parents raising a child with developmental challenges who can't find the right help. They are seniors caught in a technological world they don't know how to navigate. They are the children who are bullied and afraid to talk about it.

To speak up doesn't mean we scream our message or make a scene. Rather it means to use timely words where they will make the biggest difference. We use words like Jesus did to encourage, empower, heal, and forgive. We don't tolerate lies and we don't pass on unexamined information. We refuse to weaken our voice with prejudice or silence.

Expect God to tap us on the shoulder and tell us it's time to speak up. Even then, the words must be His so that we make sure they "judge fairly." When we use God's words His way, we can speak the truth in love and help others find their voice.

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