

Punishment for Evil Words

Lesson Text: *Leviticus 24:10-23*

We have talked a few times about God's Ten Commandments. He gave these laws to Moses so that Moses could tell the people how God expected them to live. They were God's laws. The first two commandments make it clear to the people that God is the only true God. He is not wood or stone. God is holy and perfect and deserves our worship.

So it made sense that God told the people to also honor Him with their words. God knew that what people think in their minds comes out in their words.

There was a man among the Israelites who came from an unusual family. His mother was an Israelite from the tribe of Dan, but his father was Egyptian.

Some people heard the young man say bad words that did not honor God. He spoke in a way that did not show honor to God and His name. The people who heard the man speak in this way went to their leader, Moses, and told him about the problem.

The man was put in prison. Moses knew this was a serious problem, and he asked God for help.

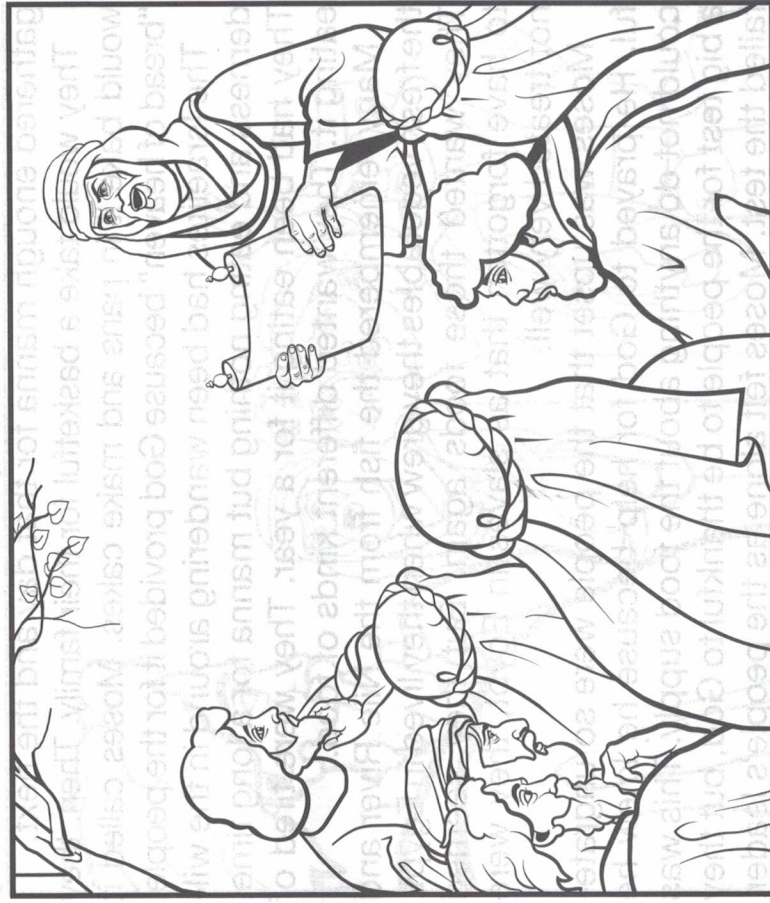
God told Moses the punishment had to be serious. The people needed to be reminded of how important it was to honor God with their words.

God expects each of us to honor Him with our words too. Do you encourage others with your words? When your parents ask you to do something, do you respond

by saying good words? Or do you use angry words? Do you use whining words when you do not get your own way? How do you speak about God? Do you say Bible verses or sing songs about Jesus?

COLOR AND LEARN

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain" (Exodus 20:7).



Moses taught the people about what punishment God commanded for evil words.