



24. Words and Works

My singing doesn't sound good even in the shower. Believe me, you don't want to sit in front of me during worship in church. One Sunday, an opera singer sat next to me as we sang a majestic old hymn. People in front of us turned around to see where the booming baritone voice was coming from. I was so tempted to point to myself as if I were claiming, *It's me ... it's me!* I admit that I was tempted to steal that opera singer's glory.

Jesus said, "*Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven,*" Matthew 5:16. Your light is a combination of your *words* and your works. Then, when people see your good works they will know that God is the one to glorify. They won't glorify your Father unless your words point to Him. Without your words you are stealing His glory ... in a sense saying, *It's me ... it's me!*

So bring your words up to your works. And if you are saying the words but your life doesn't match what you say, then bring your works up to your words. If you talk

the talk, then walk the walk. *And* ... if you walk the walk, then talk the talk.

Jesus said, "*While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world,*" John 9:5. But He passed that torch on to us when He said, "*You are the light of the world,*" Matthew 5:14. And His light in you is the combination of your words and your works. You are His light to your friends and family.

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