

## **SESSION 8 (Solo): MAN-TALK (Ephesians 4 v 29-32)**

### **THE BIG IDEA:**

A Christian is careful to use his tongue to build others up and help them, including pointing them to Jesus; and doesn't use his words to put others down.

### **GUIDANCE FOR QUESTIONS:**

1. Say things which are "unwholesome".
2. This is fairly tricky: it includes swearing, sexual innuendo or jokes which cheapen sex, being harsh in criticising other people, being rude, talking about others negatively behind their backs, etc.
3. Because everyone else does. And because we want to look clever, or funny, or popular in what we say.
4. What is helpful to those around us, having thought about what they need us to say. It could be some praise, or a kindness, or stepping in to stop someone else being nasty. It also means encouraging Christians to keep following Jesus, and non-Christians to think about Jesus, as the text below the question points out.
5. Life would be better for them! The world around us would be a slightly happier, more positive, more trusting, more loving place.
7. They may well be more attracted to it. They will see that it makes a difference; that it changes people for the better.
8. We're to use our words on texts, Facebook etc in the same way as we do when we speak. Social networking is a place where people think far less about the content and consequences of what they say than they do when speaking face to face. We need to remember v 29 when using our mobiles or computers!

When you recap this session at the beginning of your next joint session, you might like to write out v 29 twice, and stick it above your computer and encourage your teenager to do the same (or to make the words his screensaver on his phone).