

Sermon Title: Psalms: From the Heart, Part XII 2.1.2026

Theme: Sticks and stones can break your bones, but words matter too. Live-streaming and sermon notes are at trinitycg.org.

Weekly Question: You talk so sweetly on Sunday, but what words do you use on Monday?

Sermon Points: In Psalm 12 David is looking at a society where truth has collapsed. He refuses to normalize it.

1. The absence of the Godly is a crisis. Psalm 12:1-8 ¹Save, O Lord, for the godly one is gone; for the faithful have vanished from among the children of man. ²Everyone utters lies to his neighbor; with flattering lips and a double heart they speak. ³May the Lord cut off all flattering lips, the tongue that makes great boasts, ⁴those who say, “With our tongue we will prevail, our lips are with us; who is master over us?” ⁵“Because the poor are plundered, because the needy groan, I will now arise,” says the Lord; “I will place him in the safety for which he longs.” ⁶The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times. ⁷You, O Lord, will keep them; you will guard us from this generation forever. ⁸On every side the wicked prowl, as vileness is exalted among the children of man.

When righteousness disappears, heaven is appalled. David doesn't adjust...he prays. Just as infections spread in festering wounds, evil flourishes when God's people abandon His standards. **2 Samuel 12:1-15.**

2. Lies multiply when truth is silent. Deception thrives when communities break down. A *double heart* has *divided loyalty*. Counterfeit bills work because real money exists. Lies flood the market when truth stops circulating. Flattery is violence with a smile. It isn't kindness. It's dressing a hog for a hoedown. It's sugar-coating poison. The sweetness doesn't save you; it merely allows the toxin to go down easier.

3. Prideful speech is open rebellion against God. When people believe words alone give them power, God will no longer be acknowledged as Lord. A toddler standing on a chair shouting, “I'm the boss!” may be loud and confident, but it's completely delusional.

4. God stands up when the weak are beat down. Just as salvation is personal, so is God's protection. God does not stay seated when injustice becomes systemic. His silence is merciful, not indifference. He will intervene. He doesn't just fix broken systems—He shelters hurting souls. Just as the world's threat is real, so is His refuge. God's words are unassailably pure. Gold survives fire. Plastic melts. God's Word doesn't bend under heat—it shines brighter. God doesn't save in euphemisms. His communication is direct. He doesn't disguise truth with confusing language because His way is the way of integrity. He calls us to walk that same path. **Proverbs 10:9 Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but he who makes his ways crooked will be found out.** Euphemisms can be compassionate—but when overused, they train people to feel better without seeing clearer. That's where godly wisdom must step in.

5. Wickedness flourishes when filth is celebrated. What a culture applauds eventually patrols the streets. When referees stop calling fouls, or opponents can pay for them, the game turns violent. When society praises vileness, wickedness gains confidence. Psalm 12 reminds us that truth may be outnumbered, but it is never outmatched. God is not wringing His hands in Heaven. He is readying His response while protecting His people. The wicked may talk loudly, but God still gets the last word...and it's pure, polished, and permanent.

Reflection: Lord, guard my lips as You guide my steps.