WORDS

The power of words. A bomb is of no threat until someone with authority says, "drop it!" James 3:5 says that the tongue is a little member but boasts of great things. This can be good or bad. It all depends on the heart from whence the words come.

Watch your words. An old rule of thumb for carpenters was, "measure twice, saw once." Don't make quick judgments without adequate thought. After you make up your mind, run through it again just to be sure. Many words would go unspoken if we would only think of how they will be heard by the recipient. "Bite your tongue" seems to come into play just here. Some folks justify harsh or hurtful words by saying, "you had just as well say it as to think it!" Where did that kind of reasoning come from? Surely, not from a wise man. That's downright silly!

So, be careful about what you say and how you say it. People are listening! "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God!" (Matthew 5:9)

Tom Butterfield