

Two Types of Curses Seen in the New Testament

- 1) **The Curse of the Law** Galatians 3:10 / Galatians 3:13-14 “Christ redeemed us from the curse!”
- 2) **Maledictions** – Def: 1) calling down of evil on someone; a curse. 2) evil talk about someone; 3) Slander James 3:8-11 / Proverbs 18:21

The Source of Curses and Maledictions James 3:13-18

Three Common Maledictions

- 1) _____ Words
- 2) _____

The lack of Spoken Blessings, Encouragement, and Affirmations will have two results:

A. Withdrawal and acceptance of failure as a way of life.

“Words have an awesome impact. The impressions made by a father’s voice can set in motion an entire trend of life.” Gordon MacDonald

B. An over achiever or workaholic. Always trying to please the parents or get the blessing. Remember, a lack of negative words does not translate into a blessing! Good words are necessary!

- 3) _____ **Cursing** (Remember, all you have to do is AGREE with what the Word of God says about you.)

How to Break Curses Spoken Over Your Life

- _____ **the Malediction** _____ Do not return maledictions for maledictions. 1 Peter 2:15-23
- _____ **When You Are** _____ 1 Corinthians 4:11-12 / 1 Peter 3:8-9 / Luke 6:27-28
 - **Overcome** _____ **With** _____ Romans 12:14-21

St. Augustine “Evil is the absence of good just as darkness is the absence of light.”

- **Practice** _____ **Christianity** Matthew 5:38-45

1st Mile – The Curse is at work.

2nd Mile - The Blessing is at work. Redemption is found in the second mile.

When we fight back, we lose the opportunity to bring redemption into that relationship.

Let’s Do the Math:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| -1+ (-1) = -2 | A cycle of cursing has begun. |
| -1+ (+1) = 0 | This is 1 st mile Christianity. |
| -1+ (+2) = 1 | This is 2 nd mile Christianity. Redemption has begun. |

Bless When You Are Cursed, Overcome Evil with Good, and Practice Second Mile Christianity

Life App Group and Family Devotional Application

1. What is a malediction? Give examples. Can our words really be powerful enough to speak life or death?
2. According to James 3:13-18, what are some of the sources of maledictions?
3. What **Harsh Words** have been spoken over you, or you have been guilty of speaking to others?
4. Why can **Silence** be considered a malediction? What are the effects of silence and unspoken praise?
5. Are we ever guilty of **Self Cursing**? Give examples.
6. What Four ways were given to “Break Curses Spoken Over Your Life”? Explain and give examples of each.
7. In what practical ways do you try to overcome evil with good? How well do you bless when cursed?
8. What did Pastor Scott mean when he said, “Redemption is found in the second mile”? (Do the Math)
9. Did Christ Jesus go the second mile for you and me?

Answers: Harsh – Silence / Self / Avoid – Cycle / Bless – Cursed / Evil – Good / Second - Mile