

IV. TAKE THEM TO THE LORD IN PRAYER!

Believers are urged as a **priority** to talk to God on behalf of “all people”—rulers and common folk alike (1 Tim. 2:1-3). Bringing others to God’s throne is both our **privilege** and duty.

This will:

- A. Grow our **faith** in God’s power.
- B. Strengthen all our **relationships**.
- C. Impact our **world** with the Gospel.

Conclusion: What a friend we have in Jesus! Let us draw near to his throne of grace and find help.

TONGUE PIERCED The Most Important Conversations You’ll Ever Have Dr. Chris Gnanakan

INTRODUCTION

- A. The words you speak every day will shape your life – positively or negatively. It’s up to each of us to decide whether the words we speak every day will lead to life, success and positive relationships or death, destruction and painful memories.

“For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:”

I Peter 3:10

- B. Tongue Pierced will teach you how to choose your words wisely to create the life you want. During this spiritual growth campaign you will learn how the words you speak transform the life you live.

Oct 4	Kick Off Sunday
Oct 11	The Power Of Words
Oct 18	What Your Words Say About You
TODAY	The Most Important Conversations You’ll Ever Have
Nov 1	The Art Of Cursing
Nov 8	The Language Of Love
Nov 15	Go Ahead – Talk To Yourself
Nov 22	Developing An Attitude Of Gratitude
Nov 29	Mastering Confrontation & Conflict
Dec 6	Words That Last

Come and hear these messages and discover how the Bible can help you to be Tongue Pierced!

C. **TEXT:** Jeremiah 29:12-13 (Pew Bible/Pg. 772/Old Testament)

THE MOST IMPORTANT CONVERSATIONS YOU'LL EVER HAVE

Context

The Israelites were in deep trouble and desperate need. They were exiles in **Babylon** because of idolatry and **immorality**. Yet Yahweh is faithful to his covenant and will not abandon his people forever. After 70 years, he would fulfill his **promise** to bring them back to their homeland (25:10-11). God plans to give them a good **future** and hope. In antiquity, the gods were connected to a particular land. It's remarkable that as exiles they could come and talk to their **compassionate** God (Ezek. 11:16)! They were not to go after **false** gods or listen to the prophets in Babylon.

I. GOD IS LISTENING, TALK, TALK!

God takes the initiative to **listen** to his people so they can call on his name again (Deut. 4:29). If we sincerely seek God we will find him. They must have the most important **conversation** that they could ever have with the most important person—a gracious God! Believers feeling separated from and abandoned by God due to sin or adverse circumstances can still come to him. But why and how?

II. DO YOU KNOW WHO'S LISTENING?

A key word in Psalm 139 is "**know**." David faces a hostile world, confident that God has "**searched**" and knows everything about him and his situation. God has perfect knowledge of all David's ways, even from afar (vs 2-4). He can't get away from God, even in dark or **mysterious** places (v15). David finds security in such **intimacy** (v23). God knows all his motives, moves, and all events before they happen! In short, we prayerfully recognize that God Almighty is absolutely **omniscient** and **omnipresent**.

So, when we approach God, our words must:

- A. **Acknowledge** the divine being he is.
- B. Connect with **God** at a deeper level.
- C. Demonstrate our **dependence** on him.

III. LET US HAVE A LITTLE TALK WITH JESUS!

In Hebrews 4:14-16, Jesus is our **sympathetic** High Priest who has ascended and is enthroned in God's presence! He lives to intercede on our behalf to the Father (7:25; 9:24). This encourages believers to hold firm to our faith and approach God's throne with confidence, so "*we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*" Since Jesus is the **sinless** Son of God, we can seek his help whenever we are weak, tempted, or fall into sin. Just as David approached God, we are also exhorted to come and cast our **cares** on Jesus (Psa. 138:1-3)!

So we must approach God's throne with:

- A. **Humble** words – since we've received God's grace and desperately need mercy.
- B. **Trusting** words – since we can do so only by faith in what Jesus has done for us.
- C. **Confident** words – since we are invited to come boldly in our time of need.