

## To Speak

The Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.

Morning by morning he wakens—  
wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. Isaiah 50, 4

This obviously is one of my favourite verses. I also wanted to check out on other versions and very interestingly, the NASB gives it as the tongue of the 'disciple,' and Amplified Bible also says, 'disciple and one who is taught,' King James translates as, 'the tongue of the learned.' In all this, I like the translation of *The Message* which says, **The Master, God, has given me a well-taught tongue, So I know how to encourage tired people. He wakes me up in the morning, Wakes me up, opens my ears to listen as one ready to take orders. The Master, God, opened my ears, and I didn't go back to sleep, didn't pull the covers back over my head.**

The theme of this verse basically is when God wakens my ear, my heart to listen to Him, then my words sustain the weary, encourage the tired and give hope to the hopeless.

Whatever be the word teacher, disciple, learned, well taught tongue, the underlying fact is that there is a Master Teacher.

When it comes to teaching, the most important thing is whether I've been a good listener.

In my life I often thank God for making me a teacher. I know deep in my heart I could not have done anything else with the joy I teach.

I did my undergraduation, more than two decades ago and I remember how deeply I used to listen to the lectures. I never talked then, I didn't have many friends too. So during my college days all I did was to listen deeply and read much.

Now when I take class say something of English history, I so distinctly remember the teacher who taught me, especially the destruction of Spanish Armada and as I now teach the story, I relive my moment as a student. Though I could have read from the books, I teach more effectively as a result of what I had listened from my teacher.

It's the same with the things of God, the more we listen to Him, the more we learn how to comfort others, encourage others, bring hope into the life of others, because God has performed all these in our lives first.

Jesus is fondly called Teacher at many places. He taught to a small group. Remember Peter's first fiery sermon. Three thousand were saved. From where do you think these unschooled fisherman got their force of language?

Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus. Acts 4, 13

Peter and John were with the Master Teacher and from Him they learned how to speak. Let us speak the words God wants us to. Let's stop getting into worthless conversations, instead speak the eternal words that will bring hope and healing into the lives of those around us. For this also God has called us!