

# The right word

## Biblical Material: Proverbs 10.32 and 15.23

‘Good people know the right thing to say.’

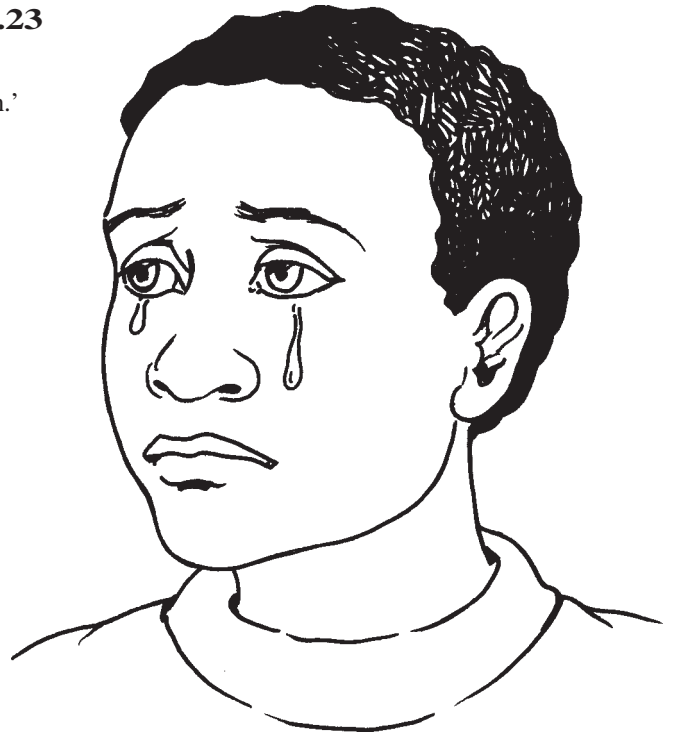
‘It can be a great joy to find just the right word for a situation.’

### You will need:

- Paper and scissors.
- Several faces ( provided).
- Several coloured paper circles (draw round a cup).
- Paper and a thick felt tipped pen.
- Sticky-Tack (reusable adhesive).

### Introduction

Talk with the children about going to the doctor’s. When you go to the doctor, s/he does not put all the names of different medicines in a hat and pull out one by chance. S/he carefully chooses the right one for your complaint. S/he carefully chooses the right one for your complaint. You might like to demonstrate this. Ask the pupils to imagine that the round pieces of paper are tablets. Place them in a hat. Ask one pupil to imagine they are visiting the doctor: they can invent a minor complaint. The teacher pretends to be the doctor but instead of carefully writing out a prescription, you just pull out a paper ‘tablet’ at random and write a fake prescription. Ask pupils what they would think if this happened. Stress that this is NOT what the doctor does. Teachers might also like to use this opportunity to remind pupils about safety and medicines.



### Core Material

Just as the doctor chooses medicine carefully, the right medicine for the right complaint, so it is important that words are chosen carefully. The right word can heal like medicine. Christians ask God for help to know the right things to say. Read the Biblical Material. Display the two faces and make two speech bubbles with pupils, placing them next to the faces. What does each face express? What might be an appropriate thing to say in each case? Write suggestions in the bubbles.

### Prayer/Reflection

Ask pupils to choose one of the faces to think about. Give them a few moments of silence to think about a time when they felt like the picture. What might someone have said that was appropriate to that situation?

*Father, give us the wisdom to know the right words to say when people are sad and in need of comfort, or happy and want to share their joy. Forgive us for thinking that just any words will do. May we choose our words as carefully as a doctor chooses medicine.*

*Note.* For guidance on prayers and reflections see pages 9-11.