

## Speech 2025

**Purpose:** To develop verbal communication talents and public speaking skills as they relate to biblical principles.

### Process:

- Prepare a 3 - 6 minute speech on the current year's theme.
- The speaker must arrive at the proper room before the event begins.
- Virtual Submissions: Video must be one continuous take. Participants should treat the camera as the audience.

### Rules:

1. Each speech shall be related to the current year's theme. However, students in 3rd-6th grades may choose to speak about a Bible character as the topic of their speech.
2. Speeches shall be three to six minutes in length. Full credit will be awarded for completions within the time limit. **A penalty may be assessed for speeches above or below the time limits.**
3. Parent or coach's involvement in the conceptualization and writing of the speech will differ as participants grow and develop. It is permissible for parents or coaches to assist younger participants (3rd - 6th grades). However, it is expected that participants will be heavily involved. By 7th - 8th grade, the work should primarily be that of the participants. By 9th grade and above, *all* work should be researched and written by the participant. Church coordinators and parents will be expected to set the example for participants by enforcing this principle.
4. This event is not a dramatic interpretation. Props will *not be allowed*. Any article, either carried or worn, that is referenced in the speech will be considered a prop. The Bible is not a prop.
5. Note cards will be allowed. Consideration will be given to participants who demonstrate thorough preparation by memorizing their material.
6. Another speaker may not repeat a speech.
7. Spectators may not enter or leave the room while participants are speaking. Any video or audio equipment must be set up prior to the event and must be stationary.
8. Judges may not know the participant they are evaluating.

### Awards:

Ratings and awards of gold, silver, bronze, or honorable mention will be given according to the judging criteria listed.

### Judging Criteria:

- **Content** - The content should relate to the type of facts, examples, etc., used to lead to a logical conclusion.
- **Illustrations**
- **LTC Theme** - The message shall be related to the current year's LTC theme.
- **Grammar** - The speaker should use good grammar, descriptive words or word pictures, similes, metaphors, and other colorful techniques to bring out his message.
- **Voice** - The speaker should show good variety in voice tone and word speed. He should speak clearly and pronounce words properly. His voice should show sincerity and enthusiasm.
- **Delivery** - A good speech flows naturally and continuously, but there is room for dramatic pauses. Memorized speeches should be given with feeling.
- **Gestures** - Gestures should also be natural and flowing. They should enhance the words and message of the speech rather than be an obligatory, unfeeling act.
- **Personality and Attitude** - The speaker should allow his personality to show through the words he uses, the smile on his face, the sincerity in his eyes, the tone of his voice, and eye contact with the audience.
- **Overall Impression**