

Reckless words pierce like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing

Proverbs 12:18 -- A Proverbial Story

By Ted Hildebrandt and Chatgpt

In the little town of Willow, nestled between green hills and sparkling streams, there lived a kind old woman named Granny Wren. Granny Wren wasn't a wizard or a healer, but people said she had wise magic in her words. Whenever someone was sad, angry, or hurting, they would go to her, and she'd know just what to say.

One bright morning, a young boy named Leo stormed through the village square, his face red with anger. His best friend, Mia, had accidentally broken his favorite wooden toy — a small, hand-carved boat that his grandfather had made for him.

"I never want to see her again!" Leo shouted, kicking a pebble down the road.

Granny Wren, who had been watering her sunflowers, looked up and called, "Leo, my dear, what's got your heart in such a twist?"

Leo sniffed and told her everything. "She ruined the boat Grandpa gave me! I can't forgive her. I won't!"

Granny Wren smiled gently and invited him to sit on her old wooden bench. She handed him a cup of cool lemonade and began to speak.

"Let me tell you a little story, Leo," she said. "Once, in a land far away, there was a mighty lion and a tiny bird. One day, the bird accidentally dropped a stone on the lion's paw, hurting him. The lion roared in pain, ready to chase the bird away forever. But then, the bird sang a song — a soft, sweet tune of sorrow and love. The wise words in the song calmed the lion's heart, and he realized his pain was lighter when he forgave."

Leo listened, his frown slowly fading.

Granny Wren continued, "You see, wise words bring healing — to both the person who says them and the one who hears them. Holding onto anger is like carrying a heavy stone in your pocket. But kind, thoughtful words can lift that weight away."

Leo looked down at his hands. "Do you think Mia feels bad too?"

"I'm sure she does," said Granny Wren. "Maybe she's waiting for you to listen to her words."

Leo stood up, feeling lighter already. "I think I'll go find her."

Granny Wren smiled. “Good lad. Remember, Leo — sometimes, a gentle word can mend what even the strongest glue cannot.”

Leo ran off to find Mia. When he saw her by the stream, her eyes were watery, and she held the broken pieces of the boat in her hands.

“I’m really sorry, Leo,” Mia whispered. “I didn’t mean to break it.”

Leo took a deep breath, remembering Granny Wren’s story. “It’s okay, Mia. I know it was an accident. Maybe we can fix it together.”

Mia’s face lit up, and the two friends smiled, their hearts a little lighter, their friendship stronger than before.

And from that day on, Leo never forgot Granny Wren’s lesson drawn from the old Bible proverb : **Reckless words pierce like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing - Proverbs 12:18.**