



SUPPLIES:

- Apples of your choice
- Individual packets of caramel (Wal-Mart)
- Red Shred (Dollar Tree)
- Red Ribbon cut in 12' strips
- Clear Cellophane bags (Wal-Mart candy-baking aisle)
- Devotions printed on regular paper
- Scripture card on Cardstock
- Paper cutter & scissors & hole punch

DIRECTIONS:

- Print & cut out the Scripture cards and hole punch the middle top
- Print and roll up the Devotional so the outside word DEVOTIONAL is showing. Tie knot w/red ribbon.
- Add a small amount of shred to bottom of a cellophane bag
- Add a package of caramel dip
- Place the apple on top of the caramel dip.
- Tie red ribboned devotional around the top of the cellophane bag one time. "Thread" the red ribbon through the Scripture card so it faces the correct direction. Tie a bow.



Tis the season of apples! Apples remind me of Proverbs 25:11. I value this Scripture for its emphasis on the appropriateness and timeliness of our words, whether they are said to others or even to ourselves. The beauty of well-chosen, positive, and affirming words can make even the most difficult conversations a healing balm that can grow or even restore relationships. The ability to instruct, explain, express feelings, convey encouragement or correction with clarity and grace is essential in our relationships.

What about the words we speak to ourselves? Why do we beat ourselves up and focus on the negative instead of accentuating the positive? One of my senior friends introduced me to the music of Bing Crosby. One of his songs is *Ac-Cent-Tchu-ate the Positive*. The words say,

*You've got to accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative, latch on to the affirmative, don't mess with Mr. In-Between. You've got to spread joy to the maximum, bring gloom down to the minimum, **have faith**, or pandemonium is likely to come upon the scene.*

Words can build up or tear down. Harsh words cannot be retracted. Helpful, unspoken words can mean wasted opportunity. Let's make every word count!

Father, lead me to opportunities to extend my influence and impact for You by the words I speak to others and myself.

APPLES

See how many words you can make from the word APPLES. I found 17. Can you beat that?!

A _____
P _____
L _____
E _____
S _____

From your friend: _____

DEVOTIONAL

Gift created by Koinonia Senior Care