



A Heart Like His

Session #7

James 3:1-12

"Taming the Tongue"

Start

- Were you able to apply anything you have learned in James to your life this past week? If so, what was it?
- What is one of your favorite quotes and why?
- Do you think words are powerful? Why or why not?
- Have you ever had someone's words dramatically impact you – good or bad? What words were said and how did they impact you?
- Read James 3:1-12**

Watch

Use the space below to take notes while you watch the video.



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Discuss

- When you look at our society, do you think words are having a more positive or negative impact on the lives of people? Explain.

Read James 3:3-6 – *James compares the tongue to a bit in a horse's mouth and a rudder on a ship. In doing this James portrays the tongue as something small that is able to exercise an incredibly powerful influence over the direction of a person's life. He also calls the tongue a fire that is able to entirely burn up the course of person's life.*

- Do you believe that the tongue possesses this kind of power and influence? Why or why not? In what ways do the words that you speak (and type) direct your life?
- In what ways are our tongues a fire? How are they able to consume us? How are they able to consume others?

Read James 3:7-8 – *James claims the tongue is untamable by humans.*

- Do you agree with this? If so, then what hope do we have of our tongues becoming tame and our words becoming 'life-giving' instead of 'fire-breathing'?

(Questions on back)



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- How intentional are you with the words you use on a daily basis? Are you continually aware of the power they possess, or do you often speak without considering their impact?
- What circumstances most often cause you to stumble and sin with what you say?
- So often when we think about words, we focus on trying to avoid saying negative things, but we often neglect the fact that we have countless opportunities throughout each day to bring life to others through what we do say. How good are you at looking for ways each day to use your words to help bring life to others around you?
- In what ways does this message challenge your faith? How can you apply what you've learned in your life this week?