

Sermon: Taming the Tongue with the Gospel
Series: *James: Real Wisdom Real Faith*

Scripture: James 1:1-12
Date: February 6, 2022

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) The Bible has much to say about our words. Why do you think God cares so much about what we say?

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) Where in your past have you seen the power of words to direct you and/or destroy you?

b) James says that “we all stumble in many ways” with our words. Where have you stumbled recently with your words? Where have you set the “course of life” on fire with your words?

c) What methods have you used to “tame your tongue?” Did they work?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) Why should it be unnatural (note James’ use of natural examples in verses 11-12) for the Christian to “bless God and curse others” from the same mouth?

APPLICATION

a) How does James 3:1-12 bring conviction to your heart? How does knowing that Jesus is both your savior and your lord allow you to choose different speech patterns?

b) James’ big idea is that our words reveal our hearts. How can you set your heart upon the gospel this week?

FIGHTER VERSES: James 3:13-18.

PRAYER

- Praise God for his heart of grace in restoring us to himself.
- Confess ways that you have “set the world on fire” with your words.
- Thank Jesus for his perfect words and his perfect life.
- Ask God to help you to let the gospel influence your speech.