Little but Powerful-Taming the Tongue (part 2)

November 22, 2026
Bible Passage: James 3:7-12

Fighter Memory Verse
NOVEMBER
Romans 15:13
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Big Idea: **No human can tame the tongue BUT the _____ is meant transform us from the inside out.**

#1-The tongue is _____ to human control (James 3:7-8)

- James points back to the _____ _____where mankind is given dominion over all creation (v. 7)
- James declares "no _____ can tame the tongue" (v. 8)

#2-The tongue is <u>unpredictable</u> in its function (James 3:9-10)

- James illustrates the _____ - _____nature of the tongues.
- James reminds us that it matters to God how we speak of others because of _____ _____ (image of God).

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#3- The tongue reveals its _____ (James 3:11-12)

- James illustrates this truth from nature.
  - Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? --_____
  - Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? -- _____
  - Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water. –_____
- Why does James bring up springs, fig trees, and grapevines?
  - **Because in God's design, the _____ always determines the fruit, and the underground source always determines the water.**

TRUTH INTO ACTION

- Stop trying to fix your speech without surrendering your heart.
- Look for the image of God before you speak.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to make your mouth a spring of life.



Please understand we want to help you know Jesus personally and journey with you in taking fresh steps of obedience daily for Jesus. We would love to pray with you and for you. Join us at the end of the service for prayer or send us your request on the Connect Card and we will lift them up throughout the week.

Table Talk

Please take the time this week to process the table talk lesson in your community group or around your own kitchen table.

Warm Up: If you could safely train any wild animal to be a household pet, which one would you pick and why?

Read James 3:1-12

1. Recall a time when you've hurt someone with your words. What was motivating you?

2. What is so difficult about taming the tongue? (3:7-8)

3. What inconsistencies are we capable in the use of our tongues? (3:9-10)

4. James pointed out that a spring never flows with fresh water one minute and salt water the next, yet our words often praise God in one breath and curse His creation in the next. Christians should commit to words that honor Jesus. How should a believer respond if we find salt water flowing from our mouths instead of fresh water? How does Jesus help us with this issue?

5. Some personal questions for application: BEING HONEST IS A KEY TO TRANSFORMATION
   - **When someone frustrates me or does me harm, how do I react?** Do you strike back like a snake, delivering venom with your tongue, or do you make your tongue an instrument that returns good for evil?
   - **How do I deal with the wounds of life**? The temptation is to cease blessing God with the tongue and to curse Him instead, as Job's wife prodded him to do after God had allowed tragedy to rain upon his life (Job 2:9). The right response is not to feel mad at God, but to seek God's help. For any hurt, however painful, there can be healing through the Holy Spirit, whose primary role is to serve as the Comforter (John 15:25–26; 16:6–7).
   - Are words of blessing the normal product of my mouth? As you go through your day, what do the people around you hear? Do they hear complaining words, belittling words, words driven by selfish desire, words gloomy and hopeless, words of merciless criticism, words that ignore God or even question God, words that seek to escape responsibility, blaming words, slanderous words, nit-picking words, words that justify compromise and obscure what is wrong, vulgar words, words of rejection and disdain? All these verbal expressions of your heart and mind are forms of cursing, since they attack others or attack God Himself. The alternative is words of blessing.

Prayer: Thank you, Jesus for dying so that I might be made brand new and my tongue might be "tamed" by You.