

Summer at Epic - Part 4 - My Words
Mark Rouse / July 26, 2020

²⁰ Wise words satisfy like a good meal; the right words bring satisfaction. ²¹ The tongue can bring death or life... – Proverbs 18:20-21

Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way. – James 3:2

The Power of the Tongue

- **The tongue is a BRIDLE.**

We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth.
– James 3:3

- **The tongue is a RUDDER.**

And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. – James 3:4

- **The tongue is a SPARK.**

In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. – James 3:5

How to Tame the Tongue

⁷ People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, ⁸ but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. – James 3:7-8

1. PAUSE.

Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry. – James 1:19

2. PONDER.

T – is it TRUE?

H – is it HELPFUL?

I – is it INSPIRING?

N – is it NECESSARY?

K – is it KIND?

3. PRAY.

And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! – James 3:10

You brood of snakes! How could evil men like you speak what is good and right? For whatever is in your heart determines what you say. – Matthew 12:34

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer. – Psalm 19:14