

James 3:9-10 NIV

With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.

"curse" — to doom, condemn or criticize

## **HOW TO RESPOND TO UNJUST CRITICISM**

### **1. Oftentimes, we \_\_\_\_\_ Respond**

When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. (1 Peter 2:23 NIV)

A person's wisdom yields patience; it is to one's glory to overlook an offense. (Proverbs 19:11 NIV)

### **2. Sometimes, we \_\_\_\_\_ To Respond**

A gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare. (Proverbs 15:1 NLT)

Judges 8:1-3

### **3. Always, we \_\_\_\_\_ our Hearts & Muzzle our Mouths**

Set a guard over my mouth, Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips.  
Do not let my heart be drawn to what is evil. (Psalm 141:3-4 NIV)

"I will guard my ways, that I may not sin with my tongue; I will guard my mouth with a muzzle, so long as the wicked are in my presence." (Psalm 39:1 ESV)

Jesus said, "Forsake the habit of criticizing and judging others, and then you will not be criticized and judged in return. Don't look at others and pronounce them guilty, and you will not experience guilty accusations yourself. Forgive over and over and you will be forgiven over and over. (Luke 6:37 TPT)