

8. In verses 3 and 4 the tongue seems to be a good thing. A bit and a rudder are useful. In verse 6 however it seems wildly destructive. How can it be both?
  9. Verse 9: Since every person is made in God's image, what does it mean when we curse them? How can reflecting on this truth change the way we speak to or about others?
  10. Read verses 9 and 10. Based on your past week, have your words been inconsistent with your faith at times? What practical steps can you take to be consistent and to reflect Christ through your speech?
  11. How does our inconsistent speech impact others' view of Christ and the Church?
- Self-Exam**
12. In your own life, whose words have hurt you the most? Who has been hurt the most by your words?
  13. Can you think of a time when your tongue got you in trouble? How could you handle that differently in light of this passage?
  14. Another positive way to use words is in asking for forgiveness and apologizing when you've wronged someone. Is there an opportunity for you to do either of these today?

# POWER OF THE TONGUE

*JAMES 3:1-12*

*everything that comes into **your mind**  
doesn't need to come out of **your mouth**.*

# POWER OF THE TONGUE

*JAMES 3:1-12*

## I. JAMES 3:1

We don't know it all yet. Be \_\_\_\_\_.

*"For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known."*

*1 CORINTHIANS 13:1*

## II. JAMES 3:2

Everything that comes into your \_\_\_\_\_  
doesn't need to come out of your \_\_\_\_\_.

*"Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise;  
when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent."*

*PROVERBS 17:28*

## III. JAMES 3:3-5

Watch your \_\_\_\_\_.

*"A soft answer turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word stirs up anger."*

*PROVERBS 15:1*

## IV. JAMES 3:6

Consider the \_\_\_\_\_ of your words.

*"The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing."*

*PROVERBS 12:18*

## V. JAMES 3:7-12

\_\_\_\_\_ before you speak.

*"The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer,  
but the mouth of the wicked pours out evil things."*

*PROVERBS 12:18*

# #8 DIVE DEEPER STUDY QUESTIONS

*JAMES 3:1-12*

1. What stuck out the most to you from this week's message?
2. What person/people in your life taught you the most (good or bad)?
3. How should verse 1 affect the way we view spiritual leadership? Are there areas of your life where you are called to be a spiritual leader?
4. Verse 2 says we all stumble. What does our struggle with words tell us about our spiritual maturity?
5. In verses 5-6, the tongue is likened to what? What is the source of the fire and why is it so likely to cause so much damage if uncontrolled?
6. Read Verse 6: How does the tongue corrupt the body?
7. In chapter 2 we learned that faith and deeds should go hand in hand. How do your words reflect your faith?