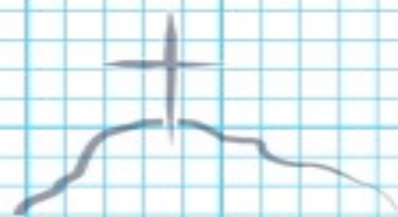


JAMES

“Faith That Works”

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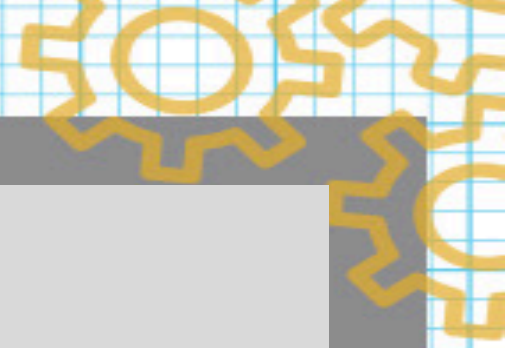
JAMES

“Faith That Works”



Testing of the Tongue

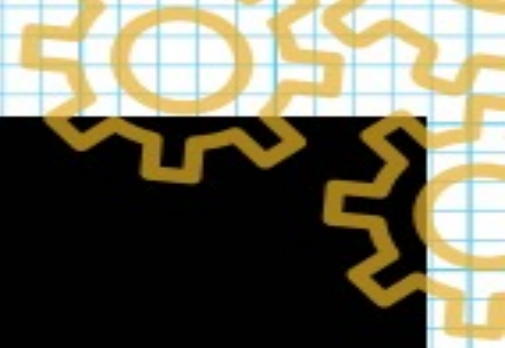
James 3:1-12



***Be Careful! The speech made angry
may very well be your best ever ...
and most regretted.***

JAMES

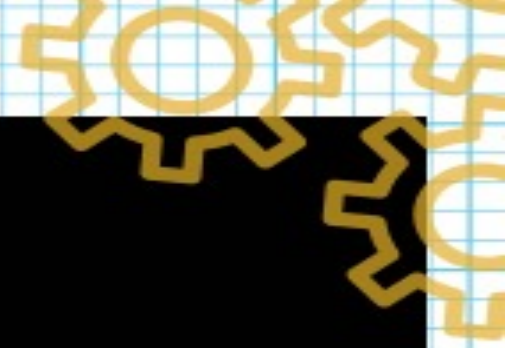
“Faith That Works”



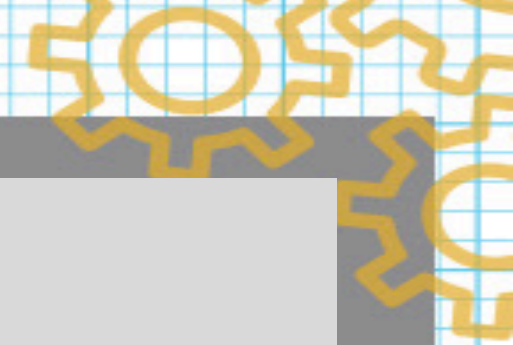
He who guards his mouth and his tongue,
Guards his soul from troubles. Prov 21:23

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1 Let not many of you become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment.

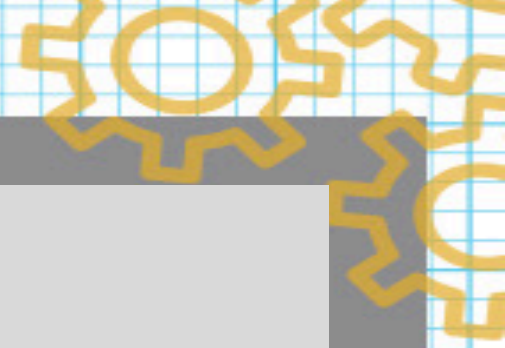


Testing Teachers 1

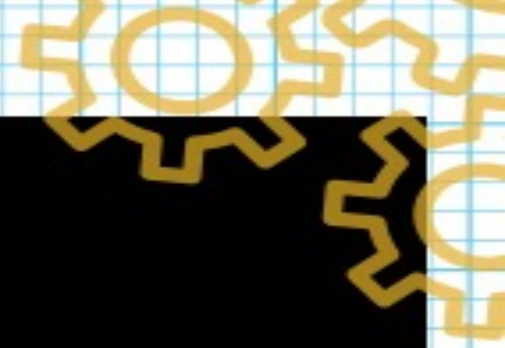
- Teacher's tools are words heard, read, spoken
- Guides are also Guardians
- Much given = Much required! (Luke 12:48)
- Servants are often Sentries – 'watchmen'

JAMES

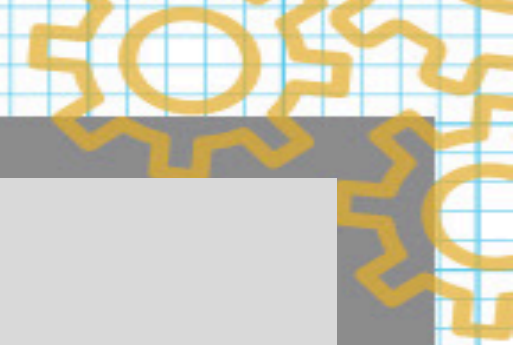
“Faith That Works”



Our words should not only reflect the best of us but the love of Christ.



2 For we all stumble in many ways.
If anyone does not stumble in what he says,
he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole
body as well.

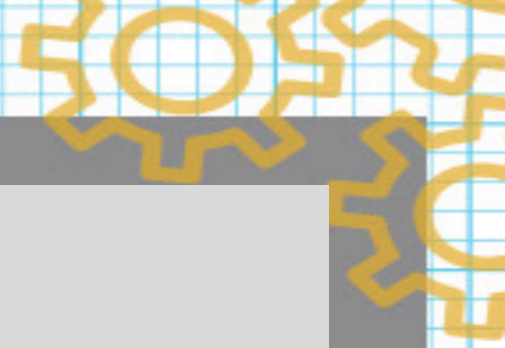


Testing Maturity 2

- ‘stumble’ – trip, offend
- Easiest slip – speech
- ‘perfect’ – mature or complete
- Words of ourselves – pride
- Words to others – influence

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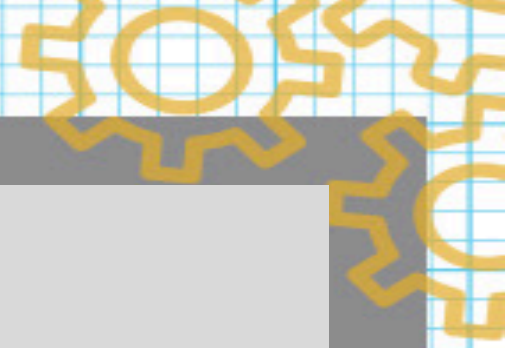
“Faith That Works”



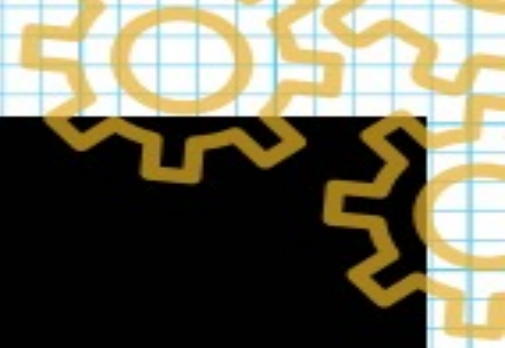
Don't spend words on people or moments that deserve your silence!

JAMES

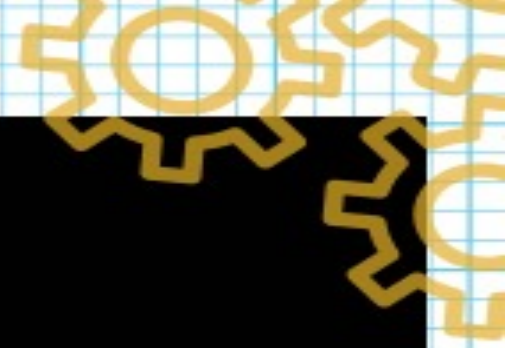
“Faith That Works”



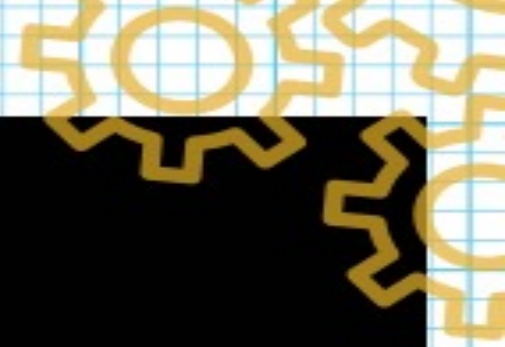
***Remember – whoever gossips
to you will gossip about you!***



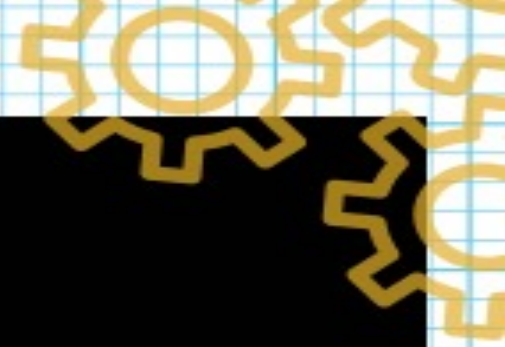
3 Now if we put the bits into the horses' mouths so that they will obey us, we direct their entire body as well.



4 Look at the ships also, though they are so great and are driven by strong winds, are still directed by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot desires.



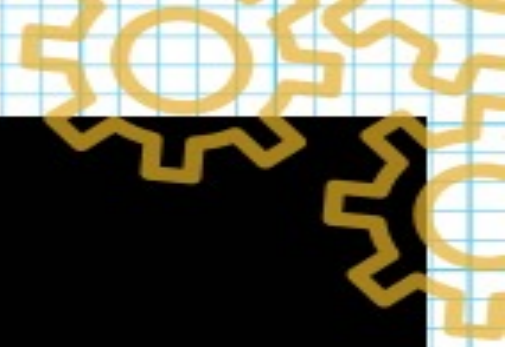
5 So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire!



6 And the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by hell.

JAMES

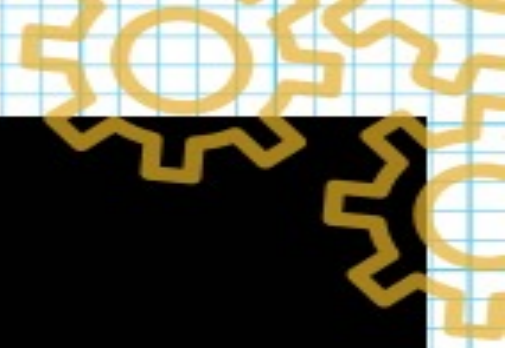
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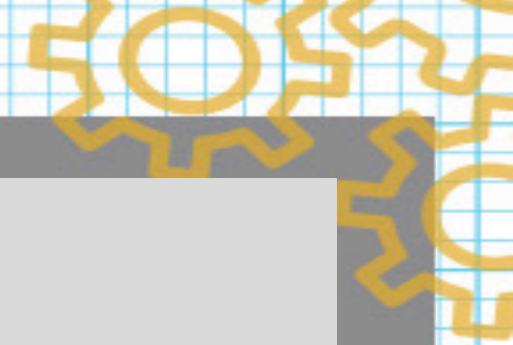
7 For every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by the human race.

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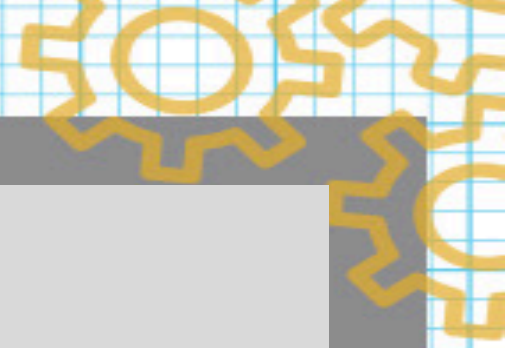


8 But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison.



Testing Direction 3-8

- Horses – not used in the barn
- Rudder – not used in the dock
- Smoky the Bear!
- Taming takes time
- *“In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise.”* Prov 10:19



A woman once came to John Wesley and said she knew what her talent was and she said, "I think my talent from God is to speak my mind." Wesley replied, "I don't think God would mind if you buried that talent."

JAMES

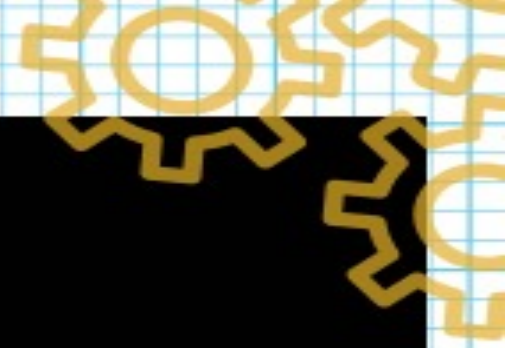
“Faith That Works”



*Too many spend more time training
a pet than taming their tongue.*

JAMES

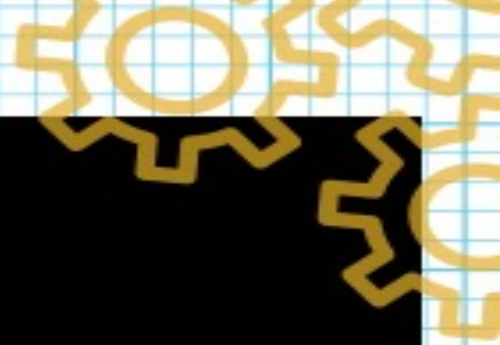
“Faith That Works”



9 With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God;

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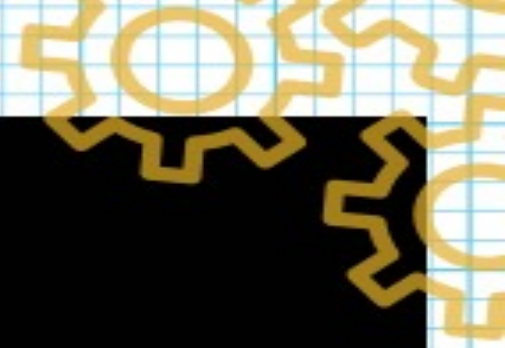
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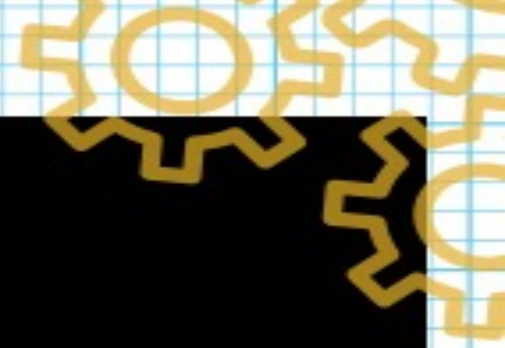
10 from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way.

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“Faith That Works”



11 Does a fountain send out from the same opening both fresh and bitter water?

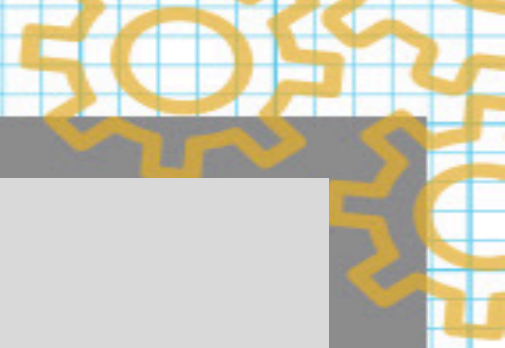


12 Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Nor can salt water produce fresh.



Testing Fruit 9-12

- Same space – 2 choices
- Nature shows consistent fruit
 - Spring – sweet & bitter
 - Fig tree – olives?
 - Grapevine – figs?
 - Spring – salt & fresh?

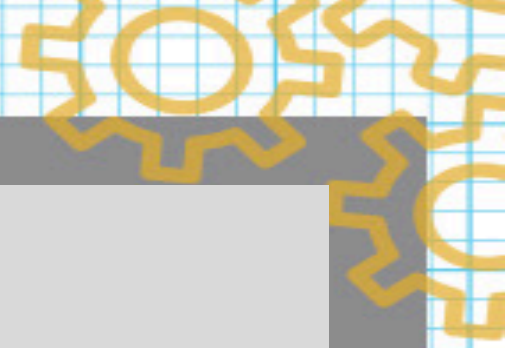


Testing of the Tongue

- Our walk and talk
- Words are the product of heart and mind
- If your heart is bitter so will your words be.
- Who do you need to encourage?
- Who do you need to apologize to?

JAMES

“Faith That Works”



*Words are a fire – to warm
the heart or burn the flesh.*