

(James 1:23-27) You know this, my beloved brothers and sisters. Now everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger; for a man's anger does not bring about the righteousness of God.

(James 3:1-12) Do not become teachers in large numbers, my brothers, since you know that we who are teachers will incur a stricter judgment.

(James 3:2) For we all stumble in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to rein in the whole body as well.

(James 1:26) If anyone thinks himself to be religious, yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this person's religion is worthless.

(Luke 6:43-45) For there is no good tree that bears bad fruit, nor, on the other hand, a bad tree that bears good fruit. For each tree is known by its own fruit. For people do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they pick grapes from a briar bush. The good person out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil person out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.

### 1. Negative words spoken \_\_\_\_\_.

(James 3:3-5) Now if we put the bits into the horses' mouths so that they will obey us, we direct their whole body as well. Look at the ships too: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are nevertheless directed by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot determines. 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!

### 2. Negative words spoken \_\_\_\_\_.

(James 3:6) And the tongue is a fire, the very world of unrighteousness; the tongue is set among our body's parts as that which defiles the whole body and sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by hell.

### 3. Negative words spoken \_\_\_\_\_.

(James 3:7-10) For every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by the human race. But no one among mankind can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people, who have been made in the likeness of God; from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, these things should not be this way.

(James 3:11-13) Does a spring send out from the same opening both fresh and bitter water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, bear olives, or a vine bear figs? Nor can salt water produce fresh. Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom.

(Proverbs 16:20-24 NLT) Those who listen to instruction will prosper; those who trust the Lord will be joyful. The wise are known for their understanding, and pleasant words are persuasive. Discretion is a life-giving fountain to those who possess it, but discipline is wasted on fools. From a wise mind comes wise speech; the words of the wise are persuasive. Kind words are like honey— sweet to the soul and healthy for the body.

--- Wisdom from below ---

(James 3:14-16) But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing.

- **Earthly** = liable to error or \_\_\_\_\_
- **Natural** = wisdom in harmony with \_\_\_\_\_ desires
- **Demonic** = resembling or preceeding  
from an \_\_\_\_\_.

--- Wisdom from above ---

(James 3:17-18) But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peace-loving, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial, free of hypocrisy. And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

(Proverbs 10:31-32 NLT) The mouth of the godly person gives wise advice, but the tongue that deceives will be cut off. The lips of the godly speak helpful words, but the mouth of the wicked speaks perverse words.

- ✓ **Speak words that** \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ **Speak words that show you** \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ **Speak words that lead to you** \_\_\_\_\_  
more than you being \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ **Speak words that help bring** \_\_\_\_\_.