THINK James 3:1-10 (NLT)

But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire.

Dear brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers in the church, for we who teach will be judged more strictly.

James 3:1 (NLT)

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 (NLT)

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

James 3:3 (NLT)

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

James 3:4 (NLT)

- Truth of Today:
 - Your tongue <u>CONTROLS</u> the direction of your <u>LIFE</u>. "Death and life are in the power of the tongue..."

Proverbs 18:21 (ESV)

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 (NLT)

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

James 3:7-8 (NLT)

Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. ¹⁰And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right!

James 3:9-10 (NLT)

- Your words fall into one of three categories:
 - 1. To INFORM
 - 2. To <u>INSPIRE</u>

James 3:5b (NLT)

3. To INJURE

If you claim to be religious but don't control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless.

James 1:26 (NLT)

Too much talk leads to sin. Be sensible and keep your mouth shut.

Proverbs 10:19 (NLT)

A fool is quick-tempered, but a wise person stays calm when insulted.

Proverbs 12:16 (NLT)

T – <u>TRUTH</u>

Truthful lips endure forever, but a lying tongue, only a moment.

Proverbs 12:19 (CSB)

H – <u>HELPFUL</u>

Do not withhold good from those who deserve it when it's in your power to help them. Proverbs 3:27 (NLT)

I – <u>INSPIRING</u>

Worry weighs a person down; an encouraging word cheers a person up.

Proverbs 12:25 (NLT)

N – <u>NECESSARY</u>

Gentle words are a tree of life; a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit.

Proverbs 15:4 (NLT)

K – <u>KIND</u>

Kind words are like honey – sweet to the soul and healthy for the body.

Proverbs 16:24 (NLT)

Death and life are in the power of the tongue...

Proverbs 18:21 (NLT)