



September 29-30, 2018
Life Hacks: Taming Your Tongue
Dr. Kurt Bjorklund

MESSAGE NOTES:

James 3:1-12

STUDY GUIDE:

Reference:

Open in prayer and read James 3:1-12.

Review: What was one thing from this weekend's message that challenged, confused, or stood out to you?

Reflect:

1. Why is it so difficult to keep our words within the biblical parameters?

2. Are there words people have spoken that made a lasting impact on you, either positively or negatively? What were those words?

3. Read Matthew 5:21-24, where Jesus raises the stakes on our accountability for our speech. In essence He equates malicious speech with murder. Why do you think he places such a high price on improper speech?

4. Verse 1 warns about the responsibility of teaching the Scriptures. Why is there such a high standard for those who teach the Bible?

5. Read Luke 6:43-45. In thinking about the words that come out of your mouth regularly, what does this say about the condition of your heart?

6. How can we develop an encouraging spirit so that our words are helpful and uplifting?

7. How can we apply James' correctives about our speech to our "self-talk" - the (often negative) things we say to ourselves about ourselves? How we can learn to practice grace-filled self-talk?

Respond/Reinforce:

In Colossians 4:5-6, Paul gives us an intriguing challenge when he says that gracious speech is the key to being able to interact with others who don't share our faith. Pay attention to how you interact with others this week, especially unbelievers. Be intentional about your speech around them and toward them.