



Wisdom's Ways

THE WORDS OF JAMES

Words' Effects

**The way of
wisdom takes
care with words.**

SERIES SUMMARY

Before Jesus' death and resurrection, His siblings had their doubts. What sibling wouldn't, right?! Yet His brother James became a pillar of the early church and a teacher whose words still shape disciples today.

His letter is blunt yet brimming with practical wisdom, calling us to embrace joy in trials, reject favoritism, put faith into action, guard our words, and walk humbly with God.

Through this series, the words of James will help us uncover *Wisdom's Ways* for following Jesus here and now.

ICEBREAKER

Take turns guessing what this word means before having someone look it up: *mumpsimus* (noun)

SCRIPTURE

Read the following wisdom literature:

- Psalm 141:3
- Proverbs 18:21
- Ecclesiastes 5:2



LEARNING FROM HIS STORY

1. In what kinds of situations do we most need God's help in guarding our mouths (Psalm 141:3)?
2. Do you think Proverbs 18:21 overstates the effects of our words as having power of life & death or does it hit the nail on the head? Why?
3. Is it always wise to speak less? Are there exceptions?

EXAMINING OUR OWN STORY

4. When/where are you most likely to speak words you'll later regret?
5. What kinds of words tend to be most hurtful to you?
6. Who in your life do you look up to as someone who is wise with their words?

WRITING A NEW STORY

7. Why do you think social media so often brings out the worst in people's words?
8. Do you know any helpful tips / tricks for asking good questions and listening more than we talk?
9. REFLECT: Make a reminder now with the name of someone you intend to bless with life-giving, encouraging words this week!

TAKING TIME TO PRAY

Adapted from Psalm 141: "Set a guard, O Lord, over our mouths; keep watch over the door of our lips." Amen.

