



Taming The Tongue



How To Tame The Tongue

September 16, 2026

How to Tame the Tongue



- The Tongue Is As ***Volatile*** As It Is ***Vital***
- “***A Sharp Tongue*** Is The Only Edge Tool That ***Grows Keener*** With ***Constant Use***”
--*Washington Irving*

How to Tame the Tongue



- **James 1:19 (NIV)** — 19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,
- **James 1:26 (NIV)** — 26 Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.
- **James 2:12 (NIV)** — 12 Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom

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(James 3:1-5 NIV) Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. (2) We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check. (3) When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. (4) Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. (5) Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.

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(James 3:6-9 NIV) (6) The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. (7) All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, (8) but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. (9) With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness.

How to Tame the Tongue



The Tongue Has The Power To Direct:

- **(James 3:1-4 NIV)** Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. (2) We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check. (3) When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. (4) Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.

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- ***Teachers ---***

- ***1) Must Be Careful Of What They Say***
- ***2) Must Practice What They Preach***

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We Need To Allow God To Control Our Tongues

- **Psalm 141:3–4 (NIV) — 3 Set a guard over my mouth, LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips. 4 Do not let my heart be drawn to what is evil so that I take part in wicked deeds along with those who are evildoers; do not let me eat their delicacies.**
- **Matthew 12:34 (NIV) — 34 You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.**
- **Proverbs 18:21 (NIV) — 21 The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.**

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The Tongue Has The Power To Destruct

- **(James 3:5 NIV)** Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.

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(Prov. 26:20-21 NIV) Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down. (21) As charcoal to embers and as wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome man for kindling strife.

- People Who Can't Control Their Tongues Cause Destruction

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It's Time To Examine Yourself And Your Words

- ***Be Careful Of What You Say Because It May Cause A Fire***
- Fire Destroys, Defiles, And Corrupts
--stains, pollutes, infects contaminates.
- **James 3:6 (NIV) — 6 The tongue... is a fire!**

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- Our **Words** Can **Break Hearts, Ruin Reputations,** Can Even **Destroy Souls.**

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- ***A Person Who Gossips Is The Devil's Broadcasting Station***
- ***Someone who doesn't have a fulfilling life of their own, so they insist on talking and ruining someone else's.***

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- ***“Gossip” Means “To Indulge In Idle Talk Or Rumors About Others; Spreading Of Sensational Stories.”***
- ***Gossip Often Masquerades As “Concern” For Others***
- ***Rumors or gossip will seem more palatable if they first hide behind an expression of concern.***

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- ***The Gossip Is Not Sincerely Concerned About Solving The Problem -- Only In Talking About It***
- ***A Gossip Thrives On The Negative -- The Controversial, And Sensational***
- ***The Person Who Gossips To You About Others, Also Gossips To Others About You!***

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5 Questions To Ask Before Sharing Information:

- 1. Is It True?***
- 2. Is It Necessary?***
- 3. Is It Beneficial?***
- 4. Do I Have Permission To Share It?***
- 5. Is My Motive Pure?***

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3 Ways To Put A Stop To Gossip

- 1. Can I Quote You On This?”**
- 2. “You Know, What I Like Most About [That Person] Is. . .”**
- 3. “Have You Talked To [That Person] About This?”**

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- **Animals Can Be Tamed, But Only God Can Tame The Tongue**
- **James 3:7–8 (NIV) — 7** All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, **8** but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

How to Tame the Tongue



- **To Change Your Tongue, You Must Change Your Heart**
- **(Mat 12:34 NIV) ... out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.**

How to Tame the Tongue



- ***Many Believers Today... In The Church Of Jesus Christ
Need A Heart Transplant... A Heart Change...***
- ***So That They Can Stop Spewing The Deadly Poison Of
An Untamed Tongue***

How to Tame the Tongue



- **Realize That Only God Can Change The Way You Speak.**
- **No person can tame the tongue, but Christ can!**
- **To do it, He goes straight for the heart and the mind.**
- **He will give us increasing power to monitor and control what we say.**

--Barton

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- **Psalm 141:3–4 (NIV) — 3 Set a guard over my mouth, LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips. 4 Do not let my heart be drawn to what is evil so that I take part in wicked deeds along with those who are evildoers; do not let me eat their delicacies.**

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Lord, Give Us Complete Control Of Our Tongues:

- **To Put Out Fires Not Spread Them.**
- **To Build Up And Not Tear Down.**
- **To Use Them To Bless And Not To Curse.**