

GETTING CONTROL

OF YOUR TONGUE

Some things
are better
left unsaid! ♥

James 3:1-12

Getting Control of Your Tongue

- Our Tongue Often Gets Us Into Trouble
- Benjamin Franklin: *“A slip of the foot you may soon recover, But a slip of the tongue you may never get over.”*
- *“The stillest tongue can be the truest friend.”*

Getting Control of Your Tongue

- **James 3:1–5 (NIV) —** **1** Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. **2** We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their 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.

Getting Control of Your Tongue

- **James 3:6–12 (NIV) — 6** The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. **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. **9** With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. **10** Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. **11** Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? **12** My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

Getting Control of Your Tongue

- ***The Tongue Has The Power To Direct:***
- The Tongue Is A Small Member That Has Great Power To Influence Others

Getting Control of Your Tongue

We Must Allow God To Control Our Tongues

- **Psalm 141:3 (NIV) — 3** Set a guard over my mouth, LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.
- **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) SAYS— 21** The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Getting Control of Your Tongue

The Tongue Has The Power To Destroy

- **James 3:5 (NIV) — 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.
- ***People Who Can't Control Their Tongues Cause Destruction***

Getting Control of Your Tongue

It's Time To Examine Ourselves And Our Words!

- Our Words Can Break Hearts, Ruin Reputations, Destroy Souls.
- **James 3:6 (NIV) — 6** The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

Getting Control of Your Tongue

- **Animals Can Be Tamed**
Only God Can Tame The Tongue
- *To Change Your Tongue*
Your Heart Must Be Changed
- We Need A Heart Change So That We Don't Spew The
Deadly Poison Of An Untamed Tongue

Getting Control of Your Tongue

The Tongue Has the Power to Delight:

- **James 3:9–12 (NIV) — 9** With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. **10** Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. **11** Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? **12** My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

Getting Control of Your Tongue

The Tongue Will Tear Down Or Build Up

- **Proverbs 10:11 (NIV) — 11** The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but the mouth of the wicked conceals violence.
- **Proverbs 13:14 (NIV) — 14** The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turning a person from the snares of death.
- **When Water Is Controlled, it Brings Life**

Getting Control of Your Tongue

The Tongue Is Like A Tree:

- **(James 3:12 NIV)** My brothers, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.
- *To Have Tongues That Bless, Like A Tree, Our Roots Must Be In Good Soil – 1) His Word 2) Prayer*
- We Need To Produce Fruit--Our Words Can Be Part Of The Fruit Produced Through Our Lives

Getting Control of Your **Tongue**

- ***A Fountain Doesn't Give Two Types Of Water***
- ***A Tree Doesn't Produce Two Types Of Fruit***
- ***The Tongue Cannot Produce Two Types Of Words***

Getting Control of Your Tongue

The Tongue That Praises And Then Curses: Is In Need Of Spiritual Medicine.

- **The Problem Is The Heart.**

Getting Control of Your Tongue

- **1 Peter 3:9 (NIV) — 9** Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.
- *We Are Called To Repay Evil And Insult With Blessing --
So That We May Inherit A Blessing*

Getting Control of Your Tongue

- **If We Want Mercy -- We Need To Plant Mercy**
- **Blessing:**
 - *Fine Speaking*
 - *Elegance Of Language*
 - *Commendation*
 - *Adoration*
 - *Benediction*
 - *Fair Speech*
 - *Praise*

Getting Control of Your Tongue

To Inherit Something You Have To Be An Heir

- **Romans 8:17 (NIV) — 17** Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.
- **Galatians 4:7 (NIV) — 7** So you are no longer a slave, but God's child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.
- **Ephesians 3:6 (NIV) — 6** This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

Getting Control of Your Tongue

- **1 Peter 3:9 (NIV) — 9** Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.
- The Blessing We Are Going To Receive Is The Blessing Of The Praise Of Jesus
- If You Want The Lord To Speak Highly Of You --Speak Well Of Others

Getting Control of Your Tongue

- The Lord Brought a Change to Paul Even Though He was Persecuting the Church
- He Brought a Change to Peter Who Was So Impulsive
- He Can Bring Change to Your Life
- With Christlike Responses, We Can Store Up A Treasure Of Blessing In Heaven

Getting Control of Your Tongue

Tongues That Are Productive:

- *1. Know that there is a time to be quiet*
- *2. Do Not Gossip*
- *3. Are Passionate About Witnessing*
- *4. Speak the Truth in Love*
- *5. Do Not Grumble and Complain*
- *6. Make Positive Statements a Priority*
- *7. Continually Praise The Lord*