

weekly guide

james: a faith that works – week 4
pastor dre burgs



Talking through the weekly message helps you turn information into application. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you make the next move.

City Group Icebreaker: *Questions to Get You Talking*

- What do you think James would say about the proverbial statement – “Sticks and stones can break my bones but names will never hurt me”?
- Think a time when you have been hurt deeply. What was the cause? Was it because of something someone said or a physical injury?

Key Scriptures: But no one can tame the tongue; *it is* a restless evil *and* full of deadly poison. With it we bless *our* Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; from the same mouth come *both* blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way. **James 3:8-10**

Big Idea of the Message: Our words can cause new life or cause destruction.

Message Study: The Essential Inductive Questions

- How did God speak to you in the passage? How are you encouraged and strengthened?
- How can I be changed so I can learn and grow?
- What is in the way of these precepts affecting me? What is in the way of my listening to God?
- How does this apply to me? What will I do about it?
- What can I model and teach? What does God want me to share with someone?

Start Thinking. Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

- Why are sins of speech often overlooked as not serious?
- What point is James making in vv. 3-5? 4. Why is the tongue so hard to tame? If no human being can control the tongue (Verse 8), why bother trying?
- Have you ever said contradictory things as in Verses 9-10? Which speech pattern represents your true identity?
- Have you ever been confronted by a Christian about your speech? Describe this confrontation. Have you ever confronted another Christian about their speech? Describe this confrontation.
- What is at stake when a Christian's tongue is out of control? Circle the following possibilities: the unity or health of an entire community of believers (church or family), the testimony of believers, the testimony of Christ.

Start Sharing. Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

- Describe how you have seen the tongue destroy a relationship or a testimony.
- James 3:9 (as well as other verses such as Gen 1:26) reminds that people are made in the image of God. What should this mean for how we treat others (this includes how we speak to them)?
- Do your words more often help than hurt? Do they reveal your true self, or do they conceal you from others?
- What are some practical steps you might take to help control your “tongue” in a godly way?
- If your tongue were to be judged today, would you stand the test of faith? James indicates that it is impossible to curse man and praise God in the same breath (James 3:8-12).

Start Praying. Ask God to show you any hidden prejudice in your life so that you can repent. Ask the Spirit to help you see people as God does and love others as Jesus did.

Application Point: We must make a habit of thinking before we speak.

next moves

Connect To Culture

- What positive words do your friends and acquaintances need to hear from you this week? How can you remember to say these things?

Movement News

- **SUPPORT THE MOVEMENT:** God has given so generously to us. In response, let's give generously to God's work through this church movement. Text GIVE and the AMOUNT to **84321** (ex. GIVE 100). *Your tax-deductible gift helps us fulfill our mission, and move the ministry of Movement Church.*
- No matter where you come from, there's a group for you. Join or start an MTG and experience how the gospel can transform your life. A MTG is made up of two or three people, all of the same gender, who meet weekly for personal accountability for their spiritual growth and development. There are only two suggested qualification for starting or joining a MTG:
 1. A desperate need for Jesus (Luke 5:29-32).
 2. Faithfulness in the process itself (2 Tim. 2:2).

To join or start a (MTG), email info@movementchurch.tv

movement transformation groups

Movement Transformation Groups (MTG's) are a simple way to release the most essential elements of a vital spiritual walk to people who need Jesus to change their lives from the inside out. We want to see people experience life change, support one another through the challenges of life, as well as pray and care for one another. (MTG's) empower the common Christian to accomplish the uncommon work of reproducing spiritual disciples who can in turn reproduce others.

Only three tasks are to be accomplished in a (MTG):

- Sin is confessed in mutual accountability.
- Scripture is read repetitively in context and in community.
- Souls are prayed for strategically, specifically, and continuously

Join or start a (MTG), email info@movementchurch.tv

MTG Weekly Emphasis:

- This week you are to read what the following proverbs say about wisdom and speaking. Proverbs 10:8, 14, 18, 31; 12:18; 15:2; 16:23; 17:28; 18:2, 6-7; 19:1; 29:11, 20. in it's entirety in context and in community.
- Is there someone in your life that you are being called to "plead" or "implore" with on Christ's behalf? Pray for eyes to be open to see who God may place in your path to be his ambassador and emissary to plead with them to be reconciled with God.
- Each of you in the group is to identify two or three whom you feel led to pray for their salvation. Pray for those you know that don't know Christ. Ask God to give you the words that help you lead them to Christ.

Please see the MovementChurch.tv App (discover tab) for MTG overview and gospel conversation question.