

# I LOVE YOU, BUT I CAN'T STAND YOU!

## Part 1 of Series REALATIONSHIPS

### Getting Real with the People Closest to You

April 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Pastor Kerry Shook

*“Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way. We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself. People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, but no one can tame the tongue.” James 3:2-8a (NLT)*

#### I. UNDERSTAND THE POWER OF MY WORDS

- My Words have the Power to direct my life

*“We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong.” James 3:3, 4 (NLT)*

- My Words have the Power to build up or burn down my relationships

*“But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. And the tongue is a flame of fire.” James 3:5, 6 (NLT)*

#### II. COMMIT TO WISE FIGHTING WORDS

*“But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere. And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness.” James 3:17-18 (NLT)*

#### 7 Rules for Wise Fighting

##### 1. Always check my motives

*“... wisdom from above is first of all pure.”*

**2. Never attack the person; attack the issue**

*“... wisdom from above is ... also peace loving ...”*

**3. Never raise my voice**

*“... wisdom from above is ... gentle at all times.”*

**4. Never interrupt**

*“... wisdom from above is ... willing to yield to others.”*

**5. Never keep score**

*“... wisdom from above is ... full of mercy ...”*

**6. Always follow the talk with action**

*“... wisdom from above is ... full of good deeds.”*

**7. Always speak from my heart**

*“... wisdom from above is ... always sincere.”*

**III. ALLOW GOD TO CLEANSE AND FILL MY SOUL**

*“And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water? Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can’t draw fresh water from a salty spring.” James 3:10-12 (NLT)*

*“Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.” Matthew 7:24, 25 (NIV)*