

Small Group Guide: Healing Evil Speech

April 18, 2026

Based on Leviticus 13-14, 2 Kings 5, Genesis 4, Numbers 12, Luke 7

Key Scripture References

- Genesis 4:6-7 (Cain and sin crouching at the door)
- Numbers 12:1-2 (Miriam's criticism of Moses)
- Leviticus 13-14 (Laws concerning tzara'at)
- 2 Kings 5:10-15 (Naaman's healing)
- Luke 7:21-22 (Yeshua healing lepers)

Discussion Questions

1. What was your initial reaction to the idea that tzara'at might be caused by "evil speech"? How does this change your understanding of the physical consequences of sin?

2. The sermon mentions that "God is in control of all things" yet "we have free will." How do you reconcile these two truths? Share an example from your own life.

3. Why do you think God requires our participation in transformation rather than simply changing us instantly? What purpose does this serve?

4. Miriam criticized Moses' wife because she was a Cushite (Numbers 12). What modern forms of "evil speech" mirror this ancient sin? (Consider: racial comments, gossip, social media criticism, character assassination)

5. The message states: "When we are cured... we can be like Naaman and say, 'Behold, now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel.'" Have you experienced a transformation that led you to give God credit publicly? What was that like?

6. James writes that the tongue can do SO MUCH damage. Why is controlling our speech so difficult? What specific challenges do you face?

7. The person with tzara'at had to cry "UNCLEAN, UNCLEAN" so others would stay away. How might people today figuratively announce their own "uncleanness" through patterns of speech? Have you ever avoided someone for this reason?

8. The sermon mentions that even after healing, there may be "residual marks" and it takes time to rebuild trust. If you've struggled with gossip, criticism, or other forms of evil speech, what "residual marks" have you noticed? How are you working to rebuild trust?

10. What is one specific area of speech you sense the Holy Spirit convicting you about? (Examples: complaining, criticism of leaders, gossip about family members, negative social media posts, racial/cultural insensitivity)