

A _____ Standard

1. The _____ in Teaching
2. The _____ in Speaking

A _____ Sentiment

1. The _____ Tongue
2. The _____ Tongue
3. The _____ Tongue

A _____ Situation

A _____ Support

1. Jesus _____
2. Jesus _____
3. Jesus _____

Group Questions

1. Recall a time when you've hurt someone with your words. What was motivating you?
2. What's wrong with the idea that our actions, and not our words, are what really matter?
 - a. How does this compliment or contradict the fruit of works?
3. The God of the Bible is the God who speaks. How should that reality affect our view of words, including our own?
4. Explain why the potential for great damage is so great in the case of teachers.
5. What are some characteristics we should look for in teachers of God's Word?
6. What do our words tell us about our hearts? Why is the tongue so difficult to control?
7. How would you counsel another believer whose conversation is often impure?
8. What are two or three practical ways you can be more careful with your words?
9. How do James's instructions apply to social media—texts, e-mails, Internet communication, etc.?
10. What should we expect from unbelievers in terms of their words? Explain your answer.