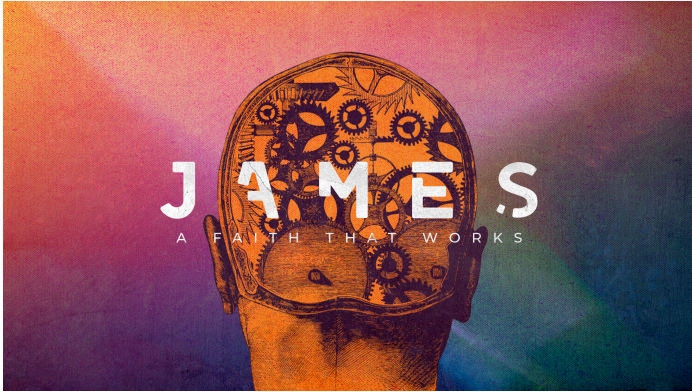


## TAKE HOME SHEET



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**Series:** James  
**Message:** Taming Our Tongues  
**Speaker:** Brandon Pendleton  
**Date:** March 7/8, 2020

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**Review the notes from this week's message.**

What impacted you the most?

Reread James 3:1-12. In general, speaking life is more than just using positive words. It's speaking truth in love for the benefit of the listener, the recipient of the message. Why do you think we are prone to speak both blessings and curses? Why is this an odd characteristic for someone that is a follower of Jesus?

Read Matthew 12:35-36. Why is it important to examine our speech?

In taming our tongues, we must first surrender our lives to God, lean on Him for help and choose to use words that are from His perspective. Think about your normal responses to life situations and your everyday interactions with friends, family, colleagues or neighbors (social media platforms included). What do your statements reveal about your heart? What needs to change? What needs to continue?

Read Matthew 5:23-24. Cleaning up where we messed up implies that we initiate reconciliation with the neighbors we have offended. Take a moment to pray and ask God if there is anyone you need to reach out to apologize and ask forgiveness. Make a list and an action item to reconcile before the week ends. Share your experience with your small group or a trusted resource in what God did during the moment of reconciliation.

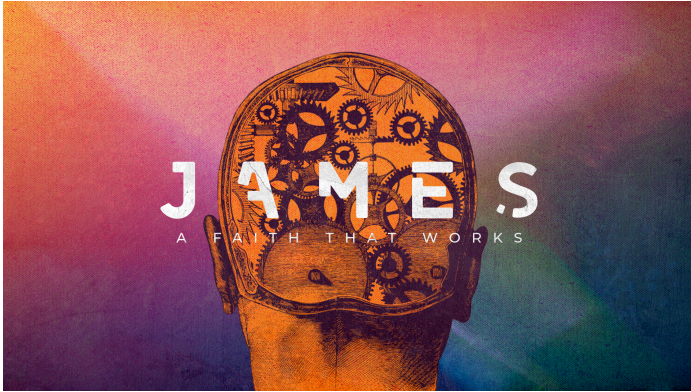
If you don't currently have a regular plan for reading and learning your Bible, please check out New Hope's Bible Reading Plan by going to [nhcbrp.com](http://nhcbrp.com).

### **BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:**

MSG – The Message

NLT – New Living Translation

## MESSAGE NOTES



**Series:** James  
**Message:** Taming Our Tongues  
**Speaker:** Brandon Pendleton  
**Date:** March 7/8, 2020

<sup>1</sup> Dear brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers in the church, for we who teach will be judged more strictly. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. <sup>4</sup> And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, <sup>8</sup> but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. <sup>10</sup> And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! <sup>11</sup> Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water? <sup>12</sup> Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring.

James 3:1-12 (NLT)

God **knows all of my words**, and

He **takes them very seriously**.

My words **reveal** my heart.

<sup>35</sup> A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. <sup>36</sup> And I tell you this, you must give an account on judgment day for every idle word you speak.

Matthew 12:35-36 (NLT)

<sup>18</sup> But the words you speak come from the heart—that's what defiles you. <sup>19</sup> For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander.

Matthew 15:18-19 (NLT)

### How to Tame My Tongue

#### 1. **Surrender my life to God.**

<sup>1</sup> And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. <sup>2</sup> Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.

Romans 12:1-2 (NLT)

#### 2. **Select my words from God's perspective.**

Post a guard at my mouth, GOD, set a watch at the door of my lips.

Psalms 141:3 (MSG)

Too much talk leads to sin. Be sensible and keep your mouth shut.

Proverbs 10:19 (NLT)

Instead, we will speak the truth in love...

Ephesians 4:15 (NLT)

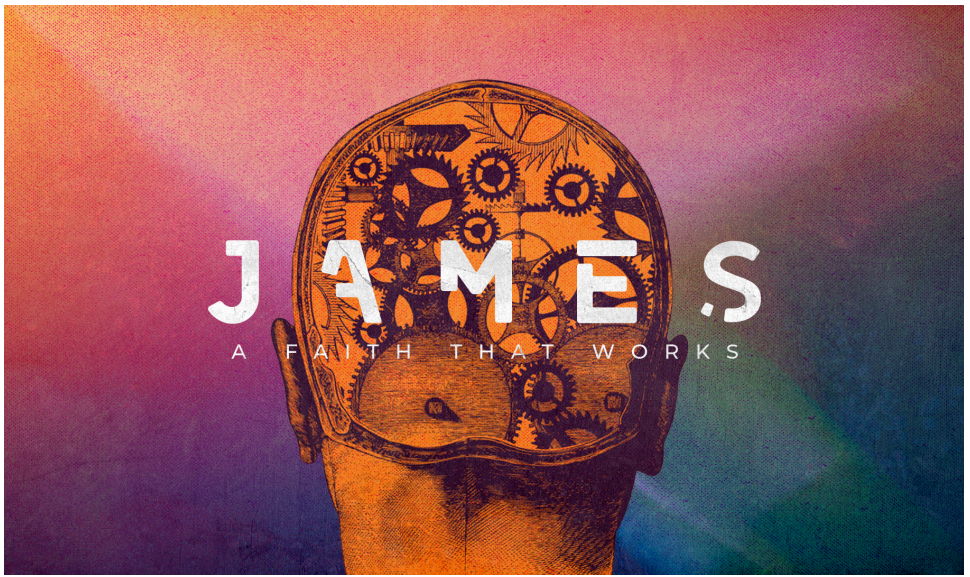
#### 3. **Clean up when you mess up.**

Finally, I confessed all my sins to you and stopped trying to hide my guilt. I said to myself, 'I will confess my rebellion to the LORD.' And you forgave me! All my guilt is gone.

Psalms 32:5 (NLT)

Make this your common practice: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed.

James 5:16 (MSG)



The Book of James is a powerful and intensely practical how-to manual for the Christian life. In this short letter, we learn how God has equipped us to face anything that comes our way with purpose, confidence, courage and hope. **This week: Taming Our Tongues.** Words really matter. We can ask forgiveness for the hurtful things we say, but we can never take them back. At the same time, we can choose to speak love and life into people and circumstances. We have to make it a habit to think before we speak.

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**FIRST TIME GUESTS** We promise we're not going to make you stand up in front of everyone or track you down, but we'd love to know you were here today! Simply fill out your communication card in the seat back in front of you and check the "First Time Guest" box. On your way out, stop by Guest Services at the front doors and get your FREE welcome gift. We're glad you are here!

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**WE'RE  
SO GLAD  
YOU JOINED  
US TODAY!**

**newhope**  
church

We're honored when people choose to do church with us. New Hope is for anyone who wants to seek God - from those exploring if He even exists, to devoted Christ-followers. Wherever you are, you'll find we are committed to showing the love of Jesus and helping people establish a relationship with Him. We are casual, laid-back and far from perfect. **ALL are welcome!**

## Bryant Center Easter Basket Project... Hop on Over and Help!

Ladies - please join us on Monday, March 30th at 7:30pm for a fun evening of making Easter baskets for children of teen parents working to finish their high school diploma. This is a great way to show God's love and encourage them to keep going to reach their goals!

Bring your kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews (all kids must be ages 5 & up and accompanied by an adult), for hands-on, love-in-action fun!

Register today at [bit.ly/bryantbaskets2020](http://bit.ly/bryantbaskets2020)



# Community

STARTING WELL IN YOUR SMALL GROUP

Join us for this study from March 19 to May 14 (not meeting April 9th)

Why is community so important to your spiritual life? Because you can't grow spiritually unless you are connected relationally. God designed you that way. He wants to use other people to grow you and he wants to use you to grow other people.

During this eight-week study, you'll explore how building deep relationships with people in a small group will grow your faith. You'll learn why your unique story matters to God and to the people you do life with. If you aren't plugged into a small group, this is a great opportunity to explore what that looks like. You don't have to join a small group after the study, however, we hope this will be a great opportunity to start new groups and plug people into existing groups. This study is available for men, women, couples and singles. Sign up today at [bit.ly/nhcommunity](http://bit.ly/nhcommunity).

Questions? Please contact Dan Dever at [dan.dever@newhope.org](mailto:dan.dever@newhope.org) or call 703.971.4673 ext 150.

A graphic with the text "I'M IN" in large, bold, white and teal letters, enclosed in a teal square frame with rounded corners. The background is a dark teal with a geometric pattern of lighter teal and white shapes.

**I'M  
IN**

There's a big difference between attending church and being part of a church. Jesus asks us to worship and serve together. There are so many different ways you can be an active participant in what's going on at New Hope. If you're not already serving, please join us in the front lobby after all services this weekend to learn more, ask questions, and be part of what God's doing in our community and world!

## **NO TAKEOVER**

We're not meeting this Sunday. Our students are off having fun - see you next week!

A colorful graphic for "Parent/Child Dedication". The words "PARENT" and "CHILD" are written in large, multi-colored letters. To the right of "CHILD" is a yellow handprint icon. Below "CHILD" is a teal banner with the word "DEDICATION" in white capital letters.

**PARENT  
CHILD**   
**DEDICATION**

Our next Parent/Child Dedication is on Saturday, March 21st at 10 am. It's not too late to join us, even if you missed the parent information meetings last weekend. If you're ready to get started, you can pick up a booklet at any

of the following locations: Children's Check-In, the Family Ministry Wall or Guest Services. It will give you all the information you need to get started. Questions? Please email [pcd@newhope.org](mailto:pcd@newhope.org).

## **FINANCE UPDATE - FEBRUARY OFFERING**

**FEBRUARY BUDGET \$174,006**

**FEBRUARY ACTUAL \$192,204**

**FEBRUARY OVER/(UNDER) \$18,198**

**YTD BUDGET \$331,662**

**YTD ACTUAL \$376,069**

**YTD OVER/(UNDER) \$44,407**

# mark your calendar

mar

**3.14**  
Northstar  
Women's  
Conference

**3.21**  
Parent/Child  
Dedication

**3.22**  
Mission Muffins

**3.30**  
Bryant Easter  
Basket Project

apr

**4.4-5**  
Baptism Info  
Meetings

**4.10**  
Good Friday

**4.11-12**  
Easter Services  
Sat 5:30 & 7:30  
Sun 9 & 11

**4.18**  
Baptism  
Celebration

**4.25**  
Men's Breakfast

**4.26**  
Mission Muffins

may

**5.2**  
Women's Walk-  
2-Freedom

**5.16**  
Bingo Night

**5.16/17**  
Bike Drive for  
NicaWorks

**5.24**  
Mission Muffins

june

**6.28**  
Mission Muffins

# EASTER

**Good Friday Service: Friday, April 10th @ 7 pm**

**Easter Services: Saturday, April 11th @ 5:30 & 7:30\*  
Sunday, April 12th @ 9 & 11**

**\*No children's programs at 7:30**

**newhope**  
CHURCH

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