



DIGGING DEEPER

James 3v1-12 – Taming the Tongue

PLEASE READ – James 3v1-12 and Luke 6v43-45

GETTING STARTED

Chat through some examples from your own life when you have experienced how powerful words can be... either to do great good or to do great harm

As we think about the power of the tongue – why are the words of Jesus in Luke 6v43-45 **SO** important?

1) THE POTENTIAL OF THE TONGUE (v1-6)

Why do you think James begins by speaking to Bible teachers before broadening out to all people?

Chat through the 3 illustrations in v3-6. What do they teach us about the **potential** of the tongue?

How does the spark in v5 challenge you as you think about the words you use?

2) THE PROBLEM OF THE TONGUE (v7-8)

Why is the contrast in v7-8 so powerful? What does it teach us about the problem of the tongue?

How should that reality send us running to God? How does it tie in with what Jesus said back in Lk 6v43-45?

As you consider the ongoing need for change in your heart – chat about one of the areas below or another area where you feel God’s conviction...

- Careless chatter
- Gossip / slander
- Lying

3) THE PURPOSE OF THE TONGUE (v9-12)

Talk about the purpose of the tongue in relation to God and others...

What’s gone wrong? See v10

What would James call it? See 4v8 if you need help!!

What’s the one big area (in terms of the way you speak) that you need God’s help with? Pray about it now...

Meditate on the words of Solomon below...

Proverbs 10v19: Sin is not ended by multiplying words,
but the prudent hold their tongues.