



The Book of James
Lesson 9: The Words We Speak: James 3:1-12

1. Stricter judgement of teachers

James 3:1

Question: Why do teachers receive a stricter judgment?

Answer: Teachers are not only responsible for themselves; they are also responsible for the things they teach others.

This verse is not out of place. A teacher will be judged for the words they speak.

Matthew 12:37

Tongue = _____

2. Control over your words

James 3:2

Definition of PERFECT: _____

If one can control his tongue, he possesses the ability to control his _____

James 3:2 – Amplified Bible

For we all often stumble and fall and offend in many things. And if anyone does not offend in speech [never says the wrong things], he is a fully developed character and a perfect man, able to control his whole body and to curb his entire nature.

Proverbs 10:19

3. The size of the tongue is not a measure of its power.

James 3:3-5

Although it is small, it has much power like:

- Bits in horses mouths
- _____
- A little fire that become a forest fire

James 3:6

Definition of WORLD OF INIQUITY: _____

Your words can defile the whole body

Your words set the course of your life

The words that you speak determine blessing or curse for your life.

The words that you speak determine the _____

Bits and rudders determine direction. Your words do the same thing.

4. Blessings and curses should not come out of the same mouth.

James 3:7-12

Blessings and curses should not come out of the same mouth.

Evil speech about other people is unfitting for a believer.

5. Proverbs

The Book of Proverbs has much to say about your words.

Proverbs 10:11

Proverbs 10:14

Proverbs 11:9

Proverbs 11:11

Proverbs 13:2, 3

Proverbs 17:20

Proverbs 18:20

Proverbs 21:23

6. God gives us the ability to choose life or death with our words.

Deuteronomy 30:19

It is our responsibility to make a choice between life and death.

How do you make that choice?

Proverbs 18:21

We choose life or death with _____

7. Whenever we speak to someone else we should be building them up, not tearing them down.

Romans 14:19

Definition of EDIFY: Architecture or concrete structure is the foundational meaning of edify. It means to be a house builder.

When we edify another person it means we build them up, confirm them, and embolden them.

Definition of EMBOLDEN: _____

1 Thessalonians 5:11