

Tame Your Tongue

Life Lessons – Part 3

Life Church St. Louis – August 16, 2020

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

Proverbs 12:18 (ESV) There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Hebrews 4:12 (ESV) For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

John 15:7 (ESV) If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

Ephesians 4:15 (ESV) Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,

1. Control your _____

James 3:1 (ESV) Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

James 3:2 (ESV) For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body.

James 3:3-4 (ESV) If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.

James 3:5a (ESV) So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

2. Understand the _____ power of words

James 3:5b-6 (ESV) How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.

James 3:7-8 (ESV) For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

James 3:9-10 (ESV) With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

James 3:11-12 (ESV) Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

3. Speak _____

James 3:13 (ESV) Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

James 3:14 (ESV) But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth.

James 3:15 (ESV) This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

James 3:16 (ESV) For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

James 3:17-18 (ESV) But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Action Plan for This Week

Have a daily time of Bible reading & prayer (Read James 3).
 Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

Invite a friend to attend the service next week.

How will I obey God's Word this week? _____

Tame Your Tongue Study Guide

Life Lessons – Part 3

Life Church St. Louis – August 16, 2020

Lead Pastor – Dr. Dan Walker

Message Videos – www.lcstl.org/messages

Intro. What is the difference in the impact of words for the foolish and the wise (Proverbs 12:18)?

Intro. What is the impact of God's Word on those who read it (Hebrews 4:12)?

Intro. How can Jesus' words impact our prayer lives (John 15:7)?

Intro. Explain what speaking the truth in love means (Ephesians 4:15).

1A. How can teachers protect themselves against being judged for spiritual failure (James 3:1)?

1B. Why would someone who did not sin in their speech be perfect (James 3:2)?

1C. What do James' illustrations tell us about our tongues (James 3:3-5)?

1D. What are some of the ways that we stumble in our speech (Ephesians 5:4)?

1E. How does what you listen to and who you are around impact your speech habits?

2A. Why do you think James uses such graphic language concerning the destructive power of words (James 3:5-6)?

2B. What are some specific ways the tongue can have a toxic impact on believers within a local church (James 3:7-8)?

2C. In what ways might someone try to justify speaking evil of another person (James 3:9-10)? Why is it wrong (James 3:11-12)?

2D. What are some ways to overcome speaking ungodly words?

3A. What does James 3:14-15 teach us about the wisdom of this world?

3B. What are the consequences of pursuing the wisdom of this world (James 3:16)?

3C. What are some practical ways godly wisdom can be seen in our words (James 3:13, 17-18)?

3D. What aspects of your speech is God calling on you to change?