

Divin' In – Wednesday Night Bible Study

THE CHURCH OF THE SPRINGS – 6/7/23



*“Oh, be careful, little tongue, what you say,
Oh, be careful, little tongue, what you say.
There’s a Father up above looking down in tender love,
Oh, be careful, little tongue, what you say.”*

The Power of the Tongue



Ephesians 4:29 AMPC [1987]

“Let no foul or polluting language, nor evil word nor **unwholesome** or worthless talk [EVER] come out of your mouth, but only such [speech] as is good and beneficial to the spiritual **progress** of others, as is fitting to the need and the occasion, that it may be a **blessing** and give grace (God’s favor) to those who hear it.”

James [brother of Jesus] 3:1-13 LB

“Dear brothers, do NOT be too **eager** to tell others their faults, for we all make many mistakes; and when we teachers of religion, who should know better, do wrong, our punishment will be greater than it would be for others.

If anyone can control his **tongue**, it proves that he has perfect control over himself in every other way. We can make a large horse turn around and go wherever we want by means of a small bit in his mouth. And a tiny **rudder** makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot wants it to go, even though the winds are strong.

So also the tongue is a small thing, but what enormous **damage** it can do. A great forest can be set on fire by one tiny **spark**. And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is full of wickedness, and **poisons** every part of the body. And the tongue is set on fire by **hell** itself and can turn our whole **lives** into a blazing flame of destruction and disaster.

Men have trained, or can train, every kind of animal or bird that lives and every kind of reptile and fish, but no human being can **tame** the tongue. It is always ready to pour out its deadly poison. Sometimes it **praises** our heavenly Father, and sometimes it breaks out into **curses** against men who are made like God. And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the **same** mouth. Dear brothers, surely this is not right!

Does a spring of water bubble out first with fresh water and then with bitter water? Can you pick **olives** from a fig tree, or figs from a grape vine? No, and you can’t draw fresh water from a salty pool.

If you are wise, **live** a life of steady goodness so that only good deeds will pour forth. And if you don’t brag about them, then you will be truly wise!

Philippians 4:8 PHILLIPS

[PAUL] “Here is a last piece of advice. If you believe in goodness and if you value the **approval** of God, **fix** your minds on the things which are holy and right and pure and beautiful and good. **Model** your conduct on what you have learned from me, on what I have told you and shown you, and you will find the God of peace will be with you.

