



Genuine Living Faith

Taming the Tongue

James 3:1-12



James 3:1-2

Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

Matthew 12:26-27

But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgement. The words you say will either acquit you or condemn you.

Luke 12:2-3

There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known.

What you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight and what you have whispered in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed from the roofs.

James 3:3-4

When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. Or take a ship for example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.



Colossians 4:6

Let your conversations
be always full of grace,
seasoned with salt, so
that you may know
how to answer
everyone.

James 3:5-6

Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

Proverbs 18:21

The tongue has the
power of life and
death, and those who
love it will eat its fruit.

John Gottman

5:1 Ratio

For every negative thing we hear about ourselves, we essentially need 5 positive things to help lessen the negative impact.

Proverbs 12:18

The words of the
reckless pierce like
swords, but the
tongue of the wise
brings healing.

James 3:7-8

All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

James 3:9-12

With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth comes praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.

Can both fresh water and
salt water flow from the
same spring?

My bothers and sisters,
can a fig tree bear olives,
or a grapevine bear figs?
Neither can a salt spring
produce fresh water.

1. When do we stay silent?

Ecclesiastes 3:7

There is time to speak
and a time to be
silent.

- If you haven't verified the story.
Deuteronomy 17:6
- If you don't have all the facts.
Proverbs 18:13
- If the issue is none of your business.
1 Thessalonians 4:11
- If you are tempted to joke about sin.
Proverbs 14:9

- If you would be ashamed of your words later.

Proverbs 8:8

- If your words will damage someones reputation.

Proverbs 25:10 & Psalm 15:3

- If your words will become a stumbling block.

Romans 14:13

- If you can't speak without yelling.

Proverbs 15:1

- In the heat of anger.

Proverbs 29:8-11

**2. We need to work on
guarding our hearts and
filling it with God's word.**

Matthew 12:34

**From out of the overflow of
our heart, the mouth
speaks.**

Proverbs 4:23

Above all else guard
your heart for
everything you do
flows from it.

**1. Stay silent when
you should stay silent.**

**2. Work guarding our
hearts and filling our
hearts with God's
word.**

