



The
Book
of **JAMES**

"Do not merely listen to the word...Do what it says."

James 1:22 NIV

**Allowing my Words to Come Under the
Bridle of the Holy Spirit**

James 3:1-12



1. **THE TONGUE MAY BE SMALL BUT IT IS DEADLY!**
 - **James 3:5**, The tongue is a small member, yet it boasts **of great things**.
 - **James 3:6**, ... **stains** the whole body. The tongue **is a fire**, ... setting on fire **the entire course of life**... It is set on fire **by hell**.
 - **James 3:8** ... it is a **restless evil**, **full of deadly poison**.



**ALL SCRIPTURE WARNS THE
SAME WARNING AS JAMES.**

Pro 13:3 Whoever guards his mouth **preserves his life**; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

Pro 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and **those who love it will eat its fruits**.

Psa 39:1 I said, "I will guard my ways, that **I may not sin with my tongue**; I will guard my mouth with a muzzle,"

Matt. 12:36-37 I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for **every careless word** they speak, ³⁷ **for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.**" (ESV)

Matt. 15:11 It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, **but what comes out of the mouth;** this defiles a person. ...

Eph 4:29 **Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths,** but **only such as is good for building up,** as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.



THE “TONGUE” IS “ON FIRE” IN OUR KIDS’ WORLD.

- Most common types of bullying:
 - **Name calling**, 44%
 - **Teasing**, 43%
 - **Spreading rumors** or lies, 36%
 - **Physical**, 29%
 - **Leaving out**, 29%
 - **Cyber**, 10%

Statistics (stopbullying.gov):

- 28%, grades 6-12, report being bullied.
- 20%, grades 9-12, report being bullied.
- **30% admit to bullying others (all grades)**
- **70% say they have seen bullying (all grades)**
- **Intervention stops bullying in first 10 seconds, 57% of time.**
- **9% experienced cyberbullying**
- **55% of LGBT experience cyberbullying**

2. THE TONGUE IS A “FIRE” FUELED BY THE DEVIL.

Jas. 3:5-6 ... How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, ..., and set on fire by hell.





Jas. 3:14-16 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is **earthly, unspiritual, demonic**. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. (ESV)



3. THE TONGUE IMPACTS THE FUTURE COURSE OF LIVES.

Jas. 3:6 ... 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. (ESV)

Jas. 3:14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition **in your hearts**, ... **16 there will be disorder and every vile practice.**

4. OUR OBEDIENCE IN **COMING UNDER THE WORD** IS OUR MEANS OF “TAMING THE TONGUE.”

Jas. 3:8-10 but **no human being** can **tame the tongue**. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

Eph. 4:29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, **but only such as is good for building up**, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.



NEXT STEPS

1. Talk about “words” with your family. Has “unwholesome” conversation been at “table” in your house?
2. Have you been victimized by someone else’s words/actions?
 - Talk about it with someone safe.



NEXT STEPS

3. Are you having trouble controlling your “tongue”?
 - Choose today to bring your tongue under the Word of God.
 - Rebuild your belief system
 - Memorize Eph 4:29