



Pursue: Women Pursuing Christ Through His Word

2021-2022

Lecture Notes

April 26, 2022

James Lesson 3

The Power of Life and Death

“Death and life are in the in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.” - Proverbs 18:21

1. The tongue can be an instrument of both Blessing and Cursing

James tells us in chapter 3 verse 9 “With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing.”

- ★ *The tongue is a vivid indicator of man’s fallenness and sinful heart condition. Do we see the depth of our sin that so easily flows from our lips?*
 - ☐ *“I am a man of unclean lips living among people of unclean lips.” Isaiah 6:5*
 - ☐ *Jesus said, “What proceeds out of the mouth _____ the man.” Out of the _____ come evil thoughts and words. (Matthew 15:19)*
 - ☐ *What’s inside will come out. Mark 7:20-23*
 - ☐ *“So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit.” Matthew 7:17*
 - ☐ *What kind of _____ is our tongue producing? Wisdom from above or words from below???*
 - ☐ *James speaks of bitter and fresh water flowing from the same source but he’s pointing out that this is _____, inconsistent or incongruent.*
 - *This should not be since we are _____ creations. “Therefore if anyone is in Christ, this person is a new creation; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.” - 2 Corinthians 5:17*
 - *“Heavenly speech is now our native tongue, and we need to learn fluency.”*
- “James for You”*

BLESS

Building

Loving

Encouraging

Soothing

Spirit-filled

Curse

Critical

Unwholesome

Ridiculing

Sharp

Evil

“I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you _____ and _____, the _____ and the _____. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, by loving the LORD your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him; for this is your life and the length of your days,” - Deuteronomy 30:19-20

Choose to speak life. Tongues were created by God to praise Him and instead WE curse men made in His image.

Do I destroy my brother with a word?

Is our tongue controlling us or are we controlling it?

See the depth of our sin that so easily flows from our lips. WE NEED JESUS!

Christ died to pay the penalty of the sins my tongue has incurred. That I might receive life where I earned death.

2. The tongue can be an Instrument of Righteousness

“Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts, and do not go on _____ the members of your body to sin as instruments of _____; but present yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as _____ of _____ to God.”

Romans 6:12-13

- ◆ *This is a great surrender when we yield the flesh (lusts) to the _____ of God.*
- ◆ *Our mortal bodies are where sin finds the believer _____.*
- ◆ *Obeying sin is the same as listening _____ to it and eventually heeding its command.*
- ◆ *Presenting the members of our body to sin is a decision of the _____ (my will, your will).*

3. God, please tame my tongue!

☹ *The trap I fall for- _____*

God’s solution: “She opens her mouth in wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.”

What’s on your tongue?

Proverbs 14:1 “The wise woman builds her house, but the foolish tears it down with her own hands.” (But most of the time she tears it down with her own words)

God can change the heart, and the speech will follow.

Confess and seek to speak life. He’s faithful to forgive!