

Discussion Questions:

What are some ways a tongue can ruin a life?

Why do people struggle to control their tongue? What circumstances make controlling the tongue even more difficult?

How can the tongue reveal hypocrisy in the heart?

What are some situations that cause you to be critical?

We need to put off wrong speech and put on speech that glorifies God.
What are 4 ways you can glorify God through your speech?

You cannot tame your tongue; only God can. How can you make sure you are relying upon Him for help with your speech?

Putting Your Tongue on a Leash, pt. 2

James 3:6-12

The picture we are shown of the tongue gets no prettier. In case we thought it wasn't really that bad, James adds more and more description to the already ugly picture he's given us of the tongue.

The Wickedness of the Tongue (6-8)

In case the picture of a forest fire was not enough, James continues his description of the wickedness of the tongue. He calls it a world of unrighteousness, a stain on the entire body, a restless evil and a deadly poison. It sets on fire a person's entire life and cannot be tamed. This picture does not bring hope. However, though "no man can tame the tongue," there is one who can tame it.

The Hypocrisy of the Tongue (9-12)

Maybe we've learned to control our tongue at times; maybe we even use it to praise God. But the tongue is a great indicator of hypocrisy in our hearts. That tongue that so often looks good and praises God has the ability to turn at a moment's notice and criticize, cut-down, curse, even condemn another man. True faith is revealed in a tongue which is growing more and more Christlike. A transformed life will result in a transformed tongue.