

SHOW JAMES

faith that works

PART SIX

JAMES 3:1-12

Key points

Think back through the message.
What stuck out?

THE WARNING

- vs.1
- Position or calling does not help you control your words
- This is also a warning to Parents and Grandparents
- vs.2-4
- vs.5
- Words from the tongue of a man or woman can set the whole world on fire
- vs.6
- The tongue speaks for any master
- vs.7
- Killer Whales & Elephants
- vs.8
- Think about the things that hurt you

PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE

- vs.9
- The wonderful thing about relationships is, it is never too late
- vs.10
- vs.11-12
- Do not put something on yourself that you were not designed to do
- Seeing ourselves with new eyes

A PLAN FOR PROGRESS

1. Set a higher standard
2. Examine the Scriptures
3. Learn to Listen Actively
4. Observe the Effect of Your Words, Immediately and Over Time

TAMING THE TONGUE

Read James 3:1-12

James brings us to the smallest, but perhaps mightiest of all offenders to behaving like a Christian: our tongues. We have a habit of letting them loose, running wild all over the place, as James alludes to, like unbridled horses.

We want to be the best we possibly can. Hurting someone through mean-spirited talk invites darkness into our life, and probably the life of the one that talk is aimed at. When we were kids some of us had a bar of soap stuck into our mouths for swearing. What a great system that would be to remind us to keep our talk clean. Imagine a friend or stranger handing you a bar of Lux soap every time you crossed the line!

I know it feels good to do things we shouldn't, like gossip or tell slanderous stories, but instead I encourage you to get a hobby, or do something to make someone's day brighter. It might fill up the empty space that demands feeding from ugly tongue-wagging.

Read the myth of the Six blind Men and the Elephant. The whole story is hard to piece together when you've only got your side of it.

Check out this link if you don't know the "Six blind Men and the Elephant" story

www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBqgr5xZLz0

So, a bar of soap and a small figure of an elephant tucked in our pockets, might keep us on the good side of talk.

