

September 18,2016
James - Faith That Works
Taming the Tongue
Pastor Rick Rufenacht



James 3:1-12

Words are powerful

Prov. 18:21 Prov. 12:18

My Words are My Words

Luke 6:43-45 Job 27:4 1Pe 3:10

The “WORD” Changes My Words

1 Peter 1:23 - 1 Peter 2:1 Eph 5:3-4

What thoughts come to mind when you hear the old saying "sticks and stones may break my bones but names (words) will never hurt me"?

Read James 3:4-6. What is our tongue compared to in this passage? How do these things relate to every day life? Can the tongue really have such a huge impact? Please take a moment to compare.

Over the years, how has the tongue of someone else had a positive impact on your life? How about your own tongue towards someone else?

Over the years, how has the tongue of someone else had a negative impact on your life? How about your own tongue towards someone else?

If you receive twenty positive comments and 1 negative comment in a days time, which one stands out the most? Why does this have such an impact?

Read Proverbs 18:21. Is this just figuratively or is this making great emphasis on what the tongue is capable of?

There are times that what a person says is not what they truly mean. How do the above passages apply to everyday conversations?

Read Ephesians 4:29. This can be one of those "ouch" verses. Let's unpack what unwholesome talk really means. Do some self examination to see where you are with this.

Read 1Peter 2:1. Discuss the word slander. This passage says we are to rid ourselves of what actions? Excellent challenge for us.

The Bible teaches us in James that we are responsible for what we say. There are absolutely no excuses for bad mouthing another person...another ouch. How does this passage make you feel about your conversations you have had lately?

Since we have determined through Gods Word and our life experiences that the tongue has great power, what are some ways we can use our tongue to bless others? The power of the tongue goes both ways. We can have such an amazing impact on others by what we say to and about them.

Read Proverbs 12:18. Focus on "the words of the wise brings healing". In what ways does this passage speak to your heart? What an awesome opportunity God has given everyone of us.

In the upcoming weeks and months, pay close attention to your tongue. Work diligently at using your tongue in no other way than what God would want.

You can change peoples lives with your words.