

SERMON OUTLINE

James – Week 4: *Using Words Carefully* James 3:3-12

James 3:9-10

With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.

I. We use words to talk, but they _____

Matthew 12:34b

The mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

II. My words can _____ what I have

James 3:5-6

The tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

III. The _____ of the tongue

James 3:9-10

With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.

Is it _____?

Is it _____?

Is it _____?

Is it _____?

IV. We will not have God-_____ words until we have a God-_____ heart

Psalms 51:10

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.

Next Steps:

1. Remind yourself of the surprising power of words and the effects they can have. This is not a small matter.
2. Commit to memory the four gates or filters your words should pass through: true, confidential, necessary and edifying.
3. Follow Jesus with your whole being and use only words that glorify Him.