

Left on Read: wk3 Rein in that Tongue

The thing that has probably caused each of us the most trouble over the years is our tongue. James had a lot to say about the words we use and how dangerous they are. Even going so far as to say our religion was worthless if we didn't keep a rein on our tongues. The challenge is to use our one mouth to one purpose, glorifying God.

Discussion Questions

- 1. Can you think of a time where you said something that you almost couldn't believe it came out of your mouth? What caused you to say it? How did that go for you?
- 2. Read James 1:26 James is making a pretty strong statement here, why is he so hard on our speech?
- 3. Read James 3:9-10 Why does James mention that other people are made in God's image?
- 4. The sermon mentioned some "exceptions" or "loop holes" that we sometimes us to excuse our speech —Anger, Slipping, Political, The Truth Hurts, Prayer, Written language or substitute words. Which one is your go-to? Why do we often act like the loop holes are legitimate?
- 5. Read Ephesians 4:29 Do you think we know whether our words are beneficial to those who listen? Why are we sometimes more comfortable talking about unwholesome (gossip or criticism or crude language) than we are about spiritual things?
- 6. What would having a tight rein on your tongue look like for you? If you listened more than you talked, how would that affect the amount of conflict that you are in?

Shaping Your Mind *James 1:26* Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless..

Moving Forward – If what comes out of our mouths is a direct reflection of what is in our hearts, will those around us know that we serve the Lord Jesus?