

“OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES”

Hand-Me-Down Devotion - Part 2

May 30, 2021

1 Timothy 4:12 (Emphasis added) - “Set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.”

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.”

THE POWER OF OUR WORDS

1. Our words _____ the course of our lives.

James 3:3 – “When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal.”

James 3:4 – “Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.”

2. Our words can _____ all that we have.

James 3:5 – “Likewise, 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.”

Proverbs 18:21 (GNT) - “What you say can preserve life or destroy it; so you must accept the consequences of your words.”

3. Our words _____ our identity.

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. ¹⁰Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.”

STEPS TO TAMING THE TONGUE

1. We must focus on our _____ and not our words.

Matthew 15:8 & 11 – “These people honor me with their **lips**, but their **hearts** are far from me. . . What goes into someone’s mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them.”

Luke 6:43-45 - “A good tree can’t produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can’t produce good fruit. ⁴⁴A tree is identified by its fruit. A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. **What you say flows from what is in your heart.**”

2. We must _____ less and _____ more.

Galatians 5:16 - “So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

Galatians 5:25 - “Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.

Psalms 141:3 – “Set a guard over my mouth, Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips.”