

A Faith that WATCHES its WORDS James 3:1-12

1. With the **ABILITY** to speak comes a **RESPONSIBILITY** for what we say. (verse 1; Ephesians 4:2,15, 25; Luke 12:48; Matthew 23:2-3; 1 Timothy 1:7; 2 Timothy 2:15,24-25; Titus 2:1; Hebrews 13:17; Romans 2:21; 1 Peter 5:2-3)
2. **WATCHING** our **WORDS** is one of the most difficult things to do and is **NOT** something we can do **ALONE**. (verse 2, 7-8; Psalm 39:1, 141:3, 17:3, 19:14, 119:11; Job 27:3-4; Galatians 5:22)
3. We have to **CONSIDER** the potential **CONSEQUENCE** of the words we speak; every word has the power to be **CON**structive or **DE**structive. (verses 3-6; Proverbs 10:19, 13:3, 15:1-2,4, 17:27-28, 18:21, 21:23; Ephesians 4:29-31; 1 Peter 3:10-11)
4. What comes **OUT** of our mouth is what is **IN** our heart. (verses 9-12; Matthew 12:34, 15:11,17-20; Luke 6:45; Psalm 51:10; Proverbs 16:23)



Taking it further to help you THRIVE...

THRIVE Groups are where life and growth take place. We don't want to just say "See *you next week*" as we leave each Sunday - we want to connect!

For more info on joining a THRIVE Group, visit thrivekg.org/thrive-groups.

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, confused, or edified you?

2. Share a time when you "put your foot in your mouth." How did it make you feel? How do you think it made others feel?

3. Every chapter in the book of James addresses our words/speech. Why in this short letter did James put so much emphasis on the words we speak?

4. James tells us that watching our words is one of the most difficult things to do. Why is this so?

5. James tells us in verse 8 that "no human being can tame the tongue", which magnifies our need for help. What role does the Holy Spirit play in helping us control our tongue? What role do we play? What happens when we do not yield to the leading and governing of the Holy Spirit?

6. Jesus says in Matthew 12:34, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks." In other words, when we are shaken, what comes out is what is on the inside. Is there a way to know what is on the inside *without* being shaken? What steps can we take to ensure what is on the inside is right and pure?