

WELL, SHUT MY MOUTH

James 3:1-12

Pastor Roy Halberg

→ Here are words to live by: “I prefer not to think before speaking. I like being just as surprised as everyone else by what comes out of my mouth”

→ THE BIG IDEA: a mature faith is marked by a controlled tongue

→ James wants us to recognize three reasons why taming the tongue matters:

1. The Tongue Has Power to D\_\_\_\_\_ James 3:1-4

2. The Tongue Has Power to D\_\_\_\_\_ James 3:5-8

3. The Tongue Has Power to D\_\_\_\_\_ James 3:9-12

SO WHAT? NOW WHAT? TAKING IT HOME!!

1. Tongue Taming 101:

- ✓ BIT A small bit controls a large animal.  
Can we \_\_\_\_\_ our use of our tongue?
- ✓ RUDDER A small piece of wood steers a huge ship in heavy wind.  
The tongue, though small, can create grave \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ FIRE A small spark unleashes a destructive force.  
Do we recognize the \_\_\_\_\_ force our words can have?
- ✓ ANIMALS People can tame animals.  
Can we tame our \_\_\_\_\_ and our impulsive \_\_\_\_\_?
- ✓ POISON The venom of a snake kills its prey.  
Can we keep our words from \_\_\_\_\_ us and others?
- ✓ SPRING A spring can produce only one kind of water.  
Is our speech a spring that's good or \_\_\_\_\_?
- ✓ FIG TREE Trees bear just one kind of fruit.  
Is our speech bearing good fruit, or is it mixed with \_\_\_\_\_?
- ✓ TONGUE The tongue can be used for good or evil.  
Does our speech reflect our Christian \_\_\_\_\_?

2. Beware of Lashon hara

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