

Josh Surratt

Dear brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers in the church, for we who teach will be judged more strictly. Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way.

James 3:1-2 (NLT)

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE TONGUE

1. THE TONGUE IS _____, BUT DISPROPORTIONALLY _____

The tongue has the power of life and death... Proverbs 18:21 (NIV)

The tongue is a _____

We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth.

James 3:3 (NLT)

The tongue is a _____

And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong James 3:4 (NLT)

The tongue is a _____

In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. And among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself. James 3:5-6 (NLT)

2. THE TONGUE IS _____

People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. James 3:7-8 (NLT)

3. THE TONGUE IS _____

Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water? Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring. James 3:9-12 (NLT)

HOW DO WE TAME THE TONGUE?

1. _____ IT

For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins. Romans 3:23-24 (NLT)

2. _____ IT

...For whatever is in your heart determines what you say. Matthew 12:34 (NLT)

3. _____ IT

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer Psalm 19:14 (NKJV)

Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God Romans 6:13 (NLT)

ONE KEY TAKEAWAY

From this message, what is the one key takeaway you will apply to grow your faith?