

# Sins of the Tongue

## James

Today's lesson is a serious one. Last week we discussed Faith without Works. Today we are discussing something incredibly hard – "Taming the Tongue".

Taming the tongue. The biggest problem is our tongue is linked to our heart and our heart can be passionate about how we feel. Our heart can also be injured and/or damaged. Then when we speak from a place of injury.....

### **Matthew 15:1-20**

***Proverbs 6:16-19 'These six things the Lord hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.'***

Three of the seven sins God hates are sins of the tongue.

1. Why does God hate sins of the tongue?

Let's see what James says.

### **James chapter 3:1-12**

2. Is the tongue truly untamable?

What James is talking about is so much more than idle words. Words have power and power used incorrectly injures, corrupts, and manipulates.

3. If you were to give some examples of sins of the tongue, what would they be?

Some of these are back biting, slander, defamation, evil speech, detraction, false witness, lying, perjury, dissimulation, busy body, self-appointed martyr, tale bearing, gossip, boasting, swearing, judging.....

We can focus on any example, or we can blanket them all.

We can laugh and say, “*Oh yeah, that’s me.*” But we need to soberly and seriously consider ourselves.

Ask the question, where do I fall short?

This weekend many of us will be around family. It’s important to me that I do well. I want to use my tongue to worship, to encourage and to bless. You may already be telling others of the pain you are about to endure!

### ***James 1:19-20***

Some of the things the Grace Notes says:

*“...sins of the tongue are a sign of the believer reverting to the old way of life --- the condition of a carnal man”.*

*“The believer who indulges in sins of the tongue cannot be distinguished from an unbeliever.”*

### ***James chapter 4:11-12***

4. Why is judging condemned as a sin of the tongue?

### ***James 1:21-27***

I’ve said that this one scares me the most. I don’t want my religion to be useless. Notice, it’s religion, not spirituality --- my belief system.

Is your religion useless?

5. Name a specific area where you will make a change.

### ***Psalm 64***

David sought God.

### ***James 5:7-20***

Here is the key.

Let’s pray for one another..... Use your tongue for healing.

**No Bible Study next week, December 26<sup>th</sup>. See you on January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024!**