Taming the Tongue

Introduction

Death and life are in the power of the tongue. Proverbs 18:21

What words, spoken to you, have made a big impact on your life (positive or negative)?

I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, *Matt 12:36*

1. What does James tell us? James 3:1-12

A problem for us all

The Lesser controls greater

Words that lead to sin and death

Pipeline to Hell

Untameable

Where are your pressure points? Where do you lack self-control? Where are you most at risk of unleashing the deadly power?

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The heart of the problem

The mouth speaks what the heart is full of. Luke 6:45

Inconsistency

2. Brothers and Sisters this should not be (v10)

New Identity

Gaze at Jesus and his words

Need for Repentance and grace

Remember the spiritual battle

Submit yourselves then to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you James 4:7

Be filled with the Holy Spirit

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3. Which Kingdom are we pursuing?

Mini Kings or Ambassadors?

Talk like an Ambassador

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. **Ephesians 4:29**

How can you resolve to use your words for good – what areas have you been challenged in?

3 Rs

- Remember the power of the tongue
- Repent often
- Rely on the Holy Spirit

Set a guard over my mouth Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips.

Psalm 141:3