

## **James 3:1-18 Taming the Tongue**

### **Read James 3:1-18**

1. (vs. 2-4) What are the benefits that James promises to the one who is able to tame their tongues? What do these benefits look like practically?
2. (vs. 5a-6) In the sermon Tim spoke to the power of the tongue – a creative power – and a destructive power. Reflect together on the impact of our words on us, on others, on our communities.
3. (vs. 12) Read Matthew 12:33-37. Discuss together Jesus' statement – "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks". How are our words a barometer for the state of our hearts?
4. (vs.7-8) Why does James desperately want to get us to a place where we recognize we have no control over our tongues? Is he right?
5. (vs. 13-18) Read Galatians 5:16-25. Notice the similarities in the language of these passages. It is apparent that James wants us to receive the fullness of the Spirit in order to tame the tongue. How do we receive the Spirit, and how does the Spirit enable us to tame the tongue?