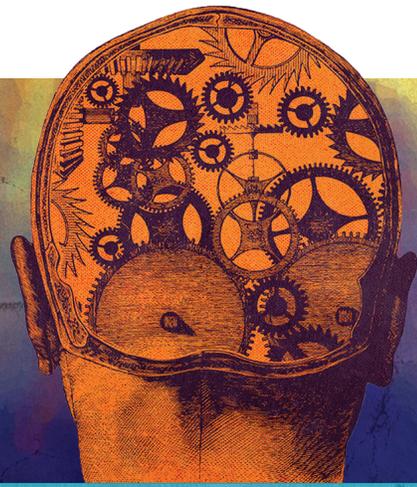


JAMES

WORD TO THE WISE

Message Study Guide



PRAY READ EXPLORE: James 3:1-12

Message Notes:



PRAYREADEXPLORE

- 1 Pray, then read and explore the passage. Any notable observations or questions?
- 2 What emphasis does James seem to be making in this section?
- 3 Who does he address first? Why do you think he starts with this audience?
- 4 James illustrates the impact of the tongue through the use of several metaphors. What do these metaphors teach us about the power of the tongue?
(See **Psalm 58:4 & 140:3, Proverbs 16:27, and Romans 3:13-14**)

- Horses and bridles (3:3):

- Ships and rudders (3:4):

*James 3:3-4 uses two metaphors to make a point.

- Forest fires (3:5b-6):

- Taming of animals and the tongue (3:7-9):

- Springs of water (3:11):

- Fruit tree (3:12):

*James 3:10-12 uses two metaphors to support verse 10.

What does **James 3:2,8** tell us about being people in process? Relate your answer to the doctrine of sanctification.

- 5 James lists both the good and the bad things we can do with our tongue (blessing and cursing). Obviously, we all struggle to control our words. Why is it so hard? And what difference does it make if blessing and cursing come from the same mouth?
- 6 Read **Luke 6:27-31**. Think about how you talk. Are you content with how you talk to others? What about your social media posts, emails, etc.? Do you owe anyone an apology or a follow-up conversation?

APPLY *Think of someone who needs words of blessing. It can be someone you know well or someone you would like to get to know more. Make a plan to reach out to that person in the next 24 hours.*