

MESSAGE NOTES

March 27, 2011

James: Faith For The Fight
The Tongue
James 3:1-12
Pastor Jeff Nelsen

- James declares, real faith => control my _____. James 1:26
- Don't be _____ -God takes our _____ seriously. Matthew 12:33-37

Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts.
Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. James 3:5

WHY CONTROLLING OUR TONGUES MATTERS

- Tho' a _____ part of our body—the tongue _____ our life. 3:2-4
- The tongue can _____ & accomplish _____ good. 3:1,5; Prov 18:4, 21
- Yet the tongue is a _____ -capable of great _____ & damage. 3:6

THE PROBLEM WE FACE

- Try all we want, _____ can _____ the tongue. 3:8
- From the _____ mouth come _____ & _____. Isaiah 6:5-8
- Only _____ explanation for such a contradiction—my _____. Matt 12:33-35

With it we bless our Lord and Father,
and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. James 3:10

FIGHTING SHALLOWNESS

- 1 Do I _____ to what God says about _____? Prov 12:18
 - 2 Will I take responsibility for what _____ w/my tongue? James 4:1,11; 5:16
- O LORD, _____ over my _____ & my _____ today. Psalm 19:14

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SINS OF THE TONGUE

LORD, do You regularly observe any of these coming from my tongue?
Point them out, so I can trust & work with You to bless instead of curse.

- Swearing and foul language
- Crude, off-color jokes or stories
- Slander, gossip or spreading a rumor
- Lying or telling half-truths
- Grumbling and complaining
- Cutting down and criticizing others
- Boasting or flattering people for my own gain
- Angry, mean and cruel words
- Exaggerating the truth in order to look good
- Biting sarcasm

Let no 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.
And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God... Ephesians 4:29-30