



Part One: Just Words

Just like the spark of a small match can become a raging fire, the words we say can produce out-of-control results. Why is it so hard to restrain what we say?

Scripture: James 3:2-12

Bottom Line: What you say, says a lot about you.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever put your foot in your mouth and immediately regretted it? What effect did it have on your relationship with the person you spoke to?
2. Are there things that people have said to you (positive or negative) that have stayed with you and made a significant impact on your life? Why do you think these things affected you so deeply?
3. Read James 3:2-6. Why is what we say so important? What do the images in these verses make you think of when it comes to what you say? What are some situations in your life that prove these verses to be true about the power of words?
4. Read James 3:7-12. Why is it so difficult to control the things that we say?
5. What are some of the uncontrollable results that occur when we say things that we shouldn't? How do our words become forest fires in our relationships with our families, friends, coworkers, etc.?
6. Have you ever said something that you didn't think was a big deal, but turned into a huge problem? What was that situation like? Did you learn anything about how your words affect other people?

Moving Forward

As you think about and monitor your speech, what do your words say about you? Do your words indicate areas of your life that you need to surrender to God and ask him to transform (anger, jealousy, negativity, bitterness, etc.)? How can you partner with God to work on these things?