



James 3:1-6 NIV

- 1 Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.
- 2 We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.
- 3 When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. 4 Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. 5 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. 6 The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.



James 3:7-12 NIV

7 All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, 8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

9 With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. 10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. 11 Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? 12 My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.



James 1:2 NIV

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters,
whenever you face trials of many kinds,



James 1:19 NIV

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,



James 1:26 NIV

Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.



James 2:26 NIV

As the body without the spirit is dead, so
faith without deeds is dead.



Proverbs 18:21 NIV

The tongue has the power of life and death,
and those who love it will eat its fruit.



I. Recognize the *Dunamis* of the Tongue



James 3:1-5a NIV

1 Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. 2 We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

3 When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. 4 Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. 5 Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts.

Previous Scripture: Proverbs 18:21;

James 2:26; James 1:26



I. Recognize the *Dunamis* of the Tongue



Matthew 6:6-8 NIV

6 But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen.

Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. 7 And when you pray, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. 8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

Previous Scripture: James 3:1-5a;

Proverbs 18:21; James 2:26



I. Recognize the
Dunamis of the Tongue
Proverbs 16:24 NIV



Gracious words are a honeycomb,
sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.



I. Recognize the *Dunamis* of the Tongue



Psalm 141:3-4 NIV

- 3 Set a guard over my mouth, LORD;
keep watch over the door of my lips.
- 4 Do not let my heart be drawn to what is evil
so that I take part in wicked deeds
along with those who are evildoers;
do not let me eat their delicacies.



I. Recognize the *Dunamis* of the Tongue



1 Peter 3:10 NIV

10 For,

“Whoever would love life
and see good days
must keep their tongue from evil
and their lips from deceitful speech.

Previous Scripture: Psalm 141:3-4;

Proverbs 16:24; Matthew 6:6-8



II. Recognize the Destructiveness of the Tongue

James 3:5b-8 NIV

5b Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. 6 The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

7 All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, 8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

Previous Scripture: 1 Peter 3:10;

Psalm 141:3-4; Proverbs 16:24



II. Recognize the
Destructiveness of the Tongue
Proverbs 26:18-19 NIV



18 Like a maniac shooting
flaming arrows of death

19 is one who deceives their neighbor
and says, “I was only joking!”

Previous Scripture: James 3:5b-8;

1 Peter 3:10; Psalm 141:3-4



II. Recognize the Destructiveness of the Tongue Matthew 15:16-19 NIV

16 “Are you still so dull?” Jesus asked them.

17 “Don’t you see that whatever enters the mouth goes into the stomach and then out of the body? 18 But the things that come out of a person’s mouth come from the heart, and these defile them. 19 For out of the heart come evil thoughts—murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.

Previous Scripture: Proverbs 26:18-19;

James 3:5b-8; 1 Peter 3:10



III. Recognize the Duplicity of the Tongue

James 3:9-12 NIV

9 With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. 10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. 11 Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? 12 My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

Previous Scripture: Matthew 15:16-19;

Proverbs 26:18-19; James 3:5b-8



III. Recognize the
Duplicity of the Tongue
Romans 3:13-14 NIV

- 13 “Their throats are open graves;
their tongues practice deceit.”
“The poison of vipers is on their lips.”
- 14 “Their mouths are full of cursing and bitterness.”



III. Recognize the Duplicity of the Tongue Proverbs 10:19-21 NIV

19 Sin is not ended by multiplying words,
but the prudent hold their tongues.

20 The tongue of the righteous is choice silver,
but the heart of the wicked is of little value.

21 The lips of the righteous nourish many,
but fools die for lack of sense.



III. Recognize the Duplicity of the Tongue Proverbs 12:18-21 NIV

18 The words of the reckless pierce like swords,
but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

19 Truthful lips endure forever,
but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.

20 Deceit is in the hearts of those who plot evil,
but those who promote peace have joy.

21 No harm overtakes the righteous,
but the wicked have their fill of trouble.

Previous Scripture: Proverbs 10:19-21;

Romans 3:13-14; James 3:9-12



III. Recognize the Duplicity of the Tongue Proverbs 12:22-25 NIV

- 22 The LORD detests lying lips,
but he delights in people who are trustworthy.
- 23 The prudent keep their knowledge to themselves,
but a fool's heart blurts out folly.
- 24 Diligent hands will rule,
but laziness ends in forced labor.
- 25 Anxiety weighs down the heart,
but a kind word cheers it up.



III. Recognize the Duplicity of the Tongue Matthew 12:33-37 NIV

33 “Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. 34 You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. 35 A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him. 36 But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. 37 For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.”

Previous Scripture: Proverbs 12:18-25;

Proverbs 10:19-21; Romans 3:13-14



III. Recognize the
Duplicity of the Tongue
Hebrews 13:8 NIV

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today
and forever.



III. Recognize the Duplicity of the Tongue Philippians 2:9-11 NIV

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,
10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.