

The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. James 3:6 (NIV)

Life Giving Words

There is power in your tongue. How so? **Your words can kill or your words can heal. You can speak life giving words that will lift others up or you can speak life taking words that will tear others down.** What kind of words would you like to speak? Obviously, I would like to speak life giving words that will lift others up. **Why is that obvious? Would everyone see it as obvious by the words that have come out of your mouth?** Well, I said that I would like to speak life giving words. I did not say that I have always spoken life giving words. **That wouldn't be true.** But that's what I want and that's what you asked me. **Yes, I did, you're right. So, do you want to make a break with the past?** Yes, I do. **Do you want new life giving words to come out of your mouth?** Yes, I do,

What will need to happen for life giving words to come out of your mouth? I'm not sure, I really don't know. **Do you think that the words of your mouth can be different than what's in your heart and on your mind?** I don't think so. I've tried to keep a lid on negative thoughts and words that I've held on to in my heart and mind. Sooner or later those words have erupted and come out of my mouth. **Yes, they have and that has not been pretty, has it?** No, it hasn't. Then I've spoken life taking words that have torn others down. **Yes, you have.**

Would you agree that your heart and mind have to change before the words of your mouth will change? Yes, I would. **Would you also agree that whatever is in your heart and on your mind will one day come out?** Yes, I would. **So, if evil is in your heart and on your mind it will come out, is that true?** Yes, it is. **Likewise, if good is in your heart and on your mind, it will come out, is that also true?** I am sure that it is. **So, do you want me to change what is in your heart and on your mind?** Yes, I do. **Why don't you change your heart and mind by yourself?** I would if I could but I can't. **Are you sure?** Yes, I'm sure. **What makes you so sure you can't change your own heart and mind?** I've tried that many times and failed miserably. **Yes, you have.** Only you can change my heart and mind. **Yes, that's right.**

Do you believe that I will change your heart and mind so that you can speak my life giving words? Yes, I do. **What do you think I will use to change your heart and mind?** You will use your Holy Spirit living inside of me to change me. **Yes, I will.** **What will my Holy Spirit use as a tool to change your heart and your mind?** Your Holy Spirit will use your word to change my heart and mind. He will help me to think and speak your words. **Yes, He will and then you will be able to speak the life giving words that I will give you to speak into the lives of others. Then my words will come pouring out of your life. Then you be a witness for me in the world.** That is exactly what I want.

Lord, in the past the words of my mouth have been like a flamethrower. I have said things that have hurt people and destroyed relationships. No more! Take charge of my tongue. Help me to speak life giving words to other people. Amen

Life *The Tongue*

The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

NIV James 3:6

Life *The Tongue*

And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.

ESV James 3:6

Life *The Tongue*

And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.

NLT James 3:6

Life *The Tongue*

And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.

NKJV James 3:6

Life *The Tongue*

And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell.

NRSV James 3:6

Life *Your Mouth*

A careless or wrongly placed word out of your mouth can do that. By our speech we can ruin the world, turn harmony to chaos, throw mud on a reputation, send the whole world up in smoke and go up in smoke with it, smoke right from the pit of hell.

MSG James 3:6

Life *The Tongue*

And the tongue is a fire. [The tongue is a] world of wickedness set among our members, contaminating and depraving the whole body and setting on fire the wheel of birth (the cycle of man's nature), being itself ignited by hell (Gehenna).

AMP James 3:6

Life *The Tongue*

And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is full of wickedness, and poisons every part of the body. And the tongue is set on fire by hell itself and can turn our whole lives into a blazing flame of destruction and disaster.

TLB James 3:6

Life *The Tongue*

And the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by hell.

NASB James 3:6

Life *The Tongue*

And the tongue is like a fire. It is a whole world of evil among the parts of our bodies. The tongue spreads its evil through the whole body. The tongue is set on fire by hell, and it starts a fire that influences all of life.

NCV James 3:6

The Tongue

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Life – James 3:6

In Context: *Read James 3*

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

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Considering The Words: ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

The tongue | also | is a fire, | a world | of evil | among | the parts | of the body. | It corrupts | the whole person, | sets | the whole course | of | his life | on fire, | and | is itself | set | on fire | by hell. James 3:6

Praying The Scripture:

(What prayer from your heart will you write?)

Lord, in the past the words of my mouth have been like a flamethrower. I have said things that have hurt people and destroyed relationships. No more! Take charge of my tongue. Help me to speak life giving words to other people. Amen

What It Means:

(What questions speak to your heart?) *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What have you seen destroyed because of the words that came out of a person’s mouth?

When have you set something on fire with the words that have come out of your mouth?

What have you seen dirtied, corrupted and polluted by the words that came out of a person’s mouth?

Who is the igniter of a dirty, corrupt, life polluting and destroying fiery tongue?

Why will you never be able to tame your own tongue by your own efforts, with your own strength?

When have you asked the Lord to help you make sure that fiery words would not come out of your mouth?

Why is it critically important for you, as a believer, to have a tongue that is under the Lord’s control?

Living It Out:

(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)

Make every effort to make sure that the words that are coming out of your mouth are life giving.

Seeing It Happen:

(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)

Have faith that the Lord will use your mouth to speak words that give life to other people.

Get Ready To Share:

(What can you share with others from your heart?)

Share with another person or your small group how the Lord has helped you keep your tongue under His control.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May the Lord use the words that come out of your mouth to give life to other people.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, take control of my tongue so that I may speak your life giving words to other people.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, what life giving words can I speak to other people today?
