



James 3:1-12, 4:11-12



If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.

James 1:26



Living faith controls our speech



James 3:1-12, 4:11-12



James' Teaching on the Tongue:



James' Teaching on the Tongue:

1. The power of the tongue (3:3-5)



James' Teaching on the Tongue:

1. The power of the tongue (3:3-5)
2. The danger of the tongue (3:5)



James' Teaching on the Tongue:

1. The power of the tongue (3:3-5)
2. The danger of the tongue (3:5)
3. The destruction of the tongue
(3:6-8)



Death and life are in the power of
the tongue...

Proverbs 18:21



Two Ways our Tongues Destroy:



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1. How we talk *to* people (3:9-12)



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Two Ways our Tongues Destroy:

1. How we talk *to* people (3:9-12)

2. How we talk *about* people (4:11-12)



Gossip – saying a true thing to the wrong person.

Slander – saying a false thing to the wrong person.



Let all bitterness and wrath and
anger and clamor and slander be
put away from you.

Ephesians 4:31



And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done...They are gossips, slanderers....

Romans 1:28-32



So put away all malice and all deceit
and hypocrisy and envy and all
slander.

1 Peter 2:1



Two Ways our Tongues Destroy:

1. How we talk *to* people (3:9-12)

2. How we talk *about* people (4:11-12)





James 3:1-12, 4:11-12



“Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil?”

Matthew 12:33-35



For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.

Matthew 12:33-35



You can't control your tongue,
because it's ultimately not a tongue
problem, it's a heart problem.



Just like you can't change your
tongue, you also can't change your
heart.



But no human being can tame the
tongue.

James 3:8



“James does not say ‘no one can tame the tongue,’ but ‘no man’, so that, when it is tamed, we admit that it was done by the mercy of God, the assistance of God, the grace of God.”

- Augustine



