

TRANSFORMATION

TAMING THE TONGUE:
THE POWER OF WORDS TO TRANSFORM



TRANSFORMATION Taming the Tongue SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

SUNDAY 17 NOVEMBER 2024

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GETTING STARTED

Words have the power to build up or tear down. Think about a time when someone's words profoundly impacted you—for better or worse. Why do you think our words hold so much weight?

Question: If you could take back one thing you've said, what would it be and why?

INTO THE WORD

Read James 3:1-12

James warns us about the immense power and danger of the tongue. From guiding ships with a small rudder to setting a forest ablaze, our words shape lives and relationships.

INTO THE WORD

Responsibility

Verses 1-2 emphasize that teachers are judged more strictly because their words influence others.

Question: How can we take responsibility for the words we speak, especially in leadership roles?

Restraint

Verses 3-8 compares the tongue to a wild animal. While it's small, its impact is enormous.

Question: Why is it challenging to restrain our words? What strategies can help us practice better self-control?

Righteousness

Verses 9-12 highlight the contradiction of blessing God and cursing others. A spring can't produce both fresh and salty water.

Question: How can aligning our words with God's character lead to righteousness in our lives?

GOING DEEPER

Reflect on your speech patterns this past week. Were your words responsible, restrained, and righteous?

Discussion Prompt

- Share an example of when you used words to encourage someone. What was the result?
- Think of a situation where you reacted impulsively. How could you have responded differently?

Action Step: This week, choose one relationship to intentionally build up with your words. Write down one encouraging thing you'll say to that person.

PRAY TOGETHER

Heavenly Father, thank You for the gift of speech. Help us to take responsibility for our words, show restraint when tempted to speak harshly, and pursue righteousness by reflecting Your love in our conversations. May our words always bring life and encouragement. In Jesus' name, Amen.