THE TONGUE REVEALS THE HEART

Introduction: 1) The tongue reveals what is in a person’s heart at any given moment 2) This morning we are going to take a look at the importance of the tongue and then explore how we can get more blessing to come out of our mouth than cursing 3) I want to warn you this morning that this topic will likely feel very convicting as I have already experienced this but you will find it make you a lot more reflective of what you say.

I. Some facts about the tongue
   A. It cannot be completely tamed - James 3:7,8
   B. It can cause tremendous destruction - James 3:5,6, 10-12 (it can cause tremendous emotional damage to others, it can cause people to think less of us because it can reveal arrogance, it can sever relationships, and rupture unity in the Church, it can destroy the reputation of others and cause people to think less of someone, God especially hates it when someone speaks in a way to promote division)
   C. It can produce tremendous blessing - James 3:10; Ephesians 4:29 (it can save souls through the Gospel, it can encourage and promote the growth of believers, it can produce the Ephesians 5 type of marriage, it can produce godly parenting, children can think of their parents and not only of themselves, it can promote right truth by a teacher, it can build up a Church or tear it down)

II. The tongue cannot be tamed but it can be guided -
James 3:1-5

A. The tongue can be used for great blessing if we try to remember who we are. We are God’s sons, we are light, we are salt, we are good because of God’s work in us. We need only to remember of who we are and then speak accordingly - Luke 6:43-45; James 3:10-12

B. Never forget what your tongue is capable of doing and consider this when speaking (blessing and cursing)

1. Blessing is when you want God’s best for someone

2. Cursing is when you want God’s judgment and wrath upon a person. Cursing speaks more about who you are then who you are talking about. (there life to be bad, harm them, when we think of this it can dissuade us from using our tongue like this, since this reveals more about who we are then who we are talking about)

III. Practical Considerations

A. Extraverted and introverted people each have their unique struggles with the tongue (extraverts may speak too much and introverts may stay silent)

B. Being a teacher of the Bible is a grave responsibility because of the possibility that you can be more of a curse than a blessing to others

C. The best way to guide the tongue is to be filled with God’s love and forgiveness for you, it will make you a more loving, tender, and caring person - Ephesians 4:29-5:2 (Don’t be to judgmental of others, cursing them because their tongues were unruly, yours isn’t so perfect
either, and the Lord has forgiven a mountain of poor speech in your life, people often judge me for the lack of perfection in speech, learn to be more gracious and work more on helping people with their speech rather than turning on them, doesn’t make you much better than them)

Conclusion: 1) How are you doing with your tongue? 2) The tongue just shows us how powerful and difficult and painful the sinful nature is in all of us. 3) As a Church let us focus on using our tongue to bless, wanting God’s best for the Church and every person who goes to it. If you focus on this your marriages will be sweeter, your parenting will be easier, being a child will be easier, and your church relationships will help others grow in Christ.