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## The Tongue: Small But Deadly

### **Sticks and stones...**

James 3:1-12, Matthew 12:33-37, Ephesians 4:29-32

- ▶ Never use the excuse “everyone else says it.”
- ▶ Our character is measured by our words.
- ▶ If we control our words, we’ll control our destiny.
- ▶ Words hold the power of both good and evil.

### **Tips for taming the tongue:**

James 3:1-12, Psalm 141:3-4, Romans 12:1-2, Philippians 2:13, Romans 8:5-17

- ✓ Admit you need help.
- ✓ Pray daily about it.
- ✓ Don’t excuse it.
- ✓ Confess it and move on.
- ✓ Seek accountability.

### **Tips for smart texting:**

- Think before you respond.
- If you can’t say it in front of your spouse, don’t text it.
- If you can’t read it out loud in church, don’t text it.
- If it would make your mom cry, don’t text it.
- Don’t say through media what you wouldn’t say in person.
- Words have both a when and a where.
- Don’t drink and drive & don’t text angry.

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### **Sticks and stones...**

James 3:1-12, Matthew 12:33-37, Ephesians 4:29-32

- ▶ Never use the excuse “everyone else \_\_\_\_\_.”
- ▶ Our \_\_\_\_\_ is measured by our \_\_\_\_\_.
- ▶ If we control our \_\_\_\_\_, we’ll control our \_\_\_\_\_.
- ▶ Words hold the power of both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Tips for taming the tongue:**

James 3:1-12, Psalm 141:3-4, Romans 12:1-2, Philippians 2:13, Romans 8:5-17

- ✓ Admit you \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ Pray \_\_\_\_\_ about it.
- ✓ Don’t \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ Confess it and \_\_\_\_\_.
- ✓ Seek \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Tips for smart texting:**

- Think before you \_\_\_\_\_.
- If you can’t say it in front of your \_\_\_\_\_, don’t text it.
- If you can’t read it out loud in \_\_\_\_\_, don’t text it.
- If it would make your \_\_\_\_\_, don’t text it.
- Don’t say \_\_\_\_\_ what you wouldn’t say in person.
- Words have both a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Don’t drink and drive & don’t \_\_\_\_\_.

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# I'D RATHER BE RIGHTEOUS THAN RIGHT

## The Passage:

James 3:13-18

## The Principles:

- (1) If I'm **RIGHT** in the **WRONG** way – I'm **DEAD WRONG!**  
James 3:14-16/ Proverbs 17:19/ 1 Corinthians 13:1-7/ Ephesians 4:15
  
- (2) We're called to be **RECRUITERS** – not **GUARD DOGS!**  
Matthew 28:18-20/ 2 Timothy 2:24-26/ 1 Kings 3:1-15/ Matthew 13:24-30

## A Wisdom Checklist

- (1) Am I **PURE** in my motives and actions?  
Matthew 7:1-5/ James 1:27 & James 3:1/ Proverbs 9:10
  
- (2) Am I looking for **COMMON GROUND?**  
Matthew 5:9/ Proverbs 17:19 & Proverbs 10:12
  
- (3) Am I **RESPECTFUL?**  
Proverbs 16:21/ Daniel 1-6/ 2 Timothy 2:14-26/ Proverbs 11:12
  
- (4) Am I **TEACHABLE?**  
James 1:19/ Proverbs 12:1/ Proverbs 18:2
  
- (5) Am I **MERCIFUL?**  
1 Corinthians 13:5/ James 2:13/ Matthew 5:7 & Matthew 18:21-35
  
- (6) Am I producing good **FRUIT** or just stirring up **CONFLICT?**  
Proverbs 9:7-8/ James 3:18/ Proverbs 16:26/ Proverbs 17:9
  
- (7) Am I **FAIR?**  
James 2:1/ Leviticus 19:15/ Exodus 23:3
  
- (8) Do I **WALK** my **TALK?**  
Matthew 7:1-5/ 1 John 1:6/ Proverbs 11:3

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## The Passage:

James 3:13-18

## The Principles:

- (1) If I'm \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ way – I'm \_\_\_\_\_!  
James 3:14-16/ Proverbs 17:19/ 1 Corinthians 13:1-7/ Ephesians 4:15
  
- (2) We're called to be \_\_\_\_\_ – not \_\_\_\_\_!  
Matthew 28:18-20/ 2 Timothy 2:24-26/ 1 Kings 3:1-15/ Matthew 13:24-30

## A Wisdom Checklist

- (1) Am I \_\_\_\_\_ in my motives and actions?  
Matthew 7:1-5/ James 1:27 & James 3:1/ Proverbs 9:10
  
- (2) Am I looking for \_\_\_\_\_?  
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- (5) Am I \_\_\_\_\_?  
1 Corinthians 13:5/ James 2:13/ Matthew 5:7 & Matthew 18:21-35
  
- (6) Am I producing good \_\_\_\_\_ or just stirring up \_\_\_\_\_?  
Proverbs 9:7-8/ James 3:18/ Proverbs 16:26/ Proverbs 17:9
  
- (7) Am I \_\_\_\_\_?  
James 2:1/ Leviticus 19:15/ Exodus 23:3
  
- (8) Do I \_\_\_\_\_ my \_\_\_\_\_?  
Matthew 7:1-5/ 1 John 1:6/ Proverbs 11:3