

# The Biggest Trouble Maker in the Church

James 3:1-12

In the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 chapters of James, James gives us 3 characteristics of a mature believer.

1. Chapter 1 A mature believer is \_\_\_\_\_ in trouble.
2. Chapter 2 A mature believer \_\_\_\_\_ the truth.
3. Chapter 3 A mature believer has \_\_\_\_\_ over their tongue.

In chapter 1 James is concerned about our \_\_\_\_\_. 1:5

In chapter 2 he's concerned about our \_\_\_\_\_. 2:18

In chapter 3 he's concerned about our \_\_\_\_\_. 3:2

The average person speaks over \_\_\_\_\_ words a day.

**Warning: Matthew 12:36-37** *But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.*

Now in James 3:1-12 James mentions 3 types of tongues:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ tongue v 1-5
2. \_\_\_\_\_ tongue v 5-8
3. \_\_\_\_\_ tongue v 9-12

The Indians called this a \_\_\_\_\_ tongue !

Tonight I want us to look at 4 truths about our tongues.

I. \_\_\_\_\_ of the tongue. v 3-6 One match can burn.....

One mouth or one tongue can bring \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ !

**Proverbs 18:21** *Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.*

II. \_\_\_\_\_ of the tongue. v 7-8

Every year 1,000's of people die from venomous reptiles, snakes, fish and insects.

The inland taipan snake of Australia has enough venom to kill \_\_\_\_\_ people.

Blue-ringed octopus..... Deathstalker scorpion of Africa.....

In the insect world the most powerful stings come from the harvester ant.

As powerful and deadly as these venomous.....

III. \_\_\_\_\_ with consistency. v 9-12

One minute we're using our tongue to \_\_\_\_\_ someone , next minute we're using our tongue to \_\_\_\_\_ someone. On minute our tongues bring.....

One minute Simon Peter is using his tongue to \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord.

Later he's using his tongue to \_\_\_\_\_ his Lord.

IV. \_\_\_\_\_ to help control our tongue. 4 of them:

1.) \_\_\_\_\_ our tongues and hearts daily to the Lord.

Everyday our prayer should be.....

**Psalm 19:14** *Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.*

2.) \_\_\_\_\_ speak until you hear all the facts.

**Proverbs 18:13** *He who answers a matter before he hears it,  
It is folly and shame to him.*

**Proverbs 29:20** *Do you see a man hasty in his words? There is more hope  
for a fool than for him.*

**Proverbs 15:28** *The heart of the righteous studies how to answer,  
But the mouth of the wicked pours forth evil.*

3.) \_\_\_\_\_ to be a good listener. James 1:19

**Proverbs 10:19** *In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains  
his lips is wise.*

God in His wisdom has given us \_\_\_\_\_ ears and \_\_\_\_\_ mouth. Think about it.

4.) \_\_\_\_\_ ask the Lord for help in controlling our tongues.

**Psalm 141:3** *Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth;  
Keep watch over the door of my lips.*

V. \_\_\_\_\_ of our tongue. God has a 4-fold purpose for our tongues.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Our tongues are to be used to proclaim the .....

Gospel of Jesus Christ.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ Our tongues are to be used to glorify our Lord. Psalm 34:1

3. \_\_\_\_\_ To build people up not tear people down.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ Romans 10:9