Getting Control of The Tongue

• Our Tongue Often Gets Us Into Trouble

• Benjamin Franklin: “A slip of the foot you may soon recover, But a slip of the tongue you may never get over.”

• “The stillest tongue can be the truest friend.”
Getting Control of The Tongue

- (James 3:1-5 NIV) Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. (2) We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check. (3) When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. (4) Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. (5) Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.
Getting Control of The Tongue

• (James 3:6-12 NIV) (6) The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. (7) All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, (8) but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. (9) With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. (10) Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be. (11) Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? (12) My brothers, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.
The Tongue Has The Power To Direct:

- The Tongue Is A Small Member That Has Great Power To Influence Others
The Tongue Has The Power To Direct:

- **We Must Allow God To Control Our Tongues:**
  - **(Psa 141:3 NIV)** Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.

- **(Mat 12:34 NIV)** You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.

- **(Prov 18:21 NIV)** The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.
The Tongue Has The Power To Destroy

- (James 3:5 NIV) Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.

- **People Who Can't Control Their Tongues Cause Destruction**
The Tongue Has The Power To Destroy

• It’s Time To Examine Ourselves And Our Words!

• Our Words Can Break Hearts, Ruin Reputations, & Even Destroy Souls.
The Tongue Has The Power To Destroy

• Animals Can Be Tamed Only God Can Tame The Tongue

• To Change Your Tongue Your Heart Must Be Changed

• We Need A Heart Change So That We Don’t Spew The Deadly Poison Of An Untamed Tongue
The Tongue Has The Power To Delight

• (James 3:9-12 NIV) With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. (10) Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be. (11) Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? (12) My brothers, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.
The Tongue Has The Power To Delight

- **The Tongue Will Tear Down** Or, **The Tongue Will Build Up**

  - *(Prov 10:11 NIV)* The mouth of the righteous is a fountain of life, but violence overwhelsms the mouth of the wicked.

  - *(Prov 13:14 NIV)* The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turning a man from the snares of death.

- **Water, When It Is Controlled Brings Life**
The Tongue Has The Power To Delight

• **The Tongue Is Like A Tree:** …can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs?

• **To Have Tongues That Bless, Like A Tree, Our Roots Must Be In Good Soil** -- His Word & Prayer

• **We Need To Produce Fruit--Our Words Can Be Part Of The Fruit Produced Through Our Lives**
The Tongue Has The Power To Delight

• A Fountain Doesn't Give **Two Types Of Water**

• A Tree Doesn't Produce **Two Types Of Fruit**

• The Tongue Must Not Produce **Two Types Of Words**
The Tongue Has The Power To Delight

• (1 Pet 3:9 NIV) Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

• We Are Called To Repay Evil & Insult With Blessing -- So That We May Inherit A Blessing
The Tongue Has The Power To Delight

• If We Want God’s Mercy We Need To Plant God’s Mercy

• **Blessing:**
  - Fine Speaking Elegance Of Language
  - Commendation Adoration
  - Benediction Fair Speech
  - Praise
**The Tongue Has The Power To Delight**

- **To Inherit Something You Have To Be An Heir**

- *(Rom 8:17 NIV)* Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

- *(Gal 4:7 NIV)* So you are no longer a slave, but a son; and since you are a son, God has made you also an heir.

- *(Eph 3:6 NIV)* This mystery is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.
The Tongue Has The Power To Delight

- (1 Pet 3:9 NIV) Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.

- The Blessing We Are Going To Receive Is The Blessing Of The Praise Of Jesus

- If You Want The Lord To Speak Highly Of You -- Speak Well Of Others
The Tongue Has The Power To Delight

• The Lord Brought A Change To Paul Who Was Persecuting The Church

• He Brought A Change To Peter Who Was So Impulsive

• He Can Bring Change To Your Life

• With Christ Like Responses We Can Store Up A Treasure Of Blessing In Heaven
Tongues That Are Productive…

- 1. Exercise Profitable Silence
- 2. Do Not Gossip
- 3. Are Passionate About Witnessing
- 4. Speak The Truth In Love
- 5. Do Not Grumble And Complain
- 6. Make Positive Statements A Priority
- 7. Continually Praise The Lord