

## THE POWER OF THE TONGUE

James 3:1 (NIV) *Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly.*

Matthew 12:36 (NIV) *But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken.*

Matt. 18:6 (NIV) *If anyone causes one of these little ones—those who believe in me—to stumble, it would be better for them to have a large millstone hung around their neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea.*

**1). Who do I follow on social media that is influencing me?**

**2). Do I check the messages I send out for biblical accuracy?**

<sup>2</sup> *We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.*

**Our words show the depth of our maturity.**

James 1:19 (NIV) *My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry*

<sup>3</sup> *When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal.* <sup>4</sup> *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.* <sup>5</sup> *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.* <sup>6</sup> *The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body.*

<sup>6b</sup> *It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.*

<sup>7</sup> *All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind,* <sup>8</sup> *but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.*

Mark 7:14 (NIV) *Again Jesus called the crowd to him and said, "Listen to me, everyone, and understand this. <sup>15</sup> Nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defiles them*

Psalms 51:10 (NIV) *Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

Romans 12:1 (NIV) *Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.*

Romans 12:2 (NIV) *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

<sup>9</sup> *With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. <sup>10</sup> Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.*

<sup>11</sup> *Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? <sup>12</sup> My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.*

Matthew 12:33-37 (NIV) *"Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. <sup>34</sup> You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. <sup>35</sup> A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him.*