

James 3:1-12

1. My Tongue Directs _____ .

"When we put bits in the mouths of horses ... we can turn the whole animal." (vs.3)

"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." (vs. 4)

2. My Tongue Can Destroy _____ .

"Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue is also a fire..." (vs. 5)

"... it sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell." (vs.6b)

"All kinds of animals ... have been tamed by man, but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison." (vs. 7-8)

3. My Tongue Displays _____ .

It's inconsistent: vs. 9 "Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be." (vs. 10)

"Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? ... can a fig tree bear olives or a grapevine bear figs?"

THE PROBLEM: _____

"For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks." Matt. 12:34

"Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry." James 1:19

God's Solution: God knows we have a _____ problem.

"I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh." Ezekiel 36:26b

God silences the sins of the tongue along with all sins: "We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned (like the rudder of ship) to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet He did not open His mouth; He was led like a lamb to the slaughter; and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so He did not open His mouth." Isaiah 53:6-7