



Life Group Questions (James 3:1-12)

1. Read James 3:1-12 together. What stands out to you from this passage? What questions come to mind? What stood out to you from Sunday's message?
2. In verses 3-5 James uses some analogies to talk about big things controlled by little things (ie. horses and bits, ships and rudders). How have you seen your tongue, or the words you use, control your whole body? Is James exaggerating or have you seen this in your own life?
3. James uses quite graphic language in verses 6-8 to describe the tongue (*a fire, world of unrighteousness, set on fire by hell, restless evil, deadly poison*) Why do you think he does this? Have you seen the damage our words can do in your own life?
4. In verses 9-12 James points out the inconsistency and hypocrisy of praising God and cursing people with our words. What are some ways or examples of how we do this?
5. On Sunday, Pastor Andrew talked about getting to the root of the issue of our words, not just dealing with the fruit. Look over the "Fruit to Root" PDF attached. Why is it so important to not just deal with the surface sin? Are there examples in your own life when you dug down to the root issues?
6. What does it look like to "preach the gospel" to yourself? Why is that so crucial in taming your tongue?

Spend some time in prayer. If you feel comfortable share some areas of sin you are struggling with. Go through the questions on the "Fruit to Root" handout that helps understand the root issue of the problem. Thank Jesus that he perfectly love this out for us.