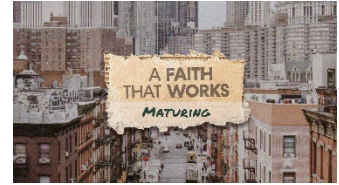


James: A Faith that Works

Maturing

James 3:1-12

Pastor Chris Lenhart - 10/13/24



Opening Thought Question:

How can we use our words for good and avoid the destructive consequences of undisciplined speech?

What and how we speak matters... (1-2)

Maintaining the posture of a humble, teachable, learner...

Our words can motivate and inspire... (3-6)

Our speech has the power to _____ or _____ others.

Our words carry _____ that can steer or direct.

Our words can poison and divide... (7-10)

Are my words truth in love? When I speak am I promoting unity, peace, gratitude, or praise, or am I stoking fear, anxiety, division, anger, hostility, and hatred?

Spiritual Formation Activity: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 (Taking inventory of my speech)

Are my postures, tones, and words, patient, kind, free from envy, humble, gentle, others-minded, are they peaceable, forgiving, merciful, righteous, and true? Do my words, tones, and postures, communicate perseverance, steadfast hope, and long-suffering? (Which three require my attention most?)

What are our words producing? (11-12)

7 practical suggestions towards using our mouths for good.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.

Our postures, tones, and words should be a clear and compelling reflection of Jesus, as we seek to glorify God and love those he has placed in our lives.

Next Week: James-A Faith that Works "Peaceable" 3:13-18

Further Study

Matthew 5-7
James 1:26

Matt. 15:10-11

1 Cor. 13:4-7

Luke 6:43-45

Gal. 5:22-23
Eph. 4:15-32
1 Thess. 5:11

Proverbs
13:3; 15:1, 4;
16:24; 17:9;
18:21; 27:2

Psalms
12:3-4; 34:13-
14; 78:36;
137:6; 141:3

Follow along with today's sermon using your smartphone. Download the "CMBC" app (search for "Calvary Monument" in your app store) and click on "Sundays" at the bottom of the screen.

<p style="text-align: center;">James: A Faith that Works</p> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Maturing</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Next Steps: Home-Group Study and/or Personal Discipleship Guide</p>	<p>Jms. 3:1-12</p>
<p>Get together as a family or with a friend or group of friends this week!</p> <p>Start with <u>Prayer</u> -ask Jesus to guide our time together. Go over prayer requests together.</p> <p><u>Read the Text</u> – James 3:1-12</p> <p><u>Questions for Reflection & Discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Before you begin this week’s reflection and discussion take time to complete the <u>spiritual formation activity</u> on the front of this sheet. Upon completion, journal or share your takeaways. How does James use the first 2 verses in chapter 3 to set the tone regarding the seriousness of how we speak and what we say? What do these verses suggest about the matter of disciplined speech? In verses 3-8, James gives several illustrations and figures of speech to clarify the power of the tongue. Drawing observations from these verses, what does James communicate about our tongues? Verses 9-10 give insight into the divided ways that we sometimes use our words. Share or journal about an experience in your own life where you saw the power of words used to either divide or unite people. Take time to discuss how congregations can cultivate an environment that is conducive to speech that unites, empowers, and equips. What is the product of wise and disciplined speech? (vss. 11-12) Go into the gospels and discuss the example of Jesus. How did Jesus use his postures, tones, and words to effectively communicate the truth in love? What can we learn from his example? Which of his words have been most significant or impactful to you? <p><u>Questions guiding Spiritual Formation & Application:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How does this text invite us to grow in a greater love for God? What lessons within this text move us towards growing in our love for one another? What principles could be applied to our family life, careers, communities, or congregational life? Consider how Jesus could use our application of the principles in this text to draw those that do not know him, unto himself? Who is currently in our lives that needs an invitation to meet Jesus or be part of a kind and gracious Christian community? 	<p><u>Further Study</u></p> <p>Matthew 5:7 James 1:26 Matt. 15:10-11 1 Cor. 13:4-7 Luke 6:43-45 Gal. 5:22-23 Eph. 4:15-32 1 Thess. 5:11</p> <p>Proverbs 13:3; 15:1, 4; 16:24; 17:9; 18:21; 27:2</p> <p>Psalms 12:3-4; 34:13-14; 78:36; 137:6; 141:3</p> <p><u>Prayer Requests</u></p> <p>Family</p> <p>Church</p> <p>Community</p> <p>Career/Friends</p> <p>Other</p>