

THE BEAST BEHIND THE TEETH

Series: Taking Aim At Life's Toughest Challenges

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NOTES

TEXT: James 3:1-18

I. WHY WATCH WHAT I SAY?

MY TONGUE . . .

1. DIRECTS WHERE I GO _____

"We can control very large horses by putting a small bit into their mouths. By controlling their mouth, we can turn the whole animal whatever direction we want it to go. Or take ships as an example. A tiny rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot wants it to go, even though the winds are strong." James 3:3,4

2. CAN DESTROY WHAT I HAVE _____

"Your tongue is a small thing, but what enormous damage it can do! Just like a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire, your tongue is also a dangerous fire." James 3:5

3. DISPLAYS WHO I REALLY AM _____

"We use our tongue to praise our Lord and Father, but then we use the same tongue to attack and curse other people who've been made in the same image of God! So blessing some people and cursing others comes out of the same mouth! Listen, my brothers and sisters, this should never happen!" James 3:9,10

II. CONQUERING THE BEAST BEHIND THE TEETH

1. ASK _____ THE HOLY SPIRIT TO CHANGE MY HEART _____

"Rid yourself of all the offenses you have committed and get a new heart and a new spirit!" Ezekiel 18:31

2. ASK _____ HIM TO HELP ME MANAGE MY MOUTH _____

"Lord, help me control my tongue; and help me be careful about what I say." Psalms 141:3

III. PEACE DURING A PANDEMIC

1. IF I'M WISE, I WON'T _____ COMPROMISE MY INTEGRITY _____

"Real wisdom is first of all pure." James 3:17

"The Lord delights in pure words." Prov. 15:26

2. IF I'M WISE, I WON'T ANTAGONIZE YOUR ANGER

"Real wisdom is . . . peaceful."

James 3:17

"Any fool can start arguments: the wise thing is to stay out of them."

Prov. 20:3

"A wise man controls his temper."

Prov. 14:29

3. IF I'M WISE, I WON'T MINIMIZE YOUR FEELINGS

"Real wisdom is . . . considerate."

James 3:17

"courtesy" "gentle with people"

"Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

Gal. 6:2

4. IF I'M WISE, I WON'T CRITICIZE YOUR SUGGESTIONS

"Real wisdom is . . . not defensive."

James 3:17

Greek: "eupeithes" = reasonable "open to reason"
"it allows discussion and is willing to yield to others"

"A fool thinks he needs no advice but a wise man listens to others."

Prov. 12:15

5. IF I'M WISE, I WON'T EMPHASIZE YOUR MISTAKES

"Real wisdom is full of mercy and helpful."

James 3:17

"Love forgets mistakes; nagging about them parts the best of friends."

Prov. 17:9

"Kind words bring life, but cruel words crush your spirit."

Prov. 15:4

6. IF I'M WISE, I WON'T DISGUISE MY OWN WEAKNESSES

"Real wisdom is free from prejudice and hypocrisy."

James 3:17

adiakritos & anypokritos = no hidden prejudice & no hypocrisy

"Show proper respect to everyone."

1 Peter 2:17