

James – Taming the Tongue

"One of the first things that happens when a man is really filled with the spirit is not that he speaks with tongues, but that he learns to hold the one he already has."

- J. Sidlow Baxter

Where is this bible study going...?

God's clear purpose is that we become his fully mature children, fully able to participate in a relationship of love with Him, where we will have a deep sense of satisfaction in all of our life. A perfect relationship with God overflows into perfection in our relationships with one another and with ourselves.

Read James Ch. 3 v. 1-12.

Write down some words which spring to mind when you think of both the good and bad ways the tongue can be used.

Keeping in mind what you have written above look at some of the biblical examples of an untamed tongue and think about why there is a need to control what we say.

In your groups read Proverbs Ch. 12 v. 18-19, Ch.13 v. 3, Ch.16 v. 27-28, Ch. 17 v. 7, Ch. 18 v. 8, Matthew Ch. 7 v. 15, Ephesians Ch. 4 v. 25, Philippians Ch.2 v. 14-15.

Take some time within your small groups to discuss the ways we misuse our words in our personal life.

Judging Others...

Read James Ch. 2 v. 8-9 and Ch. 4 v. 11-12. How do these verses affect our relationships with both Christians and people who aren't Christians?