

Faith that Works



Daily Readings Week 3

Theme: “Taming the Tongue”

MONDAY 09.13.21 Proverbs 13:3

We begin the week with one verse that sums up that power of the tongue. The tongue has the power to preserve life or to bring about ruin. James alludes to this in 3:9 when he says the tongue is used to both bless and to curse. How can the tongue be destructive and what can we do to make our words life-giving to others?

TUESDAY 09.14.21 Luke 6:43-45

Followers of Jesus are to produce good fruit (v.44). Good fruit comes from a good heart. According to Jesus, the condition of heart is revealed through the words we speak (v. 45). Is your heart right with God? Are your words fruitful? Do they bring about good things or are your words negative and hurtful?

WEDNESDAY 09.15.21 Ephesians 4:29-32

Yesterday, the question was asked, “Are your words fruitful?” Today, the Apostle Paul gives us a definition of fruitful words. These words build up and give grace to those who hear (v.29). Our words should build others up, not tear them down. They should also promote grace which rooted in kindness and forgiveness (v.32). How can you build others up with the words you speak?

THURSDAY 09.16.21 Proverbs 10:11-12

Our words are important to us as Christians because with our words relationships can be cultivated or destroyed. Gossip, slander, lies, profanity and harsh words go against the call for us to love our neighbor and even our enemies. Do you ever use your words negatively? Have you spent time gossiping, slandering, attacking, or lying? Growth as a Christian requires that we acknowledge our failures, repent, and seek the Spirit’s help in using our words to be more like Christ.

FRIDAY 09.17.21 Psalm 15

What does a righteous person with integrity look like? Psalm 15 gives us an answer. Notice the emphasis on the tongue; speaks the truth (v.2), does not slander (v. 3), does not slur or shame (reproach) others (v. 3), and keeps their word (v.4). The scriptures are clear; the words we speak are a reflection of our faith in God. Look at the characteristics of a righteous person in Psalm 15 and examine your life, especially the words you speak.

SATURDAY 09.18.21 Colossians 3:14-17

It all comes down to this, “whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus” (v.17). As followers of Christ, our words should honor Christ. While we may be imperfect at times, the question should always be, “Are my words Christ-like? Are they loving, gracious, healing and truthful or are they angry, bitter, dishonest or divisive?”