

# THE BOOK OF JAMES

## Leader Conversation Guide – James (Part III)

### Main Idea

This week, Pastor Joel continued our series on the book of James. James 3 talks about the importance of taming our tongues. We tend to minimize how negative words affect us and others, but words have more power than we know. As we walk out our faith journey, it's critical for us to recognize three specific truths about our words: They will determine the direction of our lives; they have the power to destroy what we have; and they will always reveal what's in our hearts.

**"Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be."**

JAMES 3: 10 NKJV

### Make It Practical

- Allow God to change your heart. When we surrender our hearts and lives to God, He will empower us to change our words.
- Put a filter on what you allow into your heart. Jesus said our words come out of the overflow of our hearts. When we make healthy choices regarding what we watch, listen to, and participate in, we will have healthy hearts and be able to speak in a way that pleases God.
- T.H.I.N.K. before you speak. Is it True? Is it Helpful? Is it Inspiring? Is it Necessary? Is it Kind?
- Speak words of Life. We can bless others by speaking words of affection, praise, encouragement, healing, and faith over them.

## Talk About It

- Share a personal example of how someone's words have shaped your life in a positive or negative way.
- What are your current filters for what you watch and listen to? What changes do you need to make to assure you only allow healthy things into your heart?
- What are some practical ways you can speak words of life over others this week? Who in your life most needs to hear life-giving words?

**"We shape our words and  
then our words shape us."**

## Prayer

God, thank You for helping us understand the power of our words. We want to speak words that align with Your will for our lives and bring life to others. We surrender our lives to You today and pray that the thoughts and feelings of our hearts, and the words in our mouths, will please You, Lord

## Leader Tip

Serve Day is THIS Saturday (7/15)! Is there an opportunity you can sign up for as a Group? We grow together when we serve together! Encourage Group members to sign up for Serve Day.

