



WEEKEND RESOURCES | MAY 28, 2023

Week Two | Untamable

USE THESE QUESTIONS AND RESOURCES TO HELP YOU PROCESS THE MESSAGE IN YOUR PERSONAL STUDY TIME OR WITH YOUR GROUP.

Message Recap: Like a small spark that has the potential to scorch an entire green forest, our tongues are untamable, with the power to control our whole bodies. We have a tool that can be used to build up those around us or tear them down in just a few words. What do we do with that kind of power? We can't lock it away. But we can, by God's grace, learn to control it.

» Main Points

- Be really slow to speak, because the tongue is untamable.
- Small Part...Big Influence
- There is no "once and for all" solution

» Getting Started

- Think of an example of someone who famously lost control of their mouth. What's your perception of that person? What consequences do you assume they faced?

» Observation

- Read and reflect on James 3:2-12
- What are your initial reactions to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

reachout

- What do the people around you think of you based on what you say? This week we talk about all the negative things our tongues can do. Is your mouth more apt to spew negativity or positivity?

growdeep

- Who has significantly impacted your life with their words? Discuss why it's easier to remember the harsh words of those who hurt you than the kind words of those who encouraged you.
- Read James 3:2-12. List together the images that James paints of the power of the tongue. Which of these comparisons do you identify with the most?
- In which relationship do you most often find yourself losing control of your mouth? Have you faced any relational consequences as a result?
- Consider creative ways to support one another in controlling your mouths (e.g., text an image of a fire, write a note with the prayer below, send a laffy taffy candy). Commit to follow through on one of your ideas this week.

partner with families

- Our emotions are directly related to our words. Learning to control and work through emotions is really important. One of the first steps is verbalizing them. If you've got younger kids, [emotion charts](#) are a great way to work on this! If you've got middle and high school kids talking through or writing out feelings is a good way to start processing. Adults must model healthy emotions for kids to be willing to do the same. This week, work on naming your emotions as a family!

» Next Steps and Prayer

- It can be hard to accept how powerful our words can be. It helps to have a clear response plan when facing losing control. In which of the following areas below do you need the most help?
 - Remember: recognize your words are powerful
 - Surrender: ask God to help you be quick to listen and slow to speak
 - Confess: don't explain or excuse, but own the fires you start
- Close by praying for God to help you identify your emotions and deal with them in a healthy and productive way without hurting others in the process.