**1** Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.**2**For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. **3**If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. **4**Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.**5**So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! **6**And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. **7**For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, **8**but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. **9**With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. **10**From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. **11**Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water?**12**Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water. James 3:1-12

**I. The Tongue can cause Great Harm!**

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**II. We Can’t Tame the Tongue!**

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