



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FROM NOVEMBER 20, 2016

### BIG IDEA:

The tongue is small and mostly hidden from sight. But it can (and does) affect the entire course of your life. This series focuses on James 3:2-6 which says that "those who control their tongues can also control themselves in every other way." This week we're talking about "words that bite" and the problems that come with them.

### DISCUSSION:

1. When is the last time you remember getting in trouble for using a "bad word"?
2. What makes a word or phrase "unwholesome"? Read Ephesians 4:29, 1 Timothy 4:12, & Psalm 19:14
  1. *It offers no benefit to the listener.*
  2. *It hurts your example.*
  3. *It is displeasing to God.*
3. Does anyone know someone that is always using "unwholesome talk"? (parent, teacher, friend, coach, sibling)
4. Would anyone here admit that they have struggled with controlling their own tongue when it comes to "unwholesome talk"?
5. What does James 3:9-12 say about how we use our words?

*We use our tongue to both praise God and tear others down. This should not be the case.*

6. Read Ephesians 4:29. Is it enough just to not say bad words or to refrain from unwholesome talk?
7. How can we build others up with our words?
8. What are examples of how "unwholesome talk" is everywhere? Think about Movies, TV, and Music that you listen to that has "unwholesome talk". Do you think that what you watch or listen to affects how you speak or think?
9. Google search lyrics of the latest songs your group has downloaded or songs that everyone at school talks about and likes. Talk about the "unwholesome talk" in the lyrics.  
\*\*\*\*\*LEADERS: Use discretion on this. Be wise in the song that you choose so to not lead students into temptation or questions that they might not of had before.\*\*\*\*\*
10. What does Luke 6:45 say? How is what comes out of our mouth a symptom of a bigger problem?

*When we say bad things, it comes from a sinful heart.*

### APPLICATION:

11. What are some words that you would like to "trash" from your vocabulary? How can the others in this group hold you accountable for your speech?
12. Spend time in prayer that God would soften your heart to be more uplifting to others.
13. With this week being Thanksgiving you have a huge opportunity to use your words for good around your family. Try to encourage, lift up, and thank your parents, siblings, and other relatives.

### MEMORY VERSE:

Proverbs 21:23

*He who guards his mouth and his tongue keeps himself from calamity.*