

BASIC GUIDES TO TAMING THE TONGUE

Pro 18:21 Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Pro 26:20 Where no wood is, *there* the fire goeth out: so where *there is* no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.

1. Dedicate out heart and our tongue to the Lord Daily.

Rom 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, *which is* your reasonable service.

2. Put our heart in tune with God's Spirit by daily reading His word.

Psa 119:9 Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word.

3. Discover from those around us what offensive words we use.

Pro 17:27 He that hath knowledge spareth his words: *and* a man of understanding is of an excellent spirit.

4. Assume responsibility for every word we speak.

Mat 5:21 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:

Mat 5:22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

5. Commit ourselves to the purpose of giving a good report and Following Matthew 18 when it is necessary (Matthew 18:15-17).

Mat 18:15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

Mat 18:16 But if he will not hear *thee*, *then* take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

Mat 18:17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell *it* unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as a heathen man and a publican.

6. **Fulfill past promises and carefully consider any new promises:**

7. **Ask forgiveness for any unloving words or attitudes:**

Mat 5:23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee;

Mat 5:24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

8. **Learn how to give words that will encourage, comfort, inspire and edify.** (Hebrews 10:24).

Heb 10:24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Heb 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

9. **“Listen” to our words through the ears of others before we speak them.**

Psa 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

10. **Discern the spirit of our hearers before, during and after we speak.**

Psa 55:21 *The words* of his mouth were smoother than butter, but war *was* in his heart: his words were softer than oil, yet *were* they drawn swords.

11. **Distinguish between Discernment and Judgment.** (James 4:11).

Jam 4:11 Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of *his* brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.

12. **Distinguish between Reproving and Reviling.** (1 Tim. 6:4).

1Ti 6:4 He is proud, knowing nothing, but doting about questions and strifes of words, whereof cometh envy, strife, railings, evil surmisings.

13. **Urge our friends to tell us when we offend with our words.** (Prov. 27:6).

Pro 27:6 Faithful *are* the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy *are* deceitful.

Jam 3:6 And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity; so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.