

What Does the Bible Say?

Ellettsville Church of Christ
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Watch Your Mouth!

The Bible speaks of the tongue and the mouth. These references teach about being careful concerning the words we use, and our speech. James 3 uses illustrations to show how dangerous words are, and how difficult it is to control them. What is this danger? What does the Bible say?

- **Bit in a horses' mouth.** "Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body." (James 3:3) If you can control your words, you can control the rest of your body.
- **Rudder of a ship.** "Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires." (James 3:4) While small, the tongue is powerful and influential.
- **A wildfire.** "And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell." (James 3:6) A few careless words, like a careless spark, can have devastating consequences.
- **An untamed animal.** "For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. But no man can tame the tongue." (James 3:7-8a) When we think we have control of our mouth, we must still be aware of the danger of an idle word.
- **Deadly poison.** "It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison." (James 3:8b) Like a snake, our words can deliver venom that harms the hearer.

Be aware of the danger of words. Jesus brought words of eternal life. (John 6:68) Let's study together to know and obey the word of God.

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You are welcome at every service:

Sunday 9:45 am, 10:30 am, & 5:00 pm. Wednesday 7:00 pm