

Got FAITH? Get WISE!

How to Speak...Wisely

March 1, 2009

Indeed, we all make many mistakes.
For if we could control our tongues,
we would be perfect and
could also control ourselves in every other way.
James 3:2

Why Is It Important What I Say?

My mouth directs where I go

James 3:3 We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth.

James 3:4 And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong.

My mouth can destroy what I have

James 3:5 But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire.

Proverbs 18:20 Wise words satisfy like a good meal; the right words bring satisfaction.

James 3:6 And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself

James 3:7-8 People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison.

My mouth displays who I am

James 3:9-10 Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right!

James 3:11-12 Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water? Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring.

When our speech is motivated by Satan...

Bitter Envy - Selfish Ambition - Earthly Concerns & desires
Unspiritual thoughts & ideas - Disorder Evil

When our speech is motivated by God & His wisdom..

Mercy - Love for others - Peace - Consideration for others
Submission - Sincerity - Righteousness

How Can I Manage My Mouth?

Get a new heart

Psalm 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me.

Colossians 3:15a And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts.

2. Ask God for help every day

Psalm 139:23-24 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

3. Think before you speak

James 1:19 Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.

Before you speak, ask..

"Is what I want to say true? Is it necessary? Is it kind?"