



COMMUNITY GUIDE

June 20, 2021

 ethosoh.com

 @ethos_oh

 facebook.com/ethosoh

WEEKLY APPLICATION

TAKEAWAY: The quality and content of our speech reveals our hearts and the way we've allowed God's love to mature us.

HEAD CHANGE: How I speak impacts the people around me, the future, and myself

HEART CHANGE: We only speak what our hearts are full of.

LIFE CHANGE: Meditate on the love of God daily so that we become people that speak words of affection, praise, encouragement, and faith.

OVERVIEW

In James 3, James teaches us how powerful our tongues are. Like a rudder that steers a large ship, or a spark that turns into a forest fire, our tongues have the power to impact lives around us. Not only are they powerful, but they are also difficult to control. We've seen how destructive words can be, but the power of our tongues can also be used to give life and build people up. However, we know that behavior modification does not work or help us long term. Jesus says, from our heart the mouth speaks, revealing what's inside of us. In order for us to use the gift and the power that God has given us, we must allow God's love to transform our hearts. In doing so, we become mature followers of Jesus; gracious in speech, positively impacting people around us, the future, and ourselves.

"If you claim to be religious but don't control your tongue, you are fooling yourself, and your religion is worthless."

-James 1:26 (NLT)-

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some ways you have seen words impact people around us in a negative way? How have you personally been affected by destructive words?
2. Talk about how easy it is to be careless in speech. In what areas of your life can you be more intentional with your words and the way you speak?
3. What does it look like for you to allow God to continue to change your heart so that words can be like a fresh spring of water? Talk about ways you can begin to allow Him to transform you this week?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Father, thank You for the love You have for each of us. Apart from You, our words are like destructive fires unable to tame, but with You and because of You we are able use the power You have given us to be light in a world of darkness. Give us the desire to wake up and yearn for time with You, and throughout our days God, remind us of the love of Jesus. Transform us from the inside out and give us the grace to use our words to be people that point to You. Thank you for Your ultimate love and sacrifice and let us be constantly reminded that we are the disciples whom You love and died for. In Jesus' name, Amen.

IN THIS TOGETHER!