

## HOPE SABBATH SCHOOL

### The Book of James – Part 7

#### Taming the Tongue

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. We are continuing our study of the Book of James. Our topic today: Taming the Tongue.

Scripture Theme Song: “Bless the LORD” – Psalm 103:1-4

- 1) Why taming the tongue is important
    - a) James 1:26 – first reference to the importance of controlling your speech
    - b) Proverbs 16:24
    - c) Proverbs 15:4a
  - 2) We all are responsible for our speech, but teachers will be judged more strictly
    - a) James 3:1
    - b) Why do teachers receive a stricter judgment?
    - c) Share a time in your life when a teacher’s negative speech or conduct caused you to stumble.
    - d) Share an experience where a teacher’s speech or conduct provided an excellent example for you.
  - 3) Learning to say “I’m sorry”
    - a) James 3:2
    - b) Why is it very healthy to admit when you have stumbled?
    - c) Who taught you to say, “I’m sorry”?
    - d) Why are some people reticent to say, “I’m sorry”?
  - e) What lessons have you learned when you were willing to admit your mistake and say “I’m sorry”?
- 4) The little tongue has a big impact
    - a) James 3:3-5
      - i) Example: Proverbs 15:1;
    - b) Key lesson: Think before you speak
      - i) James 1:19
      - ii) Examples of thinking before speaking
        - (1) Mark 9:2-6 – no serious damage done
        - (2) Luke 9:51-54 – more serious
        - (3) Matthew 26:31-35
    - c) Share a time when you spoke before thinking carefully and your speech got you into trouble.
    - d) James 3:6-8
      - i) Is it true that “no man can tame the tongue”? What hope then is there for us?
      - ii) What promises comes to your mind if you struggle with controlling your tongue?
        - (1) 1 Corinthians 10:13
        - (2) Galatians 5:22-23
    - e) James 3:9-12
      - i) How is it possible to clean the source of the spring so that only pure water flows forth?
        - (1) Psalm 51:10
        - (2) Psalm 139:23-24
      - ii) Share a testimony of how God was able to clean the source of your spring and transform your speech.
      - iii) Share a time when you were able to speak words of blessing.