

**Winter 2023**  
**Community Group Study**  
**The Book of James**

## James

### Week 7 (February 26): Taming the Tongue James 3:1-12

#### Introduction

- Open your time in prayer and read the passage together.
- Give everyone 15 minutes to answer the five following questions: Write your answers after each question.
- Take one question at a time and have people share their answers.
- End your time by sharing and praying for one another.

#### Passage:

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup>For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. <sup>3</sup>If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. <sup>4</sup>Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup>So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! <sup>6</sup>And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup>but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup>From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup>Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? <sup>12</sup>Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.



**-What stuck out to you in the passage?**



**-Do you have any questions from the passage?** Notice anything that is difficult to understand in the text, or a question the reader would like to ask the writer of the passage or the Lord.



**-How do you see Jesus in the passage?** How does this passage relate to the person, nature, character, or work of Jesus?



**-How can I apply this passage to my life?**



**-Who is one person that could benefit from you sharing what you learned in this passage today?**

**Close your time by sharing prayer requests and praying.**

# Redeemer Small Group Study Guideline

**Step 1** – Begin by praying together, asking God to speak through His word.

**Step 2** – Read the scripture passage out loud. Each person reading one verse at a time. See the 8 week reading schedule above.

**Step 3** – On our own for 10 minutes, go back over the passage while looking for these five things:



**Light Bulb:**

Something that “shines” from the passage-whatever impacts most, draws attention, or peaks your interest. (These could be facts, details, figures of speech, lists, repetition, contrasts, comparisons, quotes, etc).



**Question Mark:**

Anything that is difficult to understand in the text, or a question you would like to ask the writer of the passage or the Lord.



**Cross:**

How does this passage relate to the person, nature, character or work of Jesus.



**Arrow:**

What is the takeaway? A personal and practical application of the text to your life. What does God want you to understand/think? What does God want you to believe? What does God want you to desire? What does God want you to do?



**Text Bubble:**

Who is someone you could share this truth with? (This could be yourself, a family member, friend, roommate, classmate, neighbor, co-worker, etc.) Write down the name and pray for an opportunity to share it. This might be sharing God’s truth with another believer for encouragement or sharing it with a non-believer because “Faith comes by hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” (Romans 10:17)

**Step 4** – Begin five rounds of questioning – going through each category above and giving your group time to share.

**Step 5** – Pray together: Invite people to lead in prayer as they please; no one should feel pressured to pray. The prayers can highlight what was learned during the study.

## Eight Week Reading Schedule for James

Week 1 – James 1:1-4

Week 2 – James 1:5-11

Week 3 – James 1:12-18

Week 4 – James 1:19-27

Week 5 – James 2:1-13

Week 6 – James 2:14-26

Week 7 – James 3:1-12

Week 8 – James 3:13-18