

SERMON SERIES: The Good Life
SPEAKER: Drew Scates
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Key Line *The things we say have the power to produce life or death*

Seek the Word

Read James 3:1-12

- What is James saying teachers must be careful of? Why does he compare our tongues to a horse's bridle? A ship's rudder? (*Keeping their tongues tame at all times; Because our tongues have the ability to control our bodies. - James 3:1-4*)
- What do you think James means by comparing the tongue to a small forest fire? Is that a positive thing or a negative thing? (*the tongue being small, can spread things very quickly, can wipe out something great and wonderful with a few licks of its 'tongue.'* - James 3:5-6)
- How does the tongue differ from every kind of beast and bird, etc.? Why does James say no human being can tame the tongue? (*These can be tamed by mankind, yet the human tongue cannot; Because the tongue mirrors the heart - and only Jesus can change and tame the heart. James 3:7-8*)
- When our tongue is not tame, what do we find ourselves doing? What's another word for that? What does that do to the blessing that just came from our mouth? (*Blessing one and cursing another; Hypocrites; it nullifies the praise we just gave God.- James 3:9-12* ****Read over 1John 4:20 as well as Matthew 12:25 - how do all three segments of scripture compare?**)**

Talk About It

- Do you remember a time you overly criticized a teacher or pastor or fellow Christian? Or Were you ever overly criticized or scrutinized with regards to your words? How did you handle it or overcome it?
- Can you remember a time your words defined you? Was the outcome positive or negative?
- Why is it so important for Christ Followers to bridle their tongues? What can we inadvertently do to non believers when we let our tongues go wild?

Read and discuss Psalm 141:3 as a possible daily prayer before the start of the day -
"Set a guard over my mouth, Lord; keep watch over the door of my lips"

Bible Reading Plan

Join us as a church family as we read through the Bible. Download the reading plan at calvary.ch/readthebible/ or on the Calvary.ch App.