

# WEEK 4 – A FAITH THAT HITS HARD

James 3:1-18

## MESSAGE RECAP

In James 3, we're reminded of the immense power of our words. The tongue is small, but it can steer a life like a rudder steers a ship. It can bring healing or destruction. James says no human can tame it on their own – it's wild, inconsistent, and often dangerous. But the real problem isn't just the tongue, it's the heart behind it. As Jesus said, "the mouth speaks what the heart is full of." That means our words don't just reflect others' actions – they reveal our inner condition. Real faith doesn't just clean up speech – it transforms the heart. If we want our words to change, our hearts need to be renewed by God's wisdom.

## GROUP DISCUSSION

1. After listening to the message, what stood out to you?
2. What's something someone said to you (good or bad) that stuck with you for years?
3. Read James 3:1-6
  - a. Why do you think James spends so much time warning us about the tongue?
  - b. What are some examples of small words creating big consequences, for better or worse?
  - c. How do your words tend to steer your life: toward building up or tearing down?
4. Read James 3:7-12
  - a. Why is it important to recognize that speech reflects the deeper condition of our hearts?
5. Read James 3:13-18
  - a. What kind of heart produces words that are "peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy..."?
6. Think of one area (home, work, online, etc.) where your words could better reflect your faith. What needs to change?
7. This week, ask God to help you "speak life." Who needs encouragement from you?