



# Adulting

Accept

Snooze

*Expositional study on the book of James.*

*The #1 catalyst for spiritual growth is reading and reflecting on the Bible.  
Use these questions for personal study or as part of a community group experience.*

## **INTRODUCTION**

**10/15/2017**

James 3:1-12 continues the discussion of faith and works by focusing on speech, which goes hand-in-hand. Here he uses the tongue as a practical and noticeable reflection of one's faith.

## **QUESTIONS**

1. What stood out to you from this week's message?
2. Were there any practical things you can do to implement John's challenge for the coming week?
3. Re-read James 3:1-12. What is something that spoke to you out of this passage?
4. Why do you think the tongue has such control over our lives that James compares it to a bit and a rudder (vv. 3-4)?
5. Why is it so difficult to control the tongue (vv. 7-8)?
6. In what ways can the tongue poison people and relationships? (Consider what Proverbs 18:21 teaches)
7. James has focused primarily on the destructive power of the tongue. In what ways can the tongue also bring hope and healing?

8. We are commanded to guard the tongue, and yet James claims “no man can tame the tongue”? What does he mean? What is our part and what is God’s part?
9. According to James, where does the root of the problem of evil speech lie? (Read also Matthew 15:11, 16-19)
10. How does the tongue reflect your spiritual growth?

What types of speech are negative indicators in spiritual growth?

What types of speech are positive indicators?

11. Take a few moments to reflect on the past week. What recent “evil” uses of the tongue are you aware of? How can you begin to “repair” the effects?
12. Apart from will power (which is necessary) what spiritual practices can help you grow spiritually and gain better control of the tongue?
13. Using James 3:1-12 and the message from this past Sunday, write down two ways you can begin avoiding sins of the tongue this next week.

### **CONCLUDING PRAYER**

Father, you desire a pure heart and wholesome communication. You have placed within me the power to speak life or to speak to death, to bless or to curse. This week may you reveal in me those mistakes that I make in my speech. May you empower me through prayer and quietness to speak more blessings than curses. Guard my tongue from speaking evil, slandering, gossiping, boasting, and complaining. Grant me the strength this week to glorify you with my speech and may the meditations of my heart be pleasing to you. In Jesus name I pray, amen.