

April 17, 2016

## “Watch Your Tongue”

## Things to Ponder This Week

### Introduction

(James 2:1-26; Ephesians 2:8-10; John 13:34-35)

Those who are saved by God’s grace through faith in Jesus Christ are to a\_\_\_\_\_ do good works that demonstrate God’s love without showing partiality. James exhorts us to be aware of and c\_\_\_\_\_ for our brothers and sisters in the family of God who are in need of help.

### The Uncontrollable Tongue

(James 3:1-12; Isaiah 6:5; Proverbs 18:21; 21:23; Matthew 7:15-20; Ephesians 4:25-32)

**Seriousness** – stricter judgment from God for what t\_\_\_\_\_ say.

**Scope** – no one is perfect in what they say; we all s\_\_\_\_\_.

**Size** – the tongue is s\_\_\_\_\_ but powerful.

**Strength** – what we say can c\_\_\_\_\_ our life.

**Source** – the uncontrolled tongue is from h\_\_\_\_\_ itself.

**Solution** – C\_\_\_\_\_ the source to have a God-controlled tongue.

The background to James 3:1-12 is in the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 7:16-20, and also in what James already addressed in 1:19. Prayerfully read these Scripture passages, and consider the following questions: What fruit do you see from what you say? Do you struggle with speaking too quickly or speaking out of anger? Prayerfully ask God to examine your speech and heart, and ask Him to take control (see Isaiah 6:5-7; Psalm 19:14).

Prayerfully read Ephesians 4:25-32. Confess any sins that you see in yourself or in the SDJCC family pertaining to what is written in this Scripture passage. Pray that SDJCC will be a truthful, peaceful, uplifting, forgiving, and loving church family, and ask God to help you to be the same.

Next Sunday, we will look at the topic, “True Wisdom”, and consider what a God-controlled tongue looks like. Prayerfully read James 3:13-18, and consider how faith and words go together. Re-read Ephesians 4:25-32, and ask God to guide your speech in both what to say and how you say it.