

## Faith that Works!

March 18, 2007

“Bridling the Beast”

James 3:1-12

### Introduction:

To what could we compare the tongue? James compares it to a bridle, a rudder, and a fire that destroys a forest.

### Interpretation:

- We wear our \_\_\_\_\_ on our \_\_\_\_\_.

*Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? My brothers, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water. James 3:11-12*

### Application:

## Going Deeper

1. On a scale of one to ten (10 being perfect) how well do you control your tongue? (James 1:26)
2. When, or with whom, or on what subject, do you most often struggle to control your tongue? How are these struggles a reflection of your heart's condition? (Matthew 15:10-11, 16-20; Luke 6:45)
3. According to James, a wise use of our tongues will produce what type of results in our life? (James 3:13-18)
4. How have you reaped the benefit of using your tongue wisely? (Proverbs 10:19, 12:18, 15:4, 18:21; 21:23)
5. Describe how the principle of "storing up" might work? How might we store up more good in our lives? (Matthew 12:33-37, Philippians 4:8)
6. Considering the account of Jesus' trial, how might someone make the case that Jesus' control of his tongue was a supernatural demonstration of his perfection, his deity? (James 3:2, Matthew 26:47-75; 27:11-50; John 19:26-27)

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