

“The Power of the Tongue”

Pastor Kent Groethe

“The tongue has the power of life and death . . .” Proverbs 18:21

“The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.” Proverbs 12:18

“With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God’s likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be”
James 3:3-10

“We should fear and love God so that we do not betray, slander, lie, or gossip about our neighbor, but defend them, speak well of them, and put the most charitable construction on all they do.”
Luther, 8th commandment

“A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.”
Proverbs 15:1

“When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.”

“All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.” James 3

Tips For Dealing With the Tongue

1. Listen carefully to what you are saying about others.
3. Repent when your speech criticizes or berates others.
- 4, Be careful of being drawn into conversations where people are speaking negatively about others.
5. Remember Thumper’s advise: “If you can’t say nothing good about someone, then don’t say nothing at all.”
6. Thank people who deserve thanks on a regular basis –
7. Make more time for worship of God.
9. Practice being positive, especially when things are not going well.
- 10 Try not to get impatient or frustrated when things go wrong - remember that God can work all things for good.