



Watch Your Mouth

May 30, 2021

The thing about fire

James 3:6-10

The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. 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 and sisters, this should not be.

This moment in time

Ephesians 4:29

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

The subversive evil of [gossip](#)

2 Corinthians 12:20

For I am afraid that when I come I may not find you as I want you to be, and you may not find me as you want me to be. I fear that there may be discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, slander, gossip, arrogance and disorder.

Overcoming the temptation to gossip

When are you tempted to engage in gossip and how can you decrease and eventually remove this behavior from your life?

The poison of [lies](#)

Proverbs 12:22

The Lord detests lying lips, but he delights in people who are trustworthy.

Overcoming the temptation to lie (or not really tell the truth)

Where have you been lying and how can you start telling the truth (or at least keep your mouth shut)?

The toxic nature of [grumbling](#), [whining](#), and [complaining](#)

1 Corinthians 10:6-13

Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: "The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry." We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel.

These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

Why is this such a big deal? Why would God list this with idolatry, immorality, and testing Him?

How can I control my words and fight against a grumbling spirit and mouth?

The beauty of blessing