

JAMES

MARK IT UP

James 3:1-12 Discussion Guide

Week of 4/10/22

Icebreaker: How have you been positively impacted by someone else's words about you?

Getting Started: Read James 3:1-12 as a group.

1. James begins the chapter with instruction for those brothers and sisters in the church who desire to be teachers. Why does he caution them against it?

Application: Have you had a desire to be a teacher in the church? What do you think of James' warning?

2. In verses 2 through the first half of 5, James makes the claim that, if we can control the tongue, we can control the rest of the body. What do you think he means?

Application: What kind of situations have you been in where you've demonstrated James' point that none of us can perfectly control our tongues?

3. From the second half of verse 5 through 6, what do you think James is expressing about the potential damage of the words we say?

Application: How have another's words impacted you in a negative way?

4. James says in verse 8 that, "no human being can tame the tongue." How is this "wildness" displayed in life, or what different ways does the untamed tongue express itself?

Application: In what situations or circumstances do you find it most difficult to tame your tongue?

5. Read Luke 6:43-45. What connection does Jesus make between the words we speak and the condition of our hearts?

Application: How can this connection between our words and our hearts help us to lean more heavily on the grace of God given through Jesus?