

Small Group Homework – 5/5/2019

James, Lesson #4

The Pressure of Words

James 3

OPEN

What is the biggest fire you have ever seen?

DIG

1. Read James 3:1-2. What does it mean that teachers will be judged more strictly?
2. Why would anyone want to be a teacher?
3. Have any of you ever thought about teaching? What attracted you to the idea? What held you back?
4. Read James 3:3-12. What does this verse say is used to control a horse and why? (verse 3)
5. What does this verse say is used to control a ship and why? (verse 4)
6. What can a fire teach us about how powerful our tongue is? (verses 5-6)
7. What metaphor do you think James might have used if he were living today?
8. If we can't tame the tongue, why bother trying? (verse 8)
9. What damage can be caused by words?
10. Let's talk about some of the ways the tongue can do damage. Lying is one. What is the difference between a half-truth and a lie?
11. Another form of lying is exaggeration. What damage can come from exaggeration? Can you think of a real live example?
12. When have you seen rudeness cause damage?
13. Have you ever seen words divide a church or a family?
14. Let's be practical. How can we tame our tongues? We will never do it perfectly. How can we take some positive steps in the right direction?
15. What do you want to recall from today's conversation?
16. How can we support one another in prayer this week?