



GROWING UP!

Becoming a Mature Believer

Thursday Night Series on the Book of James

MIDWEEK SERVICE | THURSDAY, MAY 14

Chapter 3: Being Under Control

James 1:4 *But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.*

- In chapter 1, we saw **The Life of Faith**.
- In chapter 2, we saw **The Living of Faith**.
- We only have self-control as we are under the _____ control.

1. The Control of _____ (1-12)

- The key to having any degree of self-control is all areas of life is by learning to control our tongue.

James 1:19 *Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, **slow to speak**, slow to wrath:*

James 1:26 *If any man among you seem to be religious, and **bridleth not his tongue**, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.*

James 2:12 *So **speak ye**, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.*

James 4:11 ***Speak not evil** one of another, brethren. He that **speaketh evil** of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge.*

James 5:12 *But above all things, my brethren, **swear not**, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.*

Proverbs 18:21 *Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.*

Romans 3:13-15 *Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: 14 Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: 15 Their feet are swift to shed blood:*

a. The Tongue of _____

James 3:1 *My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.*

b. The Tongue for _____

James 3:2 *For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.*

- The control of our words is a gauge to show us where we are at in Christian _____.
- Our control of our tongue shows where we are in
 - Christian _____.
 - Controlled _____.

c. The Tongue for _____

James 3:2 *For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.*

- **If you can gain control over your tongue, you can gain control over every other _____ in your life.**
- He gives two illustrations to prove this point.
 - The bit and the horse—_____.

James 3:3 *Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.*

- The rudder and the ship—_____.

James 3:4 *Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.*

- Both Bible illustrations have one thing in common: The ship and the horse must both be under the control of a _____ hand.

d. The Tongue in _____

James 3:5-6 *Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! 6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.*

- In our _____.

...and boasteth great things...

- In our _____.

...that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature...

- It _____ it.
- It _____ it.

Proverbs 26:20 *Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.*

e. The Tongue not _____

James 3:7-8 *For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: 8 But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.*

f. The Tongue is _____

James 3:9-12 *Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. 10 Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. 11 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? 12 Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.*

- The truth is stated—**Two completely different things can proceed from the same** _____.

Judges 17:1-2 *And there was a man of mount Ephraim, whose name was Micah. 2 And he said unto his mother, The eleven hundred shekels of silver that were taken from thee, about which thou **cursedst**, and spakest of also in mine ears, behold, the silver is with me; I took it. And his mother said, **Blessed** be thou of the LORD, my son.*

- The truth is illustrated—**If your words are constantly inconsistent, there is something radically wrong with the** _____.
- **Remember!** To the degree that you control your _____ is the degree that you can control your _____.

2. The Control of _____ (13-18)

- The wisdom that is necessary for a solid foundation in life comes from _____ alone, not from this world.

Proverbs 4:7 *Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.*

a. _____ Wisdom

James 3:13 *Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.*

- Wisdom is something that is seen outwardly in a person's life.
...They shew...

- In their _____.

...let him shew out of a good conversation ...

- In their _____.

...his works with meekness of wisdom.

b. _____ Wisdom

James 3:14-16 *But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. 15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. 16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work.*

Romans 1:21-22 *Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. 22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools...*

- Characteristics of Worldly Wisdom

- _____
- _____

Philippians 2:3 *Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.*

- _____
- _____

○ Causes of Worldly Wisdom

15 *This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish.*

- _____

Colossians 2:8 *Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.*

- _____
- _____

○ Consequences of Worldly Wisdom:

- _____
- _____

c. _____ Wisdom

James 3:17-18 *But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. 18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.*

James 1:5 *If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.*

- Results are _____ Living.
...first pure, ...

- Results are _____ Peace.
...then peaceable, ...

Isaiah 57:20-21 *But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. 21 There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked.*

- Results are _____ Friendly
...gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.

Conclusion:

- There two, wisdom and words, go together, for if we have _____ and understand God, we will be keenly aware of our sinfulness, especially with our _____.

Isaiah 6:5 *Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts.*