

Questions?

How can we avoid using destructive words?

When we do fail and say harsh words can we handle the hurt we have caused?

What are some of the ways we can act as peace makers?

What have people said to you which you have found hurtful.
How did you resolve things?

Preparation for Session 6—Be true to yourself

James 4:3-14

Read also: Exodus 20:17, Psalm 143:8-10, Luke 12:15, 1 Peter 5:6-10

The Parish of Cannock and Huntington *Creating Community with Christ at the Centre* **Bible Studies on James** A study of faith in action according to St. James

Session 5— The Tongue

Reading James 31:1-12

5 times in this short letter James refers to the tongue 1:19 & 26; 2:12 4:11-12 and of course today's reading.

However he does not solely major on the negative aspects of the use of the tongue. He draws his hearers attention to the power the tongue can exercise and the effect it can have on others.

The tongue has the power to:

1. DIRECT v3 speaks of bits in horses mouths v4 speaks of the rudder directing a ships course.
Malachi 3:16 ' The people who feared the Lord spoke to one another'

Perhaps they give

A WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT

A WORD OF ENLIGHTENMENT

A WORD OF ENRICHMENT

A WORD OF ENDUEMENT

The tongue has the power to

2. DESTROY v5 'the forest fire'; v7 'no-one can tame the tongue'

Perhaps James is referring to
A CRITICAL TONGUE

A CARELESS TONGUE

A CAUSTIC TONGUE

The tongue has power to

3. DELIGHT v11 'a spring, v12 'a tree'

GRACIOUS WORDS

GRATEFUL WORDS

GENEROUS WORDS

To name but three ways in which our speech can bring
delight into lives.

GIVE GOD YOUR TONGUE AND YOUR HEART EACH DAY
AND ASK HIM TO USE YOU TO BE A BLESSING TO OTHERS