

JAMES

BLUEPRINTS FOR A BETTER LIFE

Harnessing Your Greatest Power

PURPOSE OF GROUP

Grow: Take next steps in our faith journey.

Invite: Make room for others to grow.

Support: Care and serve one another.

PRAY

CONNECT

- How have negative words been used to shape your life?

READ JAMES 3:1-12

- What stuck out to you in the sermon/text this week?
- Why is it so difficult to control the words that we use? What do our words say about us?
- Read Pr 10:19, Pr 17:27, Ps 19:14 : How do we surrender our tongue? If you tried to tame your speaking habits, how would you go about it?
- It's easier to remember the harsh words of those who hurt us rather than the kind words of those who encouraged us. Why do you think that is?
 - Do you bring more discouragement or encouragement to your close relationships?

3 Take Homes On One of Scripture's Biggest Topics.

1. Admit you need help.

- In which relationship do you most often find yourself struggling to hold your tongue? Have you faced any relational consequences as a result?

2. Refuse the excuses

“Gossiping, complaining, making sarcastic remarks, raising your voice, telling dirty joke, negative comment, they are the one's who makes me so mad, this is just who I am...”

- What excuses do you tend to use to justify your tongue? What does it look like to take responsibility for our words?

3. See every word as a seed

- How have positive words been used to shape your life?

FINAL QUESTION (break up into men and woman)

- How can we surrender our mouth every day this week to our Heavenly Father?

PRAY

SUGGESTED ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTIONS

(Below are three sets of accountability questions. My suggestion would be to break up into men and women and do one set of accountability questions every meeting or just do the top 3 below...)

Top 3

- What has God been teaching/challenging you in this week through Scripture and prayer?
- When it comes to your relationships, what can we pray for you about?
- Are you holding on to anything you need to confess (*anger, lust, envy, anxiety, jealousy, bitterness*)?

— OR —

How's your relationship with God?	How's your relationships with others?	How's your heart?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How have you experienced God's love and goodness this week?• What has gotten in the way of your relationship with God this last week?• What has God been teaching/challenging you in this week through Scripture and prayer?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are you angry/bitter/resentful toward anyone? Anyone you need to apologize to or reconcile with?• What have you done to serve, encourage, and lead your family/friends closer to God?• Who are you actively trying to share the love of God with? (Inviting to church, serving them, reaching out) (pick a new person every month)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Are you holding on to anything you need to confess? (<i>lust, lying, greed, anger, envy, pride, laziness, gluttony — I would use this question to talk about purity.</i>)• How has your anger/envy/anxiety/addiction shown up this week?<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How does that reveal what you're trusting in besides God?