



# GRACE GROUP LEADER'S MESSAGE GUIDE

*Leader note: This Message Guide is intended to help you facilitate discussion with your Grace Group. You can use the guide exactly as it is, ignore some of it, or add to it. We hope you view this guide as a flexible teaching tool, and not a rigid teaching task.*

## WEEK OF MARCH 20th

- Easter is about four weeks away, so it's not too early to start thinking about who you and your group members will **invite**. You might even start to make a list! Please make this a topic of discussion during your group time from now until Easter. Maybe in your prayer time? **Pray** for those persons your group members say they're going to invite. Invite cards will be passed out after services in the coming weeks.
- Please review the Updates and Leader Information found at [gracefellowship.cc/groupresources](http://gracefellowship.cc/groupresources). And, there are resources related to this current message series found at [gracefellowship.cc/engage](http://gracefellowship.cc/engage).

## ICEBREAKER

What's the first thing you like to do outside when the weather gets warm in the spring?

## WATCH THE TEACHING VIDEO BY PASTOR JEREMY PIEHLER

### WHAT'S IT GONNA TAKE - WEEK 3 (Scripture: James 3:1-12, Matthew 12:35-37)

1. Can you talk about a time when someone's words hurt your feelings?
2. Can you think of a time when your words hurt someone else's feeling and you wish you hadn't said them?
3. Do you use swear words in your everyday speech? If so, why do you think that is?
4. Read James 1:19 and 3:1-12. James is giving some of the early Christian believers some warnings about behavior that is very damaging to themselves and others. Why do you think our words are such a big deal?
5. Verses 8 and 9 are a bit of a gut check. What feelings does this verse bring for you?
6. It was also said that when you curse people, you curse God. How does that line up with Matthew 22:37-39?
7. How does the language or words used by those around you affect your language or words?
8. When we slander or gossip about someone behind their back, we are rejecting the Holy Spirit's active work in our lives to be holy in all things.
9. If we were counseling someone about how we should speak to others, what would we say? Do we always live up to that advice?
10. How have you experienced growth in this area?
11. If you have time, you may review these scriptures: Proverbs 1:12, 11:9, 15:1, 15:4, 16:24, 18:4, 18:20, 20:15, 25:18. Can you tell that this really matters to God?

## ACTION STEP

The action step out of the weekend message was to repent and ask someone for forgiveness that you have hurt with your words.

## **SHEPHERDING / CARE / PRAYER**

A reminder from the “60 Small Group Tips” resource found at [gracefellowship.cc/groupresources](http://gracefellowship.cc/groupresources).

“Allow a little messiness. People are messy, right? In group we don’t want to put on a veneer of spiritual perfection that makes everyone feel like they can’t be real and admit their weaknesses and fears. Messiness can be intimidating, but it’s a breeding ground for grace.”