

PROVERBS

GOD'S WISDOM FOR EVERYDAY LIFE

Wisdom With Words

LEADER NOTES

- **Keep the Connection Clear**
Proverbs 18:21 shows the impact.
James 3 explains the mechanism.
- **Emphasize direction over damage.**
The tongue does not just hurt people. It steers lives..
- **Watch for shame language.**
Redirect toward growth and obedience, not self condemnation.
- **Encourage honesty.**
Everyone struggles here. Maturity shows in awareness and response.
- **Focus on the heart, not just vocabulary.**
Behavior changes when the heart changes. Do not let the discussion stop at word choice.
- **Press toward practice, not intention.**
Good intentions do not shape fruit. Daily, Spirit led choices do.
- **Point to the Holy Spirit as the source of control.**
Self discipline alone will fail. Wisdom with words requires daily dependence on the Spirit.

Review the Guidelines each time you have a new member join your group or once a month.

ASSIGN NEXT WEEK'S STORY
Matthew 25:14-30

ASK FOR PRAYER REQUEST.
ASK A VOLUNTEER TO CLOSE IN PRAYER.

***Share & record prayer requests. Follow up throughout the week.**

PLEASE TAKE ATTENDANCE

TARGET

Topic: How what you say steers your life and reveals your heart.

Take Away: Your words are never neutral. They flow from your heart. They shape direction, relationships, and fruit. Choose speech that gives life.

God Stories: A God Story is an undeniable encounter or experience that creates an impact or breakthrough in a person's day-to-day life.

Ice Breaker Question: *What is a phrase someone once said to you that you still remember today, for better or worse?*

This Week's Passage: *James 3:1-12*

Share background: *Writing to the "Twelve Tribes scattered among the nations" around AD 45, James addresses Jewish-Christian communities struggling to maintain a unified identity . James strictly condemns the social sin of partiality within their own worship assemblies. This conflict was worsened by the economic landscape where wealthy landowners were exploiting laborers. James has just finished proving that "faith without works is dead. The rising tide of Jewish nationalism against Rome made reckless rhetoric a dangerous liability. This story functions as a sharp warning that words are not neutral; they are powerful tools....and now the story from God's Word.*

Tell the story. Rebuild the story.
Read the story from God's Word.

Head Question: *What images does James use to describe the tongue, and what do those images reveal about its power?*

Heart Question: *Reflect on your own words from this past week, where do you see life or death showing up in how you speak to others?*

Hands Question: *What is one specific way you will practice life giving speech this week by changing either what you say, how you say it, or when you say it?*