

Small Group notes – 27 May 2018

Welcome

Words are powerful, they can motivate, inspire etc.

What is the greatest speech, sermon or address you have heard?

Word – The fruit of your tongue – James 3:1-12

On average we speak between 12,000 & 20,000 words every day!

- **The power of the tongue – Capability**
 - The power to direct - James 3 v1-4
 - The power to destroy – James 3 v5-8
 - The power to delight – James 3 v9
- **The pollution of the tongue – Cause**
 - James tells us that no man can tame the tongue. James 3:7
 - Jesus tells us that the heart of the problem is the problem of the human heart. Matt 15:10-20
- **The key to taming your tongue – Cure**
 - Guard – Proverbs 4:23
 - Examine – Psalm 139:23-24
 - Dedicate – Psalm 19:14
 - Develop – 1 Thess 5:18

Questions

- Do you find it a struggle to control your tongue?
- When was the last time you really felt that your opinion needed to be heard? What was really going on there?
- How do you respond to this well-known statement “Sticks & stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me”?
- In what way have you been hurt, or helped by someone’s words?
- Why is it wrong to lie? What are some of the forms of lying in our modern world?
- In what situations in your life do you come across gossip?
- Is talking about a person when they are not present always gossip? What is the distinction?

Response & prayer

Spend some time in prayer (maybe in pairs or men & women).

- Pray for help with the words you speak that overflow from the heart. That spoken words would be source of life rather than death.
- Share a word of encouragement every day over the next week with at least one person.

Worship

Spend some time in thanks and praise to our great and awesome God. He has made us and given us life. Develop an attitude of gratitude.