

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

Share with the Group

Who were some of the most impactful teachers in your life (both good and bad)? Why? How did they influence you?

Read James 3:1-12

What stands out to you? What do you observe?
Try subdividing the text, how would you split it up?
What themes, patterns, and repetition do you see?
What questions arise from the text?
Try stating the main point in one sentence.

Comparing James to Jesus

Read the following passages of Jesus' teaching on words and speech. Where do you see overlap with James?
Mtt 5:19; 5:33-37; 7:15-20; 12:36-37; 15:10-20; 28:19-20
Lk 6:43-45; 17:1-2

Reflecting on James

What are the dangers of having an immature, unqualified, unloving, or uncalled teacher in the church?
What qualifies someone for a teaching office in the church? When we have any teaching role, large or small, how should we approach it?
Why should we exercise caution in following independent or popular Christian teachers who exist online and in the media?
In what ways can we use our speech to bless God?
What kinds of things does James have in mind when he talks about cursing others? What are some of the more subtle or socially acceptable ways we do this?
How does James' teaching apply in the digital age?

Live It

What is one practical step you can take in applying James 3:1-12 in your life this week? Be as specific as possible.

Close In Prayer - Pray Psalm 141 as a closing prayer

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