

Discussion Questions for *Trouble With Words*
August 23, 2020

1. Why do you suppose James talks to teachers in the church at the beginning of this passage that deals with the tongue/words?
2. Why is the role of teaching important in the church? What must teachers make sure they guard against?
3. What is something that James says about the tongue/words in these verses that you either had not realized or something that strongly caught your attention that you had not thought about in a while?
4. Why can the tongue be so destructive? Why do we let our words be destructive at times?
5. We have all been the recipients of hurtful words. Why is it important to remember that we have also been the source of hurtful words?
6. How does the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives help us control our words? Why is this important?
7. In v. 9, James talks about how we bless God and curse men with our words, saying, "these things ought not to be this way." Why is it incompatible for us to speak praises of and to God and also speak poorly of others or to others?
8. What is a practical step to take that will help our words be both honoring to God and honoring to others?
9. A reference was made to Romans 10:14-15 at the end of the message. How do these two verses tie into what James is saying?