



The Untamable Tongue

James 3: 7-12

Jordan Arnold

July 19th, 2026

1. **Read James 3:7–12.** What image or phrase stands out to you most, and why?
2. Human beings have learned to master powerful animals but cannot tame the tongue. Where do you see this irony in your own life?
3. Why is an “untamable tongue” sometimes a good gift? When have you needed courage to speak rather than remain silent?
4. James condemns praising God while cursing people made in God’s likeness. How should seeing others as God’s image-bearers change the way we speak to—or about—them?
5. “Pressure doesn’t manufacture the contents; it exposes them.” What tends to come out of you when you are tired, stressed, embarrassed, or angry? What might that reveal?
6. Why are communication techniques and greater self-control insufficient to solve the problem James identifies? What is the difference between restraining the tongue and purifying the spring?
7. Read Matthew 12:34 and 2 Corinthians 10:5. What thoughts have you allowed to live in your mind that eventually emerge as harmful words?
8. What does Jesus’ prayer from the cross—“Father, forgive them”—reveal about a truly sanctified tongue? How does his response challenge the ways we justify retaliation?
9. Is there someone you have wounded with your words? What would it look like to seek forgiveness without explaining, minimizing, or blaming?
10. If Christ changed what fills your heart, what might begin coming from your mouth? How would that change your marriage, family, workplace, friendships, or church?

Reminders:

- **DK Teachers needed:** Do you have a heart for children and ministry? We are in need of DK Teachers and would love for you to serve on Sunday mornings as a **classroom teacher!** If this interests you, please email Shealey Sims at shealeys@harpethcc.com for more information!

- **Renew Creative and Renew Creative Kids:** Renew Creative (HCC Worship Team) has a brand new song out called “Faithful Faith!” Renew Creative Kids (DK) just released Volume 1 of their new Memory Verse Songs! Scan the QR codes to listen, or stream wherever you listen to music!



- **Check Us Out:** Mark your calendars for our upcoming Check Us Out class! Check Us Out is a two-part class where you will hear more about what we believe and care about here at Harpeth, as well as a pathway to membership. Classes take place during the 9:00am service, so feel free to check your kids into DiscipleSHIP Kids and head on over. Coffee and bagels will be provided! Register by scanning the QR code below.



Part 1 - Sunday, August 16th at 9:00am

Part 2 - Sunday, August 23rd at 9:00am