

## Questions to Consider — Lesson 13 — “That Dreaded Chapter : The Tongue!” — James 3:1-6

1. Read James 3:1-6. (a) According to James, where does ungodly speech come from? (b) What words does James use to describe our speech?
2. Memorize James 3:6.
3. Read Proverb 10: 11,19; 13:3; 15:1; 16:24, 27; 17:28; 29:20; and 31:26 making note of what each verse teaches about good speech and/or evil speech.
4. Read Acts 5:1-11. (a) How do you know that Ananias and Sapphira did not bridle their tongues? (b) What was the bigger issue here? (c) What principle(s) can we as wives glean?
5. Cite some Biblical examples where misuse of the tongue resulted in defilement of the whole body (besides Ananias and Sapphira).
6. Proverb 31: 26 says this about the virtuous woman: “She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness.” (a) In what ways does this characterize the tone you set in your home? (b) Can you recall some examples where misuse of your tongue resulted in defilement of the whole body?
7. Do any of these forms of speech need to be “bridled” in your life? Gossip? Flattery? Lying? Hurtful joking? Sexual overtones? Profanity? Harsh, angry words? Negative speech? Criticism? Boasting of self? Putting others down? Saying too much? Praises to God (verbal or sung) that are not sincere? Extremes? Exaggerations? Un-Christ-like slang (gee-whiz, golly, gosh, darn, screwed-up, etc.)? Any others?
8. If you could replay the conversation around your dinner table last night, what would your talk reveal about you?
9. Ask the Lord to teach you to guard your tongue and to speak only what is edifying to others. (Perhaps use Psalm 19:14, Psalm 141:3, or Psalm 120:2 as your prayer request.)