

Sermon Resources

Sermon: The Maturity Metric

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WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

James 3:1-12

MATURITY IS MEASURED BY OUR MOUTHS

OUR WORDS CARRY DISPROPORTIONATE WEIGHT

DIVIDED WORDS EXPOSE A DIVIDED HEART

WHAT DO I NEED TO ASK?

- **ICEBREAKER:** How has someone else's words shaped your sense of belonging or identity? How have yours done the same to others?
 - *Before moving into the next questions, ask someone to read James 3:1-12 out loud.*
- What metaphors does James use to describe the tongue in verses 3-6? What do these images suggest about the power and danger of words?
- Verses 7-8 emphasize the untamable nature of the tongue. How does this language challenge the idea of self-mastery?
- We emphasized "*divided words expose a divided heart*". What does it mean to have a divided heart, and how does this connect to our speech?
- In what ways do your words reveal your internal life—your values, wounds, desires, or unresolved fears?

(SERMON IN A SENTENCE) If we want a faith that's real, we need a mouth that's surrendered.

MEMORY VERSE: We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check. James 3:2

- Are there specific patterns in your speech that might indicate areas where your heart is not fully surrendered?
- What does a "*mouth that's surrendered*" look like practically in your relationships at home, work, and church?
- Consider this week's memory verse (James 3:2). How does this shape your view of spiritual maturity? In what area is God calling you to grow?
- What practices might help you grow in awareness and intentionality with your words? (e.g., silence, journaling, confession, memorizing James 3:2)

CLOSING PRAYER:

Father, words are powerful. You used them to create a world You called "good." Show us where we've used words to destroy rather than build, to hate rather than love. Reveal the places in our lives where our mouths are not fully surrendered to You. Amen.