



O BROTHER

WISDOM FROM THE BOOK OF JAMES

SESSION 3 - WORDS

SERIES BIG IDEA

James, the half brother of Jesus, shares wisdom on how to overcome challenges that can trip us up as Christ-followers and keep us from growing to maturity.

MESSAGE BIG IDEA

Our words are powerful and reflect the depth of our maturity

ICE BREAKER

What is the most difficult thing you have ever tried to steer? What made it so difficult? You may need to prompt people, a car with no power steering, a bicycle, a horse, getting your dog into the crate, or a toddler walking to the car.

OPENING THOUGHT

The words we choose, either healing or destructive are a reflection of what's going on in our hearts.

BIBLE DISCUSSION

Use these passages to explore how powerful words can be. If the group needs some prompting, consider these points about the words we use:

1. Words seem like a small thing but impact the entirety of your life, like the bit in the mouth of a horse or the rudder on a ship, they influence your direction.
2. Words can be destructive, inflicting injury from afar and uncontrollable like a forest fire. Once a word is spoken, you cannot take it back.
3. The words you choose are influenced by what's in your heart. Words say as much about you as they do about the things/people you are speaking of.

LIFE APPLICATION

Most people understand the power of other's words in their lives, however many of us underestimate the same power of our own words. Use this time to explore what influences our words and how God wants to use our words to bring healing both to others and ourselves.

CHALLENGE

Reflect on Luke 6:43-45 over the next week. What do your words say about what is stored up in your heart? If there is bitterness, anger, or hurt ask God to help you. Consider sharing with a trusted friend or if you need more guidance, seek professional advice.