

James 3:1-12

Pg 1012

Sermon Study Guide

(Reminder: The purpose of the questions is to explore the text and themes of the sermon. **Do not feel a need to go through all of the questions.** The goal is to stimulate discussion/reflection and transformation related to the sermon text and themes.)

1. In what ways could our world learn from James' statement in vv. 1-2? What do we learn from James' illustration of horses and ships in vv. 2-4?
2. What point(s) does James make in vv. 5-6 about the tongues' power to do harm? In what ways have you allowed your tongue to be an instrument of Satan? What can you do to prevent this in the future?
3. In vv. 7-8, James says we can and have tamed creatures, "but no human being can tame the tongue". How did our tongue become full of evil and poison? Does that mean there is no hope for change? How does the gospel deliver believers from the tongue's destructive power and hold them accountable for using it to sin?
4. What is the particular sin that James highlights in vv. 9-10? How does vv. 11-12 fit with vv. 9-10? In what ways does this passage connect to James' previous calls for believers to live in wholehearted commitment to our Lord Jesus Christ?