

James 3

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths,
but only what is helpful for building others up according to
their needs.
Ephesians 4:29

Readings this week:

S James 1: 19-27
M James 3: 1-12
T James 3: 13-18
W James 4: 11-17
Th James 5: 7-12
F James 5: 13-20
S Proverbs 15: 1-8

Read James 3:1-12. As you read, think about why James uses the different analogies. Use the pictures to remind you of them and take it in turns to describe you think he was trying to get across for each one.

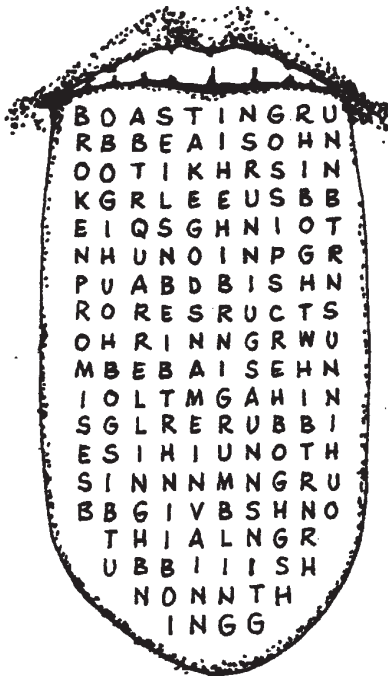


What have each of the analogies got in common?

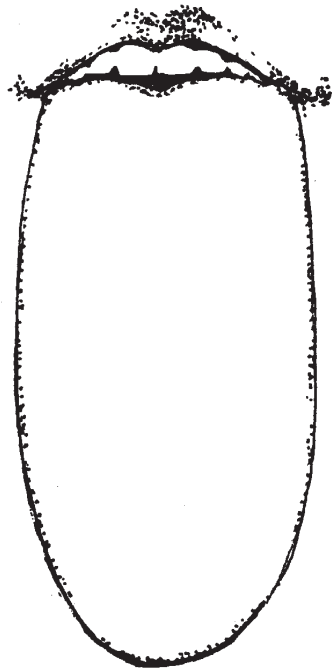
What lesson does that teach you about your behaviour?

What does James tell us about how we can influence what comes out of our mouths?

What can you do towards making sure what is inside you is better?



What deadly poison can you find on this tongue?



What good things can you think of for this tongue to produce?

How have you felt when people have either said good or bad things about you? How have you made others feel by doing the same? Remember that what comes out of your mouth is an indication of what you are like inside!

Find out what James has to say about some of them in:
 James 1:19-20

3:9-10

4:1-3

4:11

4:13-16

5:9

5:12

What good things can you think of for this tongue to produce? Look at James' suggestions:

James 5:13

5:16

3:9-10

3:17-18

Make a list of the good things your tongue can say. Talking about God and praising him is the best possible thing and it will affect the other things you do and say if other people hear you praising God!

Digging Deeper

Think about how Peter used his tongue in these verses
 Matthew 16:16, Matthew 16:22-23, Matthew 26:74,
 John 21:15, Acts 2: 38-39

Peter seems to have been the sort of person who always had something to say, sometimes good, sometimes not so good. Think of David and Paul. Can you think of when they said the wrong thing or when they said just the right thing. Read what David said to God after he had said the wrong things. Psalm 51:14-15

Pray that God will help you to praise Him in everything you say