

# **WORSHIP GUIDE – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3RD – 10:15AM**

## ***Wise Words: The Useful Power of the Tongue James 3:1-5a***

**Welcome:** *[Pastor Steve]*

- Pastoral encouragement – recap & continued response to Coffey Ministries week
- James 3:1-12 – Today we begin a 3 week focus on “Wise Words” from James 3:1-12. James brings up the tongue as a focal point of authentic Christianity. Why does James give such an extensive treatment of the topic of the tongue? What do our words have to do with our Christianity, our new life in Christ and our understanding of our hearts? These next 3 weeks we’ll let Pastor James’ instruction answer these questions. This morning, from 3:1-5a, we will focus on *Wise Words: The Useful Power of the Tongue*

## **REDEEMED PEOPLE USE WORDS TO PRAISE GOD**

**Psalm 96** *[Pastor Joel]*

*Oh sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the earth!*  
<sup>2</sup> *Sing to the Lord, bless his name;  
tell of his salvation from day to day.*  
<sup>3</sup> *Declare his glory among the nations,  
his marvelous works among all the peoples!*  
<sup>4</sup> *For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;  
he is to be feared above all gods.*  
<sup>5</sup> *For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,  
but the Lord made the heavens.*  
<sup>6</sup> *Splendor and majesty are before him;  
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.*  
<sup>7</sup> *Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!*  
<sup>8</sup> *Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;  
bring an offering, and come into his courts!*  
<sup>9</sup> *Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness;<sup>[a]</sup>  
tremble before him, all the earth!*  
<sup>10</sup> *Say among the nations, “The Lord reigns!  
Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with equity.”*  
<sup>11</sup> *Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;  
let the sea roar, and all that fills it;*  
<sup>12</sup> *let the field exult, and everything in it!*  
*Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy*  
<sup>13</sup> *before the Lord, for he comes,  
for he comes to judge the earth.*  
*He will judge the world in righteousness,  
and the peoples in his faithfulness.*

**Congregational Song: Praise to the Lord the Almighty**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near,  
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,  
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!  
Hast thou not seen how thy desires all have been  
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!  
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do  
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the amen sound from His people again;  
Gladly forever adore Him.

**Congregational Song: Christ is Sufficient:**

Nothing I've done could merit God's grace;  
Nothing I'll do can take it away.  
I have one hope, in life and death:  
I have been clothed in Christ's righteousness.

*Christ is sufficient! His work is finished!  
He is my faith's Author and End;  
Christ is enough—my Savior and Friend!*

Nothing remains since Jesus has died;  
Justice was paid; the Judge satisfied.  
Great is my sin; greater His love;  
I have been cleansed with Calvary's blood!

*Christ is sufficient! His work is finished!  
He is my faith's Author and End;  
Christ is enough—my Savior and Friend!*

Nothing I've sought on earth satisfies;  
I was designed to thirst after Christ.  
Beckoned by Him, "Drink and be filled."  
I am content, yet yearn for Him still.

*Christ is sufficient! His work is finished!  
He is my faith's Author and End;  
Christ is enough—my Savior and Friend!*

Nothing but Christ can undo the Fall.  
He will return to reign over all.  
Come to us, Lord; right ev'ry wrong;  
Soon the redeemed will join heaven's song.

*Christ is sufficient! His work is finished!  
He is my faith's Author and End;  
Christ is enough—my Savior and Friend!*

## **SCRIPTURE'S WISDOM ON THE POWER OF THE TONGUE**

### **Reminders from Proverbs on the contrasting power of the tongue [Pastor Bernie]**

#### *Words can wound or heal*

- Proverbs 12:18 - *There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.*
- Proverbs 14:3 - *By the mouth of a fool comes a rod for his back, but the lips of the wise will preserve them.*
- Proverbs 11:9 - *With his mouth the godless man would destroy his neighbor, but by knowledge the righteous are delivered.*

#### *Words are honest or deceitful*

- Proverbs 12:17 - *Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit.*
- Proverbs 14:25 - *A truthful witness saves lives, but one who breathes out lies is deceitful.*
- Proverbs 21:28 - *A false witness will perish, but the word of a man who hears will endure.*

#### *Words bring wisdom or folly*

- Proverbs 10:31-32 - *The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but the perverse tongue will be cut off.<sup>32</sup> The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, but the mouth of the wicked, what is perverse.*
- Proverbs 10:14 - <sup>14</sup> *The wise lay up knowledge, but the mouth of a fool brings ruin near.*
- Proverbs 15:4 - *From the fruit of his mouth a man eats what is good, but the desire of the treacherous is for violence.*

## **REDEEMED PEOPLE'S WORDS ARE TRANSFORMED BY JESUS**

## Congregational Song: O Great God

O great God of highest heaven  
Occupy my lowly heart  
Own it all and reign supreme  
Conquer every rebel power  
Let no vice or sin remain  
That resists Your holy war  
You have loved and purchased me  
Make me Yours forevermore

I was blinded by my sin  
Had no ears to hear Your voice  
Did not know Your love within  
Had no taste for heaven's joys  
Then Your Spirit gave me life  
Opened up Your Word to me  
Through the gospel of Your Son  
Gave me endless hope and peace

Help me now to live a life  
That's dependent on Your grace  
Keep my heart and guard my soul  
From the evils that I face  
You are worthy to be praised  
With my every thought and deed  
O great God of highest heaven  
Glorify Your Name through me

Children 3-K5 dismissed to Junior Church

## Message: *Wise Words: The Useful Power of the Tongue* (James 3:1-5a) [Pastor Steve]

*Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. <sup>2</sup> For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. <sup>3</sup> If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. <sup>4</sup> Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. <sup>5</sup> So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.*

*How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! <sup>6</sup> And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life,<sup>[a]</sup> and set on fire by hell.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>7</sup> For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup> but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup> With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. <sup>10</sup> From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers,<sup>[c]</sup> these things ought not to be so. <sup>11</sup> Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? <sup>12</sup> Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.*

**Personal Prayer Response:**

**Announcements:** *[Pastor Steve]*

- Tonight – Organic Fellowships
- Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup> – Men's Prayer Breakfast
- Be reminded of the calendar handouts which indicated things upcoming.

**Closing Prayer and Dismissal:** *[Pastor Steve]*