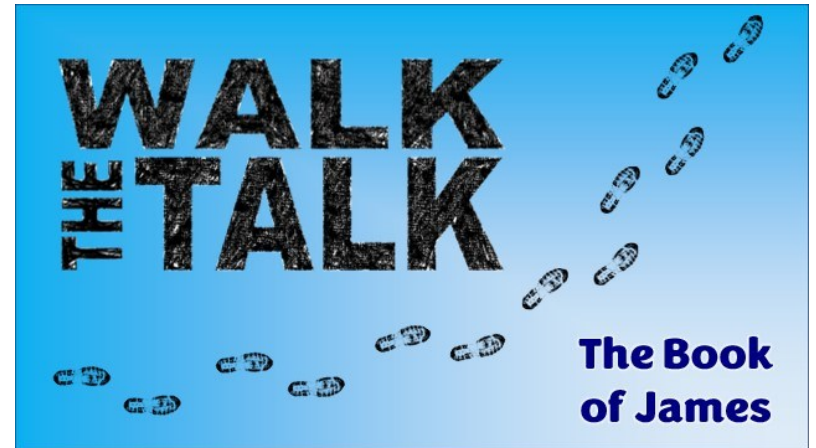


Read Matthew 12:33-37. Jesus mentions in verse 36 that everyone will have to give account for every empty word spoken. What do you think constitutes an “empty word”? How does this teaching affect the way we communicate with others?

What are the implications of humanity being made “in the image of God?” How should that affect our attitudes towards other?



February 16, 2025 • James Part 7

Scripture References

James 3:1-12 • 1 Peter 5:5-6 • Matthew 6:1-18
Matthew 20:25-28 • Ephesians 6:12 • Matthew 12:33-37
Philippians 4:8 • Romans 12:2

Prayer Requests

- 1) Sinful Pride is based on _____ yourself with others, with a desire to be seen as _____ than other people, more important, more talented, more spiritual, more powerful.
- 2) When someone thinks highly of their own spirituality, that’s an indicator of spiritual _____.

Grace Bible Church • Message by Dave Zierenberg
Video and notes available at www.gbcsl.com

- 3) According to James, the tongue is a world of _____, set on fire by hell itself, and if your tongue is out of control, your whole life can be burned down.
- 4) Cursing someone is a _____ thing, and yet sometimes, especially when we're angry, we think it's a proper response.
- 5) We may disagree with someone's ideas, but we must not curse that person who is made in the image of God, regardless of how deeply that image is _____.
- 6) The "evil rulers of the unseen world" are our true enemies, because they twist people into _____ in the realm of spiritual warfare. (Ephesians 6:12)
- 7) Cleaning up the treasury of your _____ will also clean up your _____.
- 8) The _____ of the heart has to come from God and from the Spirit of Christ living in you.

Small Group Discussion Questions

Please try to think these over and jot down some ideas prior to discussing them at the meeting, it will improve the discussion.



In James 3:1 we read that not many should become teachers because teachers will be judged more strictly. Why would teachers have a different level of judgment?

Can you recall a time when your words had a significant positive or negative impact on someone? How did that experience shape your understanding of the power of the tongue?

What does Jesus' teaching in Matthew 20:25-28 reveal about the nature of true leadership? Why do you think Jesus emphasizes servanthood as a key aspect of leadership?

Continued on reverse.