***In Times Like These - James, Peter, John, Jude***

**Lesson 4**

**The Smallest Biggest Trouble Maker?**

Read James 3

Memory Work: James 3:8,9.

1.a. Why should one hesitate before becoming a teacher? James 3:1.

b. It would appear that greater influence means \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ responsibility.

c. What does Matthew 23:1-12 have to say to Christian teachers?

2.a. Who is a perfect man? (or mature man) James 3:2.

b. Does this contradict verse 8?

3. What is the significance of the illustrations of the bit and the rudder?

4.a. What does the tongue like to do? Verse 5.

b. What is the tongue likened to in verse 6?

c. Why is this so? Give an example.

d. Animals can be ruled over because God gave man dominion over them at creation. Genesis 1:26-28; James 3:7,8. So, why can’t man tame his own tongue? Genesis 3:1-13; Proverbs 21:23.

5.a. Explain how the tongue can be full of deadly poison. James 3:8.

b. Explain James 3:9 in your own words.

6. How can the tongue be like a spring or a fig tree? James 3:11,12.

7.a. Let’s look up some negative uses of the tongue from Proverbs.

Proverbs 6:16,19.

Proverbs 10:19

Proverbs 12:22

Proverbs 17:9.

Proverbs 18:13

Proverbs 19:9

Proverbs 20:19

Proverbs 26:20,28.

Proverbs 27:2

Proverbs 28:23

Proverbs 29:5,20.

b. And some positive uses of the tongue.

Romans 10:9,10. Proverbs 12:18.

Colossians 3:15-17. Proverbs 15:2.

I Thessalonians 5:14-18 Proverbs 15:4.

Proverbs 10:20.

Evaluate Today, how are you going to gain control over your tongue? Psalm 141:3.

8. Compare the effects of wisdom that is from above with that of wisdom from below. James 3:13-18.

Earthly Heavenly

Think about According to verse 18, are you sowing peace in your family and outside your family?

9. What does Jesus say about the tongue and speech? See Matthew 12:36,37; 15:18,19.