THE POWER OF THE TONGUE

James 3:1-6

A formidable power dwells in each of us. This power has changed the course of nations. It is capable of starting and ending wars. It has the means to commend or corrupt, to bless or to blame. It is the power of the tongue. God greatly desires for us to use this power to bring glory to his name, and to advance his kingdom here on earth. But Satan also wants a piece of that action. He tries to keep us in the dark about the power of our words and entices us to use them for harm instead of hope.

1. We must surrender our _______ selves to Christ. *Psalms 19:14 (ESV)* Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

2. Our words ______ us or free us. **1 Peter 3:10 (ESV)** For "Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit;

3. The words we speak ______our hearts. *Matthew 12:34-35 (ESV)* You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.³⁵ The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil

4. We must fill our mouths with ______ not death. *Proverbs 18:21 (ESV)* Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.

5. We must learn to use words that_____

Ephesians 4:29 (ESV) Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

6. Our tongue should be under ______ **Psalms 141:3 (ESV)** Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ways to Give: Online at vcctracy.org or text message at 209-900-8368

Prayer Every Sunday Morning: 9:15 - 9:45

Tracy Community Connections:

Feeding the Hungry: 2nd Wednesday of every month. **Travel Size Toiletries:** We are collecting these for distribution to the homeless

Community Group Series: Part 2 of Faith that Works. This is a 3-week study from the book of James.

Appreciation Dinner: There will be an appreciation dinner for Pastor Ralph on Saturday, January 28th at 5pm. Please sign up at the Information Booth. You are also invited to video record a special farewell message to Pastor Ralph. We will be having 2 formal video recording sessions at Victory Christian Church on 2 different dates, and you are welcome to stop by and say a few words on either of these dates:

Saturday: 1/14/17 from 9-11am Sunday: 1/22/17 at 11am

You may contact Sirsey Martinez at 209-456-0660 with any questions about this event.

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