

COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

OUR WORDS MATTER - 11/24/2024

COMMUNION

- At some point during your gathering, take communion together.
- Read a Scripture about God's blessing in Christ or use Ephesians 1:3-6
- spend a moment in silence to experience the presence of Christ

REVIEW

- how we talk to and about people opens a window into our heart and tells the real truth about our character
- God designed words for life and blessing. Words matter. How we use our words matters
- How we use our words is a measure of our spiritual maturity (not the only measure, but an important measure)
- The tongue, like the **bit** and the **rudder**, is small, yet it has a large impact and far reaching consequences – so learn how to it for good
- Our tongue can be as destructive as a **fire** and harder to tame than a **wild beast**
- James says the match that makes your tongue a spark is none other than the fires of hell
- According to the Bible, our words should be a thing of beauty and bring delight to others (like **ripe figs** or **fresh water**)
- When we recognize and affirm the image of God in ourselves and in others; we bless others, and in the process, we worship and bless the God who created them

DISCUSSION

1. How has your time been since our last gathering? How did you see God at work in you or around you?

Read: James 3:1-12

2. What stood out to you from this week's teaching? Was there anything challenging, encouraging, or confusing to you?
3. Can you recall a time when someone spoke to you in a way that felt harmful, painful, damaging, or untruthful? How did those words impact you in the moment? How did they impact your life in the long term?
4. What values and habits have you developed when it comes to your words? How do you struggle to live out your values about your words?
5. Are there ways you may be using your words that are doing damage to those around you but you don't realize it? (i.e., sarcasm, complaining, criticizing, negativity)