

JAMES

LEARNING AND LIVING A FAITH THAT WORKS

Week 6

Aaron Nash
July 29, 2018

The main theme for our series is
James 1:4b ESV

That you may be perfect (mature) and
complete, lacking in nothing.

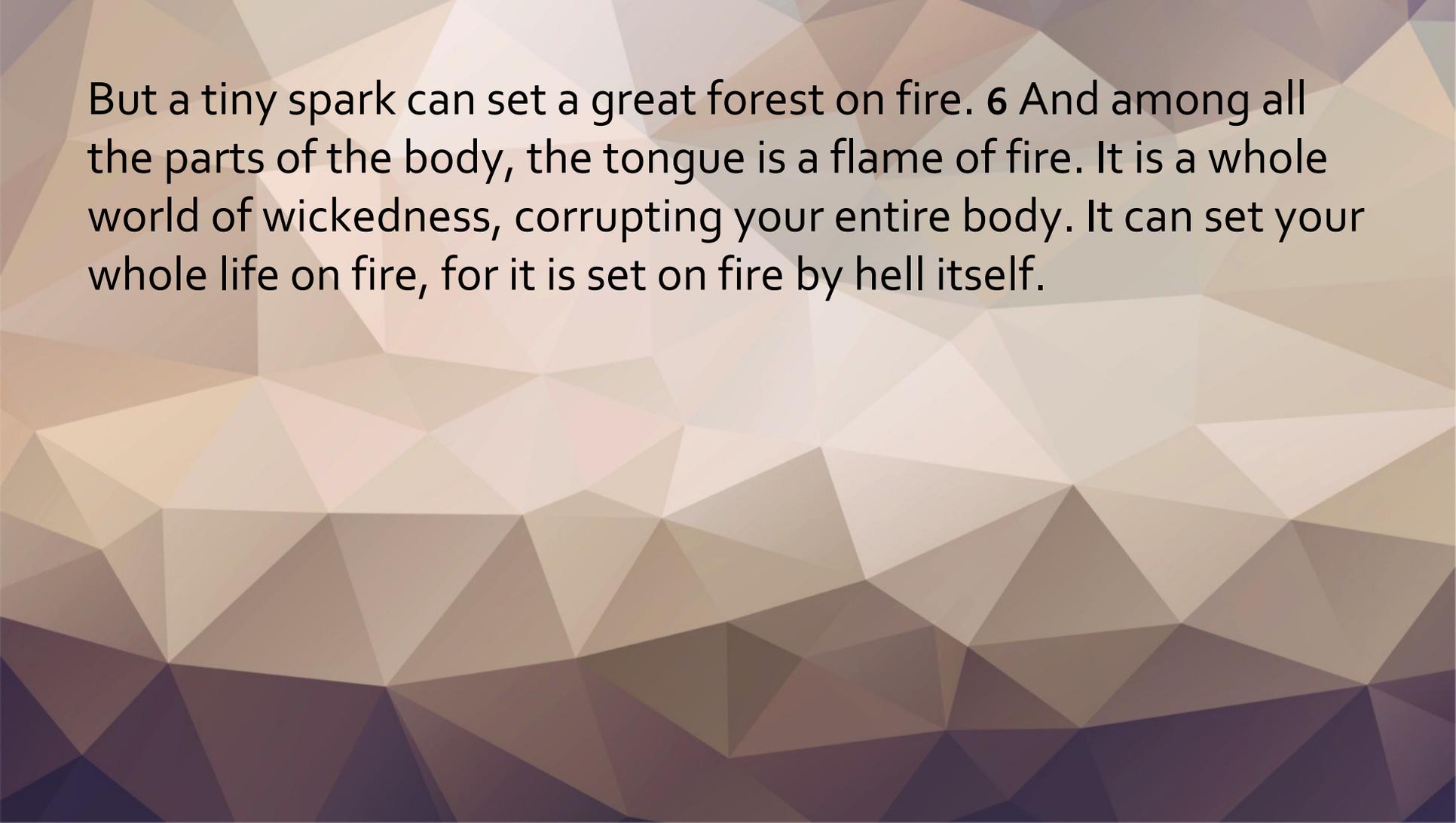


Taming the Tongue

James 3:1-12 NLT

1 Dear brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers in the church, for we who teach will be judged more strictly. **2** Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way.

3 We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. **4** And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. **5** In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches.



But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. 6 And among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.

7 People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, 8 but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. 9 Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. 10 And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! 11 Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water? 12 Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring.

I. Accountability and Stumbling.

I. Accountability and Stumbling.

James 3:1-2 ESV

1 Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. **2** 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.

1 John 1:8

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

II. The power of the tongue.

II. The power of the tongue.

James 3:3-6 NLT

3 We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. 4 And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. 5 In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches.

But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. 6 And among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.

II. The power of the tongue.

Proverbs 12:18 ESV

There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts,
but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

III. The difficulty of taming the tongue.

III. The difficulty of taming the tongue.

James 3:7-8 NLT

7 People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, 8 but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison.

IV. The conflicting character of the tongue.

IV. The conflicting character of the tongue.

James 3:9-12 NLT

9 Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. 10 And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! 11 Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water? 12 Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring.

IV. The conflicting character of the tongue.

21 Proverbs 18:21 ESV

Death and life are in the power of the tongue,
and those who love it will eat its fruits.

IV. The conflicting character of the tongue.

Matthew 12:34-37 ESV

34 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. 36 I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, 37 for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

V. How do we tame our tongues?

V. How do we tame our tongues?

- We should pray.

V. How do we tame our tongues?

- We should pray.
- We should be aware.

V. How do we tame our tongues?

- We should pray.
- We should be aware.
- We should stop complaining.

V. How do we tame our tongues?

- We should pray.
- We should be aware.
- We should stop complaining.
- We should ask for forgiveness.

V. How do we tame our tongues?

- We should pray.
- We should be aware.
- We should stop complaining.
- We should ask for forgiveness.
- We should practice speaking words that will encourage, comfort, edify, and inspire.