

Talk is NOT Cheap

Small Group Discussion Questions

James 3:1-12

1. Every one of us stumbles in what we say, and the more influence we carry, the more our words matter. Who listens to you most closely right now, whether at home, at work, or among friends? How does knowing they are listening change the way you want to speak?

2. Something as small as a single sentence can steer the whole direction of a conversation, a relationship, or even a life. Think of a time when a few words someone spoke to you changed your course. What was said, and why did it carry so much weight?

3. Our words can also redirect us, turning our own hearts toward hope or toward bitterness, depending on what we choose to say. What do you tend to say about your circumstances when life gets hard? How might changing those words help steer your heart in a better direction?

4. A careless word can spread like a spark in dry brush, causing damage far beyond what we ever intended. Have you ever seen a small comment grow into a much bigger hurt? What could have been done differently to put out that fire early?

5. No amount of willpower alone can fully tame the tongue, which means we need God's help to speak in ways that give life. What would it look like to invite God into your conversations before they happen? Where do you most need His help with your words this week?

6. Praise for God and cutting words toward people were never meant to come from the same place. Where do you notice that kind of contradiction creeping into your own speech? What do your words in unguarded moments reveal about what is happening in your heart?

Takeaway: Words don't just come out of you; they reveal what's inside of you.