

NEW TESTAMENT WRITERS

JAMES

Pray: ask God to open your mind, soul and spirit to His teaching through His Word

Think: the questions are designed to expand your knowledge of God and His Word

Begin: using only your Bible, answer the questions* without other outside sources

**questions are based on New International Version (NIV)*

Lesson 10 – James 3

December 2, 2009

1.
 - a) With what admonishment to teachers does James 3 begin?

 - b) Why do you think teachers are judged more strictly? Read Matthew 5:17–19, 18:5–6.

 - c) Reflect on what are the responsibilities and job description of a teacher. Whom has God given you to “teach”?

2. How are the verses in James 3:1–2 related to the topic discussed in James 3:3–12?

3.
 - a) Read the following and add to this list any other Scripture that you know that support James 3:6, and 8: Proverbs 4:23–24, 16:27, Matthew 12:33–37, Matthew 15:8–11, 15–20 and James 1:26. Write a short summation of what you learn from these Scriptures.

 - b) Recount a time when your “tongue...set the whole course of (your) life on fire”. Summarize what happened and what were the results. (Be careful not to set more fires by naming names or defaming other parties involved).

 - c) How have you seen God's grace in allowing good or growth to rise out of the “burnt” situation above?

4. a) James 3:9–12 highlights a very common problem today among both Christ followers and non-believers. Restate this problem in your own words.

- b) Where else in previous chapters of the book of James do you remember warnings against “double mindedness” and hypocrisy? Describe the context in which these warnings are given.

- c) According to James 3:10, “Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing.” Explain why “this should not be.”

5. a) In James 3:13, the words “wise” and “deeds” are used. In past chapters of James, where are wisdom and deeds discussed? Write summary statements for each set of Scriptures associated with these words.

- b) How does James 3:13 tie these past discussions of wisdom and deed together?

6. a) Compare and contrast: 2 types of wisdom:

Origin of wisdom 1

Results in

Circumstances when you most often encounter this wisdom

Origin of wisdom 2

Results in

Circumstances when you most often encounter this wisdom

- b) Of what do the results of the two types of wisdom remind you in Galatians 5:19–23?
- c) Name a time someone spoke heavenly wisdom to you that countered earthly wisdom. What was the result?
7. a) What do you think “sow in peace” means in James 3:18? If you need help, look up Hosea 10:12–13, Gal. 6:7–8 and Hebrews 12:10–11 for ideas.
- b) Give an example of how you have “sown in peace”. What was the result? (Check James 3:18 again for reference).
8. a) Why do you think the discussion of two types of wisdom proceed immediately after dire warnings about the evil of the tongue and our inability to tame the tongue in James 3?
- b) What remedy do we have available to use our tongue for God's glory if “no man can tame the tongue” according to James 3:8? Look up the following verses for ideas.

Colossians 1:9–12 _____

Philippians 2:13 _____

Philippians 4:8–9 _____

Titus 2:11–12 _____

James 1:5 _____

James 3:17–18 _____

- c) What specific actions will you take as a response to the knowledge you've gained from James 3?