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**Week 3:**

**Daily Time With Truth**

As you read these daily scriptures, ask yourself these three questions:

1. What is God saying to me?
2. What do I want to say to God in response?
3. How will I live out this truth?

**Day 1**: **James 1:19 (AMP)**

Understand this, my beloved brothers and sisters. Let everyone be quick to hear [be a careful, thoughtful listener], slow to speak [a speaker of carefully chosen words and], slow to anger [patient, reflective, forgiving];

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**Day 2: James 3:2 (AMP)**

For we all stumble *and* sin in many *ways*. If anyone does not stumble in what he says [never saying the wrong thing], he is a perfect man [fully developed in character, without serious flaws], able to bridle his whole body *and* rein in his entire nature [taming his human faults and weaknesses].

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**Day 3: James 3:5-6 (NLT)**

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. 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.

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**Day 4: James 3:7-12 (NLT)**

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

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**Day 5: Matthew 12:33-37 (TPT)**

“You must determine if a tree is good or rotten. You can recognize good trees by their delicious fruit. But if you find rotten fruit, you can be certain that the tree is rotten. The fruit defines the tree. But you who are known as the Pharisees are rotten to the core like venomous snakes. How can your words be good if you are rotten within? For what has been stored up in your hearts will be heard in the overflow of your words! “When virtue is stored within, the hearts of good, upright people will produce good fruit. But when evil is hidden within, those who are evil will produce evil fruit. You can be sure of this: when the day of judgment comes, everyone will be held accountable for every careless word he has spoken. Your very words will be used as evidence, and your words will declare you either innocent or guilty.”

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Discussion Questions:

**1. Read James 3:3-6. Describe the three small, insignificant items that James compares the tongue to.**

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**2. Read Psalm 140:3. “Humankind has been able to overpower and tame every creature on earth except its own tongue.” How does the tongue contrast to a deadly snake? Have you ever felt the bite and seen the venom spread? Explain.**

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**3. Read Luke 6:45. What are the ways Pastor Justin in his sermon or Pastor Bob in the video suggested that we can control our tongues? What has worked best for you, personally, to have victory over your tongue? Give examples.**

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**4. Our biggest tool to tame our tongue is to spend time daily with God, surrendering our tongues to the keeping of His Holy Spirit and through submission and dependence, receiving His wisdom. What are some tools you’ve used and patterns you’ve developed that have helped you do this?**

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**5. What is the difference between worldly and heavenly wisdom? Give examples.**

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**6. Read James 3:17-18. What do you learn about wisdom from these two verses?**

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**7. Where have you seen God’s wisdom on display, and where did man’s earthly wisdom seem to dominate? Have you experienced more control over your words as you rest in God’s wisdom, and do you find that your soul is more at peace because of this? Share your personal experience of how God’s wisdom has brought you peace.**