

LIGHTHOUSE
Christian Church

OUR MISSION: TO KNOW CHRIST & MAKE HIM KNOWN



May 4, 2008
Mike Openshaw

Series on James:
“The Kind of Faith God Wants”

Lighthouse C.C. – May 4, 2008
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A **Self-controlled** Faith

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*“prepare your minds for action; **be self-controlled**”*

1 Peter 1:13

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James 3

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James 3

1. We are accountable for **our words**.



James 3

1. We are accountable for **our words**.

“But I tell you that men will have to give account on the day of judgment for every careless word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.”

Matthew 12:36-37



James 3

1. We are accountable for **our words**.

A. **Teachers** must be careful with their words.



James 3

1. We are accountable for **our words**.

A. **Teachers** must be careful with their words.

B. **All believers** must be careful with their words.



James 3

1. We are accountable for **our words**.

“If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.”

1 John 1:8



James 3

1. We are accountable for **our words**.

“There is not a righteous man on earth who does what is right and never sins.”

Ecclesiastes 7:20

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Small Examples of Great Control:

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Small Examples of Great Control:

- ✓ A small **bit** controls a large **horse**



Small Examples of Great Control:

- ✓ A small bit controls a large horse
- ✓ A small rudder directs a large ship



Small Examples of Great Control:

- ✓ A small bit controls a large horse
- ✓ A small rudder directs a large ship
- ✓ A small spark sets a large fire

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An Uncontrolled Tongue:



An Uncontrolled Tongue:

- an uncontrollable **fire from hell** (the devil)



An Uncontrolled Tongue:

- an uncontrollable **fire from hell** (the devil)
- causes wide-ranging, uncontrollable **damage**

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Example from the Natural World:



Example from the Natural World:

- Man can tame wild creatures, but not **his own tongue**

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Examples of Contradiction:



Examples of Contradiction:

- A spring can't bring forth 2 kinds of water



Examples of Contradiction:

- A spring can't bring forth 2 kinds of **water**
- A tree can't bring forth 2 kinds of **fruit**



Examples of Contradiction:

- A vine can't bring forth 2 kinds of produce



Examples of Contradiction:

- A vine can't bring forth 2 kinds of produce
- A tongue shouldn't bring forth 2 kinds of speech

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II. We are accountable for our wisdom.



II. We are accountable for **our wisdom.**

A. **Heavenly** wisdom is shown by:



II. We are accountable for **our wisdom.**

A. **Heavenly** wisdom is shown by:

- **A good life**



II. We are accountable for **our wisdom.**

A. **Heavenly** wisdom is shown by:

- **A good life**
- **Humble deeds**



II. We are accountable for our wisdom.

A. Heavenly wisdom is shown by:

- Results in a life that is godly



II. We are accountable for **our wisdom.**

A. **Heavenly** wisdom is shown by:

- Results in a life that is **godly**
- People with Heavenly Wisdom make **peace:**



II. We are accountable for our wisdom.

A. Heavenly wisdom is shown by:

- Results in a life that is godly
- People with Heavenly Wisdom make

peace:

- If you sow peace, you reap righteousness

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B. Earthly wisdom is shown by:



B. Earthly wisdom is shown by:

- Bitter envy



B. **Earthly** wisdom is shown by:

- **Bitter envy**
- **Selfish ambition**



B. Earthly wisdom is shown by:

- Bitter envy
- Selfish ambition
 - it is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil



B. **Earthly** wisdom is shown by:

- **Bitter envy**
- **Selfish ambition**
 - it is **earthly**, **unspiritual**, of **the devil**
- People with earthly wisdom make **trouble**:



B. Earthly wisdom is shown by:

- Bitter envy
- Selfish ambition
 - it is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil
- People with earthly wisdom make trouble:
 - Results in disorder and evil practices

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The devil's plan is **disorder & hostility**



The devil's plan is **disorder & hostility**

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy"

John 10:10a

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God's plan is **reconciliation & peace**

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God's plan is **reconciliation & peace**

"For God is not a God of disorder but of peace."

1 Cor. 14:33

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God called us to be peacemakers

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God called us to be **peacemakers**

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.”

Matt. 5:9

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May God Help Us Develop a More
Self-controlled Faith!

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May God Help Us Develop a More **Self-controlled Faith!**

“May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.”

Psalm 19:14