


# Taming the Tongue

Frank Seekins Hebrew Word Pictures book states that the paleo meaning of the word for tongue, lashon , means 'The rod that devours or establishes life'

**Proverbs 18:21** Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.

In scripture the tongue is called many different things.

**Psalm 52:2** Your tongue devises destruction, Like a \_\_\_\_\_, working deceitfully.

**Psalm 57:4** My soul is among lions; I lie among the sons of men Who are set on fire, Whose teeth are spears and arrows, And their tongue a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Jeremiah 9:8** Their tongue is an \_\_\_\_\_ shot out; It speaks deceit; One speaks peaceably to his neighbor with his mouth, But in his heart he lies in wait.

**James 3:6** And the tongue is a \_\_\_\_\_, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.

**James 3:8** But no man can tame the tongue. It is an \_\_\_\_\_, full of deadly poison.



Fruit of NOT controlling our tongue:

**Psalm 12:3** May the LORD \_\_\_\_\_ all flattering lips, And the tongue that speaks proud things,

**Psalm 52:4,5** You love all devouring words, You deceitful tongue. God shall likewise \_\_\_\_\_; He shall \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ of your dwelling place, And \_\_\_\_\_ from the land of the living. Selah

**Proverbs 17:20** He who has a deceitful heart finds no good, And he who has a perverse tongue \_\_\_\_\_.

Fruit of controlling your tongue:



**1 Peter 3:10** For "He who would \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit.

**Psalm 15:1,3** LORD, who may \_\_\_\_\_? Who may \_\_\_\_\_? He who does not backbite with his tongue, Nor does evil to his neighbor, Nor does he take up a reproach against his friend;

## Verbal aggression is all speech used with the intent of harming another.

1. Cursing. Calling upon a supernatural power to bring harm on another (Exodus 21:17; 22:28; Leviticus 19:14)
2. Reviling. Insulting and hurling verbal abuse at another (1 Corinthians 5:11; 6:9-10)
3. Guile. Using deceitful and misleading words to cloak malicious intentions (Psalm 10:7; 52:1-4; 101:5,7; Romans 1:29-31; 1 Peter 2:1; 2:22-23; 3:9-10)
4. Bearing false witness. Testifying falsely in a court of law to another's harm (Exodus 20:16; Proverbs 19:5; 9; 25:18)
5. Slander. Speaking evil of another, usually to third parties (Exodus 23:1-3; Leviticus 19:16; Numbers 12:1-3,8; James 4:11-12; 1 Peter 2:1)

## Slander

The English dictionary defines slander as: "the action or crime of making a false spoken statement damaging to a person's reputation." In the Hebrew mindset, however there is less focus on whether the statement was true or false and more on the inappropriateness of the statement being made at all. When we speak in a negative way that influences the way our listener sees that person.



## When Conflict Comes

**James 5:9** Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door!

**Matthew 18:15-17** tells us very plainly what do. "Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. "But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. "And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.

Step 1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Step 2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Step 3: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Step 4: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Bringing Life

Proverbs 10:11 The mouth of the righteous is a \_\_\_\_\_ .

## Healing

Proverbs 12:18b But the tongue of the wise promotes \_\_\_\_\_ .

## Joy

Proverbs 15:23 Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, But a \_\_\_\_\_ makes it glad.

## Edification

Romans 15:2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, \_\_\_\_\_ .

## Praise & Affection

Romans 15:14 Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are \_\_\_\_\_ , filled with \_\_\_\_\_ , able also to admonish one another.

## Praise to the Father

Psalms 51:15 O Lord, \_\_\_\_\_ , And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

What are some other ways you can bring life with your tongue?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

