

Proclaiming Your Future

We Have Responsibility With Our Tongue

Questions: How do we have a **tamed** tongue, **what** we should say and **when** we should say it?

A **responsibility**

1. No **man** can tame the tongue but **God** can and will. This truth does not tell us we don't have responsibility.
2. We have a responsibility to **control** our tongue. It is to **bridle** our tongues so God can **tame** it.

Scripture says:

- The man who doesn't bridle his tongue, his service to God is **useless**.

When you put a bridle on a wild horse, does that tame that horse immediately?

Answer is **no**.

The horse is still **wild**, and it will take **time** to tame that horse.

3. It will take some time to tame your tongue but you need to start taking responsibility to put a **bridle** on your tongue.

A. **Pause** - In other words, don't say **anything**

- * It is better to not say anything then to say something that is the **wrong** thing.

Scripture says: "Life and death are in the **power** of the tongue.

4. If we believe that scripture is **truth**, then we know we are either speaking **life** or we are speaking **death**; wouldn't we want to bridle our tongue?

Life and death scripture is found in the book of Proverbs – Proverbs 18:21

In Proverbs, there are 3 major themes:

- Your **morals**
- Your **money**
- Your **mouth**

Let's look at some proverbs that tell us how to bridle our mouth.

Proverbs 21:23

Proverbs 10:19

Notice:

- He who **guards** his mouth
- He who **restrains** his lips

It's not God's, it's **my** responsibility

- * When I begin guarding my mouth and restraining my lips, then God can **tame** my tongue.

5. I need to **discipline** myself and learn that I don't need to be talking all the time for the world to be orbiting.

Proverbs 17:27 – this is my responsibility

Proverbs 17:28

- If I shut my lips, people would think I was **wise**, but when I open my mouth, it leaves no **doubt**.

Proverbs 18:13

Don't finish someone else's **sentences**; let them talk too.

James 1:19

- This math says:

If you're quick to **listen**, slow to **speak**, you won't have an **anger** problem.

The conclusion is this:

6. If we have a problem with talking **too much**, it means we are not listening **enough**.

Here is the second:

B. **Ponder**

7. Ponder means to think **before** you speak.

- How many times you have said something and wished you thought it through?

There are 3 types of people in the world.

- Those who think **before** they talk.
- Those who think **while** they talk.
- Those who think **after** they talk.

8. But when words are so important and powerful, they **connect** us to God and each other. Our words can be life or death; we ought to **think** before we say any words.

Question: When you have thoughts, where are your thoughts?

Answer: Your thoughts are in your **mind**.

The Bible tells us we think somewhere else also.

You think in your **heart** also.

9. The thoughts in your mind you can **hear**, and the thoughts in your heart you cannot hear until you give time to **think** in your heart, it then will get to your mind.

Proverbs 23:7a

⁷For as he thinks in his heart, so is he...

Luke 2:19

Luke 2:35

Luke 9:47

Matthew 9:4

Matthew 15:19a – Jesus said this

¹⁹For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts...

Hebrews 4:12

The word of God can **discern** the thoughts of your heart.

This is what science is:

- Science is man trying to discover what God **already** knows

The police were able to capture the murderer and later convicted him.

This is what I want you to see:

- We are trying to **bridle** our tongues
- We are to think **before** we speak
- The reason is we not only think with our minds, but our **heart** also.

10. If you're born again, you have a **new** heart, a redeemed and converted heart, so ponder and let your heart give your mind some **righteous** thoughts.

Which means when you do this, you speak **life** to the person, not **death**.

- Instead of saying something to someone from the **top** of your head, why don't you say something from the **bottom** of your heart.

The third one is:

C. Pray

- Isaiah has an **encounter** with God.
- In the presence of God, Isaiah is **convicted** immediately about an **area** of his life.
- The area Isaiah is convicted about is found in Isaiah 6.

Isaiah 6:1-4

Look at Isaiah's reaction:

Isaiah 6:5a

⁵ So I said: "Woe is me, for I am undone!"

Why is Isaiah undone?

Isaiah 6:5b

⁵ ...Because I *am* a man of unclean lips,

11. In God's presence, Isaiah is convicted regarding his **mouth**.

Isaiah 6:5c

⁵ ... And I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; For my eyes have seen the King, The Lord of hosts."

Isaiah 6:6-8

12. I need an encounter with God every **morning** and see His holiness because I have unclean lips but all who dwell around me do also.

God touched Isaiah's **lips** and Isaiah **heard** His voice.

Be quick to hear what **God** says.

Spiritually – think about the **symbolism** this story has.

- Think about the 3 baptisms:

- Baptism of **salvation**
- Baptism of **water**
- **Spirit** baptism

- Isaiah goes into the presence of God and is convicted of his sin, he admits it to God and then Isaiah gets **cleansed**.

Jesus said your iniquity has been taken away – **salvation**

- Baptism in water
 - Baptism in the Spirit
- Old man **cut away**
and language **restored**