***16****There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him:* ***17****haughty eyes,* ***a lying tongue****, hands that shed innocent blood,* ***18****a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil,* ***19a false witness who pours out lies*** *and a person who* ***stirs up conflict in the community****.* Proverbs 6:16-19

* … **REVEAL WHAT’S INSIDE OF ME**

***7****All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind,****8****but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.* James 3:7-8

***9****With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God’s likeness.****10****Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.****11****Can both fresh water and saltwater flow from the same spring?*

***12****My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.* James 3:9-12

*“For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.”* Matthew 12:34



**KEY*:* THE ONLY REAL SOLUTION: A CHANGED HEART**

**David wrote:**

*Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.*

 Psalm 51:10

**THE POWER OF MY WORDS…**

**May 2nd, 2021**

*Everyone should be quick to* listen*,* ***slow to******speak*** *and slow to become* angry*.* James 1:19

*If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a* ***tight rein on***

***his tongue,*** *he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.”* James 1:26

* **PERPETUATE MY PROBLEMS.**

*Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be* ***judged more strictly****.****2****We all* ***stumble****in many ways. Anyone who is* ***never at fault in what they say****is* ***perfect****, able to keep their whole body in check.* James 3:1-2

***21****To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.* ***22“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” 23****When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.* 1 Peter 2:21-23

**KEY Q:** **COULD TAMING MY WORDS CONTROL MY CHARACTER?**

***3****When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal.****4****Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.* James 3:3-4

* … **SEEM SMALL BUT SPREAD QUICKLY.**

***5****Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.****6****The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one’s life on fire,* ***and is itself set on fire by hell****.* James 3:5-6