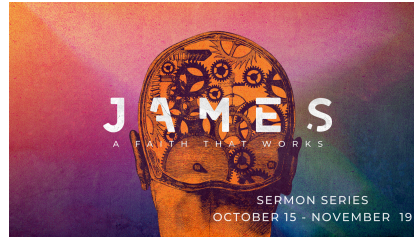


**Hope Presbyterian Church
Sermon-Based Bible Study Group**



November 5, 2023

“Words” - #4 in the series James: A Faith That Works

Texts Referenced: James 3:1-12 (NLT), Proverbs 12:18

1. What stood out to you about the message?

2. Consider the power of words to impact us in the moment and the ability to stay with us forever.
 - What’s a saying or a phrase that has stayed with you over time, given you encouragement, served to caution you, or provided wisdom?
 - Growing up, whose words did you value and why?

3. **Read James 3:1-5.**
 - Recall a time when your words - or someone else’s - created a difficult situation.
 - How easy or difficult was it to resolve the situation?
 - How do your various spheres of influence - family, work, social groups, community, church - influence your words?

4. **Read James 3:7-10.**
 - The power of words to impact us emotionally, psychologically, and even physically is supported by research.
 - Why do the negative words of others have such an influence on us?
 - Why is it sometimes difficult to control our words?
 - Why do we react strongly when someone’s words are clearly hypocritical?

5. **Read Proverbs 12:18.**
 - What does it feel like when someone says something encouraging to you?
 - Hawk Nelson’s Christian contemporary song “Words” contains the following line: *“I don’t wanna say a word unless it points the world back to you.”*
 - From a practical and spiritual perspective, how do these lyrics resonate with you?

6. How can we pray for you?