“The Tongue is a Fire”

Intro: Though saving faith is _______________, it is clearly revealed in what it _______________.

A. An evidence of true saving faith is ____________ ____________.
   1. That heavenly faith which saves _______________ right _______________ living.

B. Just as saving faith motivates right actions, it also _______________ us to right _______________.
   1. True saving faith works in the ____________ of the person and it is out of the abundance of our heart that our mouth speaks (Matt. 12:34). Just as this saving faith, though invisible, reveals itself through good works, it also reveals itself by _______________ the believers language.

James 3:1-12

I. How can we ___________ our _____________?
   A. _____ _____ can tame their tongue.
      1. The tongue is a ____________ evil.
         a. The word translated “restless” is the same word James used in 1:8 that is translated “_______________” and could be translated as “ungovernable.”
         b. The word “evil” points to the ____________ of the tongue. ____________ is what naturally pours from the tongue.
         c. The tongue “is full of ____________ poison.” The Greek word translated “poison” is often translated “____________.” The tongue is full of deadly poison able to inflict great ____________.
      2. The tongue is full of ________________.
         a. From the same mouth come both _______________ and _______________.
II. James rebukes the church writing, “My brethren, these things ______ to be this way.”

A. The words “ought not” appear only here in the New Testament and are a very strong ____________. They speak of that which is forbidden. There should be ___ __________ for sinful talk in the believer’s life!

B. This creates a ____________. James rebukes us for having an untamed tongue right after he says, “No one can tame the tongue!”

C. Just as a fountain depends upon its source for the water, so does the tongue only speak that which it ____________ from its ____________. It ought not to be this way that blessing and cursing flow from the same mouth because good and evil can’t flow from the same source! What is the tongues source? The ____________!

III. Beloved, as the tree is known by its ____________ we are known by what we ____________ and we cannot produce something other than what is at the ________.

A. James has been stressing the importance of our works and our words as they are the reflection of our ____________. Our works and words what is at the root of our heart. Is it saving faith or a useless faith?

B. The tongue can’t be tamed, but that which it draws from can be _____________. It is not a matter of self-correcting our speech, but having our hearts corrected! We can’t tame our tongue, but ____________ our heart!

IV. Exodus 15:22-25. Does your speech reveal that the waters of your heart are bitter? There is a tree, an old rugged ____________ that God’s only begotten Son died upon. ____________ paid the price. Jesus paid it all! Go to the cross and ____________ upon the Lord Jesus Christ, allowing Him to touch your heart, to cleanse you from sin and make you whole.

A. The ____________ ________ who created this universe is the Great God who can ____________ your life through faith in Christ Jesus!

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