Group Time

ENCOURAGEMENT 1-on-1 (See last page for directions)

Y / N Y / N _____

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LOOK BACK:

***Point**: Faith always leads to works.*

- What did you faithfully do this past week that led to life?

Question: Have you ever known someone who had a lack of discipline with their mouth to have good discipline in all other areas of their life?

LOOK UP: Watch this week's video on the 4G web page.

Recap: Most often, what comes out of our mouths is a good reflection of what is in our hearts. James addresses this in two instances. First, those who want to be teachers and want to profess the words of God without the responsibility of being a good steward of the Word. Second, our words have power. They affect others for both good and bad and we need to be careful how we use them.

We all know the adage, "If you can't say anything nice, don't say anything at all," but we need to be intentional with our words. We need to use our words to give life, affirm, gently correct, and give testimony as God's people.

LOOK IN: Discussion

- Describe someone you've known who "knew best" but didn't follow their own advice/teaching. What were others' opinions of that person? How did those around them view them?
- Read James 3:9-12. Then reread James 3:9. What are some tricks or tips you've used to try and control your tongue? (E.g., count to three, etc.)
- How can we speak "words of life" in difficult situations and still be totally sincere?

LOOK FORWARD: Application

***Point**: Your words reveal your heart.*

Speak Words Of Life

Reread James 3:9-10. Keep track of your words this week. Record all instances of using your words for "blessing" (life-affirming) and "cursing" (negative/judgmental) – this includes politics.

Blessing (Positive)	Cursing (Judgmental)
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

What do you need to do to fix the cursing situations and speak more words of life?

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