

A tiger is shown in profile, sitting on the ground and yawning widely. Its mouth is open, revealing its pink tongue and sharp teeth. The tiger's fur is orange with black stripes. The background is dark and filled with thin, vertical branches, suggesting a dense thicket or forest at night. The overall lighting is low, with a slight glow around the tiger's head.

**TAMING
THE
TIGER**



TAMING THE TONGUE

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Talking: An integral part of our everyday life

In our families	At our workplace	Etc.
During business conversation	With our friends and loved ones	

**Everything we say, teach, instruct,
share or communicate**





In the Church, as part of the body-life (people), we

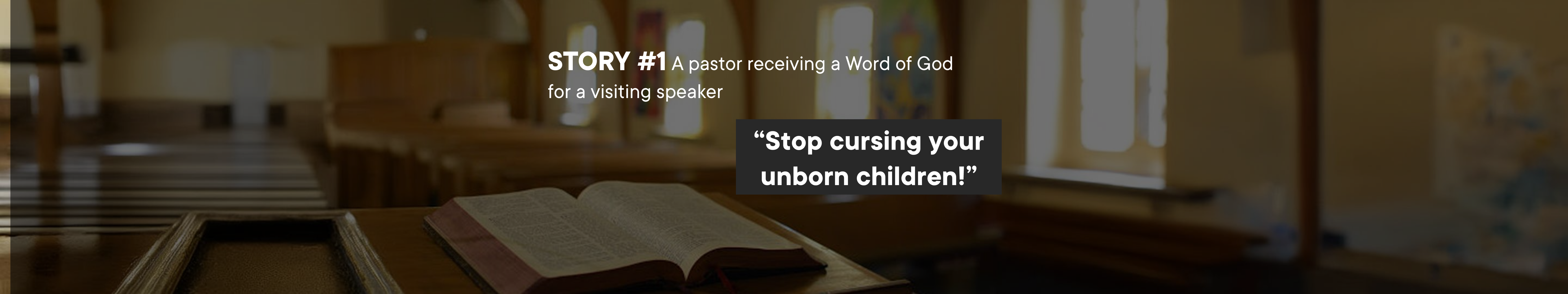
- encourage
- bless
- pray
- preach/teach
- lead
- praise
- exhort

- gossip
- criticize
- complain
- murmur
- curse

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

LIFE OR DEATH?

Our choice!



STORY #1 A pastor receiving a Word of God
for a visiting speaker

**“Stop cursing your
unborn children!”**



STORY #2 The birth of John the Baptist (Luke 1)

- Parents Zechariah (Z) & Elizabeth - righteous and godly
- Angel announced they will have a child: John
- Z was stumbled in unbelief. He doubted, reasoned that they were old
- Z struck dumb until the day of John's birth

This was to protect John from being mis-carried by any word curses that may be uttered by his father Z



STORY #2 The birth of John the Baptist (Luke 1)



This is because the birth of John, the Baptist is a **Boulema**
Will of God: (**irrevocable**)

Not the **Thelema** Will of God,
which requires the **cooperation**
of our human wills



STORY #3 The Twelve spies (Numbers 13)

Numbers 14:28 Say to them (the 10 spies who spoke an evil report of unbelief), 'As I live,' says the Lord, **'just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you.'**

A hand holding a strawberry against a blurred background of trees and a sky.

Taming Our Tongues

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

Taming Our Tongues

James 3:2-4, 6, 10

2 For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does **not stumble in word**, he is a **perfect** man, **able also to bridle the whole body**.

3-4 **bits** in mouths of horses and **small rudder** in large ships.





James 3:2-4, 6, 10

6 And the **tongue is a fire**, a **world of iniquity**. The tongue is so set among our members that it **defiles the whole body**, and **sets on fire the course of nature**; and it **is set on fire by hell**.

10 Out of the **same mouth** proceed **blessing and cursing**. My brethren, these things **ought not to be so**.

James 3:2-4, 6, 10

2 For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does **not stumble in word**, he is a **perfect** man, **able also to bridle the whole body**.

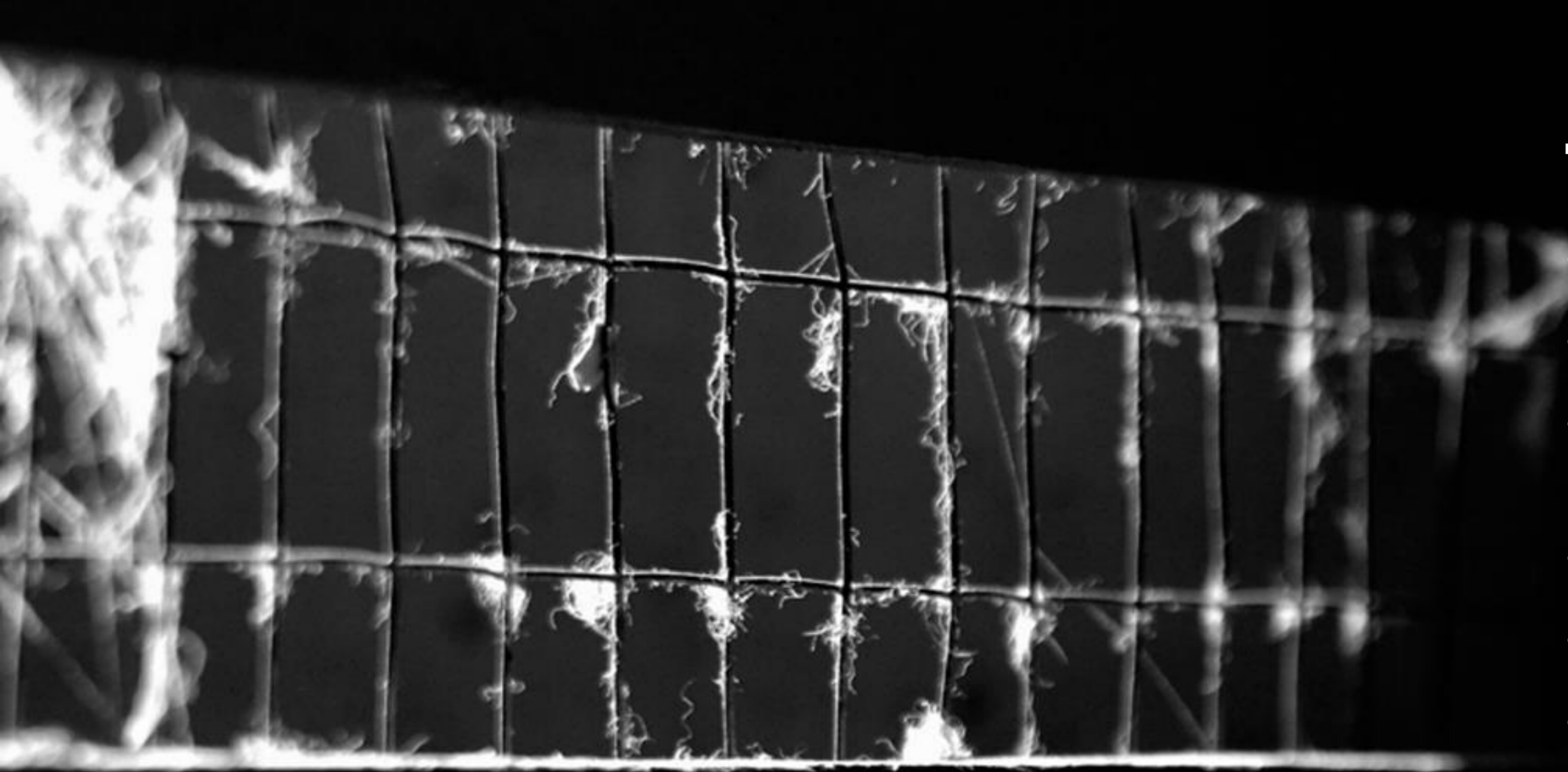
3-4 bits in mouths of horses and **small rudder** in large ships.



James 3:2-4, 6, 10

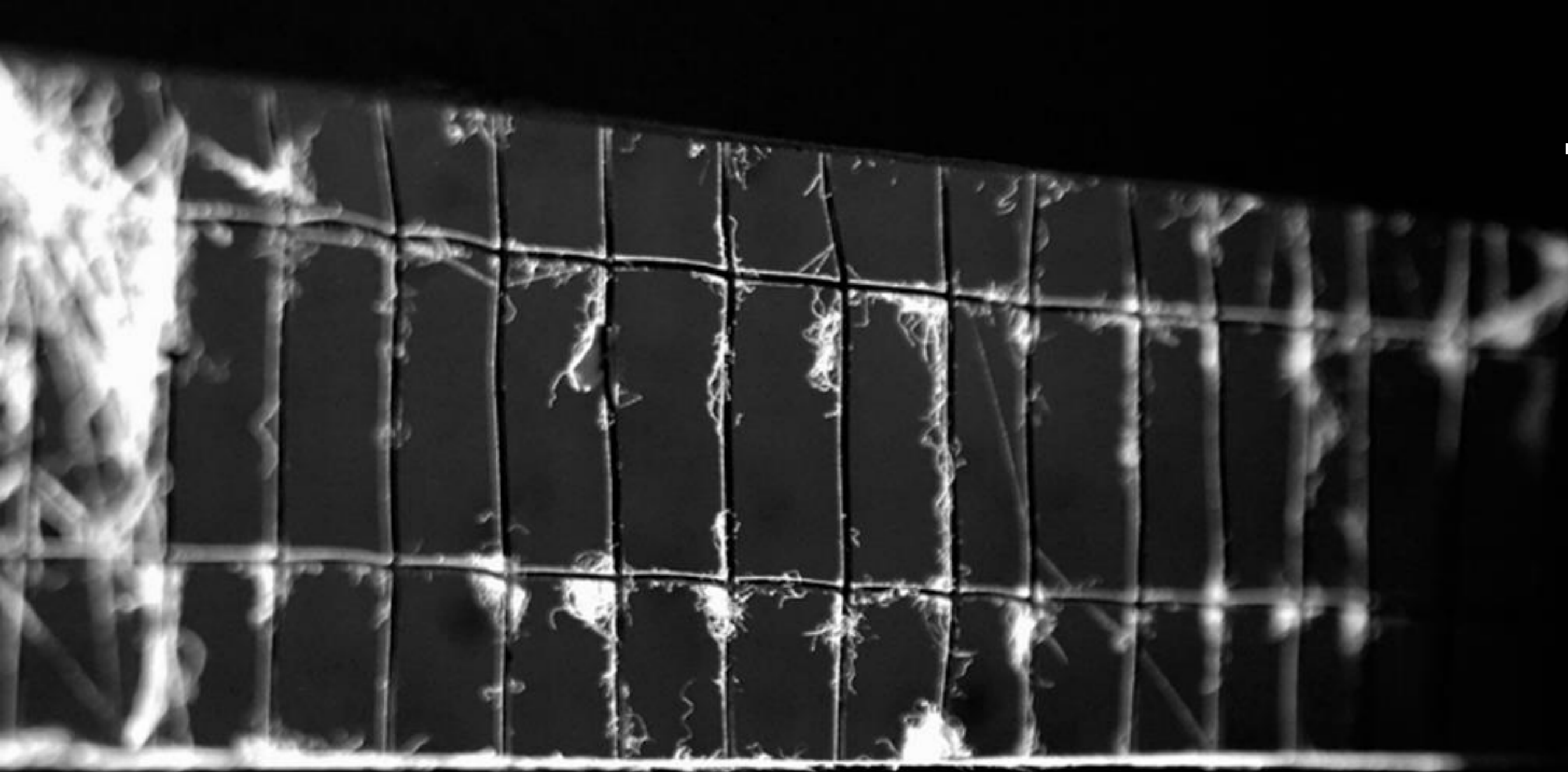
6 And the **tongue is a fire**, a world of unrighteousness. **The tongue is so defiled** that it **sets on fire the course of nature**, and it is **set on fire by hell**.

WORD CURSES



The Strife of tongues:

- Jacob placed a **curse** on his wife Rachel (Genesis 31:32; 35:18-19)
- Joseph gave a **bad report** about his brothers (Genesis 37:2)
- Potiphar's wife to **lie** about Joseph: led to his imprisonment (Genesis 39:16-19)
- Israel to **write themselves off** as grasshoppers (Numbers 13:33)
- Job's friends to **wrongly represent God** (Job 42:7-9)
- Haman to **speak evil** of Mordecai (Esther 3:8)



The Strife of tongues has:

- **ruined marriages**
- caused **war**
- caused **untimely death**
- caused mental health issues
- caused suicide
- caused the stagnancy and **failure** of believers
- opened doors to **demonic affliction**
- **closed** down churches and ministries
- sent people to **Hell!**



Taming Our Tongues - Speak Life!



I. **Guard our hearts**

Matthew 12:34 Brood of vipers!
How can you, being evil, speak good things? For **out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.**



Taming Our Tongues - Speak Life!



I. **Guard our hearts**

Proverbs 4:23 **Guard your heart with all diligence**, for out of it spring the **issues of life**.



I. Guard our hearts

Matthew 12:35-37

35 A good man out of the **good treasure of his heart** brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the **evil treasure** brings forth evil things. **36** But I say to you that for **every idle word** men may speak, they will **give account of it in the day of judgment.** **37** For **by your words** you will be **justified**, and by your words you will be **condemned.**”



I. **Guard our hearts** - Deal with the Issues

Unhealed Hurts	Wounds	Unmet Needs	Anger	Bitterness	
Jealousy	Pride	Selfishness	Boasting	Denying the Truth	
Using God's Name in vain	Unresolved Issues	Curses	Offenses		
Certain Relationships	Certain Activities	Wrongs	Profanity		
Unforgiveness	Busybody	Lies	Gossip	Worries	Envy

Matthew 15:18 what comes out of the **mouth** comes from the **heart** and this **defiles** a man!

Taming Our Tongues - Speak Life!

I. Guard our hearts - Deal with the Issues

LET US PRAY!



Taming Our Tongues - Speak Life!

WHY?

I. Guard our hearts

II. **Tame our tongues**

Taming Our Tongues - Speak Life!



I. Guard our hearts

II. **Tame our tongues**

II. Tame our tongues

1. Helps us walk in **victory**

Psalm 119:9, 11

9 How can a young man **cleanse his way**? **By taking heed according to Your word.** **11 Your word** I have **hidden in my heart**, that I might **not sin against You**.

Proverbs 13:3 **He who guards his mouth preserves his life**, but he who **opens wide his lips** shall have **destruction**.

A dark silhouette of a person walking on a tiled floor, viewed from behind. The floor is made of large, light-colored square tiles. The person is wearing a long coat and trousers. The lighting is dramatic, with the person's shadow cast on the floor.

1. Helps us walk in **victory**

James 1:19 ... be quick to hear, **slow to speak**, and slow to anger ...

James 1:26 if anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does **not bridle his tongue** but **deceives his own heart**, this one's religion is **useless**.

1. Helps us walk in **victory**

Ephesians 4:29-30

29 Let **no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth**, but what is good for **necessary edification**, that it may **impart grace** to the hearers. **30** And **do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God**, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

Colossians 4:6 Let your **speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt**, that you may **know** how you ought **to answer each one**.



1. Helps us walk in **victory**

1 Peter 3:10 For “He who would **love life and see good days**, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit.

Ecclesiastes 5:2 Do **not be rash with your mouth**, and let not your heart **utter anything hastily before God**. For God is in heaven, and you on earth; therefore let your words be few.

1. Helps us walk in **victory**

Psalm 141:3-4

3 Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips. **4 Do not incline my heart to any evil thing**, to practice **wicked works** with men who work iniquity; and do not let me eat of their delicacies.

Titus 3:2 to **speak evil of no one**, to be **peaceable, gentle**, showing all **humility** to all men.

Taming Our Tongues - Speak Life!



I. Guard our hearts

II. **Tame our tongues**

II. Tame our tongue

2. The Lord Jesus Himself **backs us up**

Hebrews 3:1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider **the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus.**

Hebrews 4:14 let us hold fast **our confession.**

Hebrews 10:23 **Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful.**

2. The Lord Jesus Himself **backs us up**

Isaiah 55:11 So shall **My word** be that goes forth from My mouth; it **shall not return to Me void**, but it **shall accomplish what I please**, and it **shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it**.

1 Samuel 3:19 So **Samuel** grew, and **the Lord was with him** and let **none of his words fall to the ground**.

Isaiah 44:26a Who **confirms the word of His servant**, and **performs the counsel of His messengers**.

Taming Our Tongues - Speak Life!



I. Guard our hearts

II. **Tame our tongues**

II. Tame our tongue

3. The angels **back us up**

Psalm 103:20 Bless the Lord, you **His angels**, who excel in strength, who do His Word, **heeding the voice of His Word.**

Taming Our Tongues - Speak Life!

I. Guard our hearts

II. **Tame our tongues**



1. The Word of God

2. The Holy Spirit





1. The Word of God

A. Establish our foundation on the Word of God

Romans 10:17 So then **faith** comes by hearing, and **hearing by the Word of God.**

Galatians 3:5, 5 (hearing of faith)





1. The Word of God

B. Develop our **faith**

2 Corinthians 4:13 And since we have the same **spirit of faith**, according to what is written, “**I believe and therefore I spoke,**” **we also believe and therefore speak.**

This is how we build **Faith Convictions**





1. The Word of God

C. Speak the **Word**

1 Peter 4:10-11

10 As each one has received a gift, **minister** it to one another, as good **stewards of the manifold grace of God**.

11 If anyone speaks, let him **speak as the oracles of God**. If anyone **ministers**, let him do it as **with the ability which God supplies, ..**



C. Speak the **Word**

Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to **preach the gospel** to the poor; He has sent Me to **heal the brokenhearted**, to **proclaim liberty to the captives** and **recovery of sight to the blind**, to **set at liberty those who are oppressed**.



C. Speak the **Word**

Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren, whatever things are **true**, whatever things are **noble**, whatever things are **just**, whatever things are **pure**, whatever things are **lovely**, whatever things are of **good report**, if there is any **virtue** and if there is anything **praiseworthy**—meditate on these things.

THINK before you speak!

Is it: **True? Helpful? Inspiring? Necessary? Kind?**



C. Speak the **Word**

Isaiah 50:4 The Lord God has given Me the **tongue of the learned**, that I should **know how to speak a word in season to him who is weary**. He awakens Me morning by morning, **he awakens My ear to hear as the learned**.





Taming Our Tongues - Speak Life!

I. Guard our hearts

II. Tame our tongues



2. The Holy Spirit



2. The Holy Spirit

A. Be familiar with His **guidance**

Hebrews 8:10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will **put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts**; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

Hebrews 10:16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the LORD: I will **put My laws into their hearts**, and **in their minds I will write them.**

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Taming Our Tongues - Speak Life!

I. **Guard our hearts**

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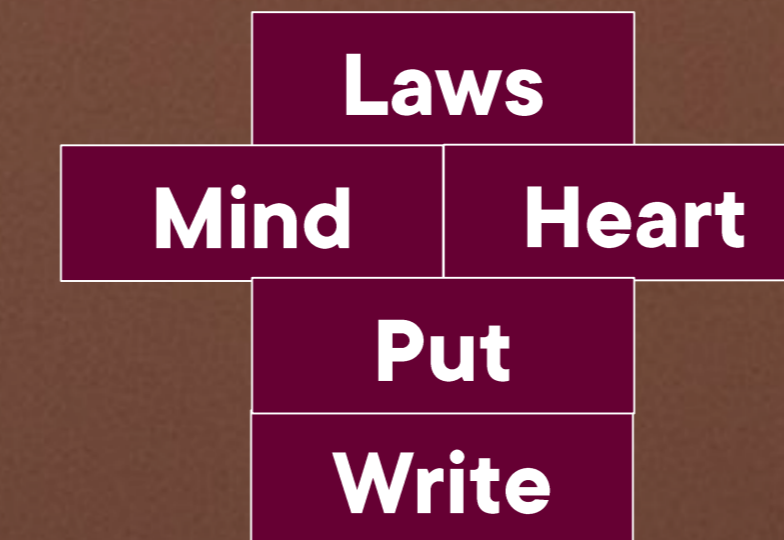
2. The Holy Spirit



2. The Holy Spirit

A. Be familiar with His **guidance**

The Holy Spirit directs our **thoughts** and **emotions** on the decision to be made.





A. Be familiar with His **guidance**

- Surrender completely
- Follow the nudging/leading (**green light**)
- Hold back at the restraint of the Holy Spirit (**red light**)
- Not sure yet, wait (**amber light**)
- Example: Words of Knowledge (**WOK**)





2. The Holy Spirit

B. Live in total **dependency** on the Holy Spirit

Galatians 5:16, 18, 25 (NIV)

16 So I say, **walk by the Spirit**, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.

18 But if you are **led by the Spirit**, you are not under the law.

25 Since we **live by the Spirit**, let us **keep in step with the Spirit**.

BOTTOM-LINE

Taming Our Tongues

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

