



**When a tiny spark is  
uncontrolled it can cause  
devastating damage**

**James 3:5-8**





**FLAMIN' HOT  
TONGUES**

# James 3:1-5a



**The tongue is incredibly  
dangerous and we need to  
recognized how much we  
MUST depend on the  
Holy Spirit for help  
James 3:5b**





**In many other languages, a **flame** is often referred to as a **tongue** (because it resembles a tongue as it **flickers** and dances)**

**The real emphasis is NOT on the **visual** similarities, but on the **uncontrolled** and **destructive** nature of both)**



**If the tongue is  
NOT controlled, then it will  
have a **negative** component  
(that **DOESN'T** stay isolated –  
**it spreads**)**



**2 questions, which stop gossip from spreading:**

**1 – Have you already told this piece of information to the source?**

**2 – How does telling me this piece of information help the situation?**





# James 3:6

**ALL it takes is one **careless statement** and a life is ruined**

**Matthew 15:11, 18-20**



# James 3:6

**This seems to magnify the devolving negative spread (it doesn't stay isolated – ALL aspects of our lives get scorched)**



**The tongue,  
which started the fire,  
is in the end,  
punished by fire  
(if NOT controlled)**



# James 3:7-8

**“Tame” = to subdue, to bring  
under control**



# The tongue compared or contrasted with 4 illustrations:

- 1 – Tiny **bit** in a horse's **mouth**
- 2 – Little **rudder** on a large ship
- 3 – Small **spark**, which sets the  
whole **forest** ablaze
- 4 – **Taming** the tongue

