



SERMON GUIDES

Talking through the message during the week helps you and your group turn what God is saying to you into action steps. Begin with the key questions, add in any optional scriptures and questions if needed, then wrap up by deciding on your next steps.

Visit woodlakeumc.org/sermonessentials for weekly sermon guides, devotionals, and more or if you have questions, contact [Jill Perrin at jperrin@woodlakeumc.org](mailto:Jill.Perrin@woodlakeumc.org).

Me and My Big Mouth – Untamable | WEEK #2

01.

INTRODUCTION

This week we continue with our sermon series Me and My Big Mouth and specifically explore how our words can impact not only our life but the life of others.

02.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Read James 3:2-12

1. Pastor Gordon begins the sermon discussing phrase "Sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me". As a child growing up, did you believe this was true? If so, were there examples of times that deep down, somebody's words actually did hurt you? Or, that your words may have hurt someone else?
2. Today's discussion focused on how words can impact both our lives and others in very dramatic ways. One thing mentioned was the "words and recovery time are not equally weighted". Why do you think that is? Provide an example in your life where you may have said something you shouldn't have and you had a hard time bringing back the relationship to where it was before. If you were able to recover, how were you able to do that? How long did it take? If not, what steps can you take to try and make it right?
3. Pastor Gordon also stated that "Sources are not equally weighted". What does this mean to you? Are there times in your life where you either received or delivered hurtful words from or to others that may have made those words more damaging than they would have been otherwise knowing the source? As a parent or a boss, how might you discuss negative things in a way that uplifts instead of bringing down?
4. Social Media has such a presence in our world today that it is easy to get carried away with what we say and forget that our words can still hurt even if the person is not in the room. Another example of this is when we are critical of other people behind their backs. What are some examples in your life where you have been a recipient of these types of actions? How did you respond. If you were the one that did this, did you OWN and confess it?



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5. Over the last several weeks, Pastor Gordon has emphasized that we need to be "Quick to listen and Slow to speak". In what ways might we use this advice so that what we say may be used to build up in lieu of bringing down others? Might we ask ourselves, "Do I really want or need to say this"?

03.

NEXT STEPS

1. Pause and remember.
2. Be slow to speak.
3. Confess to God and that person when needed.