

CHAPEL

Sticks & Stones

"We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches."

James 3:3-5

1. Words set the course of your life.

2. Words can harm as well as help.

"But no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water? Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring."

James 3:8-12

Complaining:

- complaining creates a future where the focus is on what you don't like
- complainers assume that by complaining they are actually doing something
- complainers create a future where the only people who want to be with them is other complainers
- complainers create a world not even they want to be in

3. We have to make a choice as to how we will use our words.

4. Words can bring healing to others.

"Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring." James 3:12

"Some people make cutting remarks, but the words of the wise bring healing."

Prov. 12:18 (NLT)

"Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body."

Prov. 16:24