**Faith Does Week six**

**Faith Works**

**Study Questions:**

1. What problems might be occurring that James is trying to correct?
2. Is it fair that teachers will be judged with greater strictness? Why/Why not?
3. What do you think James means by the following terms:
   1. Teach
   2. Body
   3. Perfect
4. How does mastery of one’s speech keep the whole body in check?
5. Consider each of the metaphors used by James. How does use each of these to talk about
   1. a bit in a horse’s mouth/the rudder of a ship?
   2. a spark initiating a forest fire?
   3. A fruit tree/spring?
6. Re-write v6 in your own words?
7. Do you think it’s really impossible to “tame the tongue,” as it says in verse 8? How might a person try to do this?
8. Why is it especially wrong to curse a human being v 9?
9. Look up Matt 12:33-37. What is similar about what Jesus is saying and what does he add regarding heart and speech?
10. What other methods of communication where words can be used as weapons or wells of life? What are the challenges with each?
11. What are some guidelines that you would give to someone to understand the importance of our words and how we control our tongue?

**James 3**Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. **2**We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

**3**When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. **4**Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. **5**Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. **6**The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one’s life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

**7**All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, **8**but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

**9**With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God’s likeness. **10**Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. **11**Can both fresh water and saltwater flow from the same spring? **12**My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

SWEDISH Method

