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**Study Questions for Grace Under Pressure: Careful What You Say!**

James 3:1-12

God’s Story

1. James 3:1 says many people are not equipped to do something. What are some people not advised to do?
2. James 3:2-3 mentions a bridle on our speech. What does a bridle do to the whole body according to the passage?
3. James 3:5 mentions a small member of the body that boasts great exploits. What body part is mentioned here?
4. James 3:5-10 says something is a restless evil. What is the evidence of this restless evil according to this passage?
5. James 3:11-12 asks two questions with the same answer. What point is James driving at by asking these two questions?

My Story

1. Why do you think it might be difficult for someone to be a respected teacher of religion or spirituality? What expectations might you have for such teachers that you might not place on yourself?
2. What are your thoughts on free speech? Should a person say whatever they want to always say? Why or why not?
3. How does what you say and how you say it reflect the character of your soul?
4. In what ways might what you say represent restless evil, even if you think what you say is right?
5. In James 3:11-12 the writer asks us to consider the two-faced aspects of our words. How are your words sometimes two-faced? Why might this be problematic in your life?



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**ANSWERS TO LAST WEEK’S STUDY QUESTIONS:**

**Grace Under Pressure: Dead Distinctions! (James 2:1-17)**

1.  In James 2:1-4, James points out a common practice that is against the way of Christ. What is this practice according to the passage? **Answer: Showing favoritism**

2.  In James 2:5-7, James mentions a group of people that are often dishonored. Who are these people? **Answer: The poor**

3.  James 1:8 quotes Jesus’ great commandment. What is that commandment? **Answer: Love your neighbor as yourself**
4.  James 1: 9-11 calls something a sin.  What is labeled a sin in this passage that we might not consider a sin? **Answer: Showing partiality**

5.  James 1:12-3 mentions a law.  What is law is mentioned here? **Answer: The Royal Law – Love your neighbor as yourself**
6.  James 1:14-17 makes a controversial statement about faith and works. What does James say about faith and works? **Answer: faith without works is dead**

