

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for August 22, 1999

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"Taming the Tongue"

James 3:1-12

An evil report involves distortion of facts, incomplete facts or false information. It is given with wrong motivations and if taken at face value will cause the hearer to come to inaccurate conclusions and possibly respond with unscriptural "solutions".

How can we avoid becoming involved in giving birth to evil reports?

Inadequate solutions

Only pass information you believe to be true

Only pass positive information

Preferred approach

Always pause to reflect when speaking about another person (2 Corinthians 11:11).

Go to prayer (Matthew 26:41)

Examine your own life carefully and confess your sins (Matthew 7:5).

Ask the following questions:

Have I acted responsibly with the information that I am about to share (Ephesians 4:15)?

Will this information serve some very clear purpose and minister to the person to whom I am sharing (Ephesians 4:29)?

Have I considered how to share this information in the very most positive light (Matthew 7:12).

Behold, how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire!