

Tongue Twisters

Pt. 2 - Untwisted

Opening joke - The 3 Pastors: The alcoholic, the
gambler and the gossip

- God wants to help us become untwisted.

James 3:1-11, Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. 2 We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his 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 person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. 7 All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, 8 but no man 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 men, who have been made in God's likeness. 10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be. 11 Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring?

Example - The video of men untangling a buck

7 Tongue Twisters

1. Gossip.

Example - HeeHaw song

Note - Christians often refer to it as "sharing."

Proverbs 26:20, Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down.

Note - Gossip is really just an attempt to draw attention to ourselves. It is selfishness.

2. Criticism.

Jude 10-16, Yet these men speak abusively against whatever they do not understand; and what things they do understand by instinct, like unreasoning animals - these are the very things that destroy them. 11 Woe to them! They have taken the way of Cain; they have rushed for profit into Balaam's error; they have been destroyed in Korah's rebellion. 12 These men are blemishes at your love feasts, eating with you without the slightest qualm - shepherds who feed only themselves. They are clouds without rain, blown along by the wind; autumn trees, without fruit and uprooted - twice dead. 13 They are wild waves of the sea, foaming up their shame; wandering stars, for whom blackest darkness has been reserved forever. 14 Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men: "See, the Lord is coming with thousands upon thousands of his holy ones 15 to judge everyone, and to convict all the ungodly of all the ungodly acts they have done in the ungodly way, and of all the harsh words ungodly sinners have spoken against him." 16 These men are grumblers and faultfinders; they follow their own evil desires; they boast about themselves and flatter others for their own advantage.

Note - Criticism is ultimately aimed at God. (Numbers 14)

3. Complaining.

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Philippians 2:14, Do everything without complaining or arguing, 15 so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe 16 as you hold out the word of life - in order that I may boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor for nothing.

Note - Complaining reveals a hidden distrust in God.

4. Profanity.

Psalms 10:4, 7, In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God. 7 His mouth is full of curses and lies and threats; trouble and evil are under his tongue.

Note - Profanity is the language of fools.

5. Boasting.

Proverbs 27:1-2, Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring forth. 2 Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; someone else, and not your own lips.

Note - Boasting is the fruit of insecurity.

6. Lying.

Proverbs 12:22, The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful.

Note - Lying is the most unChristlike thing we can do.

7. Lewdness.

Ephesians 5:3-4, But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. 4 Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.

Example - Preachers telling dirty jokes.

Note - Lewd talk reveals an absence of the fear of God.

Proverbs 6:2, ...you have been trapped by what you said, ensnared by the words of your mouth.

Note - Gossip, criticism, complaints, profanity, boasting, lying and lewd talk will keep you entangled in disfunction for life. God wants you untwisted!

· Discipleship is the cure for tongue twisters.

4 Ways to Discipline the Tongue

1. Put the right things in your heart.

Luke 6:45, The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.

Note - Garbage in, garbage out! (Keep the wrong things out!)

2. Use restraint.

Proverbs 17:27, A man of knowledge uses words with restraint, and a man of understanding is even-tempered.

James 1:19-21, My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, 20 for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. 21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

Note - Just because we have the freedom to sav

...just because we have the freedom to say anything we want doesn't mean we should!

3. Think before speaking.

T – True?

H – Helpful?

I – Inspiring?

N – Necessary?

K – Kind?

4. Practice positive conversation.

Proverbs 15:23, A man finds joy in giving an apt reply - and how good is a timely word!

Illustration – The feathers / Michelle's text