

D6 EveryDay™ Parent Page

Date | **July 18, 2021** Family Theme | **Faith Chooses Godly Conduct** Study Text | **James 3:1–4:12**

Objective: Children choose to conduct themselves in a godly manner, including choosing their words carefully, living humbly and wisely, submitting to God, and resisting Satan and his temptations.

How This Lesson Fits in the Story of the Bible: This lesson is set in the early years of the New Testament Church. The Church was experiencing persecution and conflict, and some believers were not living out their faith. James reminded them that genuine faith chooses godly conduct.

Bible Basics: Go over the following question and answer each day this week and work with family members to do so as well. What does the Fourth Commandment mean? Answer: The Fourth Commandment (Exodus 20:8) instructs us to keep one day in seven as a special day of worship, set apart from the other six days. In the Christian era this day is Sunday in celebration of Jesus' resurrection on that day.

Read the Word: James 3:1–4:12

Disciple Your Kids

Talk with your children and grandchildren about why it's important we choose our words carefully, be humble, submit to God, and resist the Devil and his temptations. Talk about what this looks like and how to do it.



Key Truth: Living God's Way Includes Choosing Our Words Carefully (James 3:1-12)

James reminded the would-be teachers that they carried a heavier accountability for the words they used. James gave some interesting examples to explain how much damage could come from the tongue, an otherwise insignificant part of the body. Our words can cause great damage, and we should seek to control them with the Lord's help. It will help if we take the time to think about what we are saying or typing, how it may come across to others, and whether it is more likely to cause damage or to build up someone else. We must learn to think before we speak or type that text or social media post.



Key Truth: Living God's Way Includes Being Selfless and Humble (James 3:13–4:3)

James shifted his focus from speech and words to actions and deeds, insisting that believers demonstrate their wisdom through humble and wise deeds. He began a contrast of two kinds of wisdom. Boasting, envy, and ambition were worldly and demonic. The source of that wisdom is the Devil himself. It brings disorder and all manner of evil deeds. In contrast, godly wisdom comes from Heaven. Its result is peaceful righteousness. As believers, we hold to the truth that others are created in the image of God and should be treated as such. We humble ourselves to put others ahead of ourselves. We do not focus only on our own needs, but consider others' needs as well.



Key Truth: Living God's Way Includes Submitting to God and Rejecting Sinful Desires (James 4:4-12)

People cannot be friends with both God and the world. The jealousy the Bible ascribes to God is a legitimate jealousy. He will not share our worship with another. How can believers be among the humble, to whom God shows grace? By humbling themselves and engaging in actions that reflect that humility: Submit to God. Resist the Devil. We need to consciously submit to God, looking to Him for the power to do His will, while resisting Satan's attempts to draw us away.

Discussion Starters

Use one or more of the following questions as discussion starters with your kids this week.

- What does it mean for our conduct to be “godly”?
- How do we gain control of what we say, and how we say it?
- How does godly wisdom affect the way we talk to and treat others?
- How do we submit to God?
- How do we resist the Devil?
- **For Elementary:** What are some examples of how people hurt others with the words they use?
- **For Elementary:** Who do we have to help us resist the Devil and choose to follow God's way?

Everyday Extras

With this simple experiment, help your children understand Christians should live in the world but not become like the world. Fill a small clear glass halfway up with water. This represents people in the world who do not know Jesus. Then pour in vegetable oil, to represent Christians. The oil and the water separate, even though both are in the same glass. We live in the world, but we are not of the world. We behave and think differently from those who do not know Christ. Add some food coloring to the glass. This represents the sin and worldly desires all people face. The food coloring should pass through the oil to color the water. Stir everything up. When we sin, we become like the world. As the contents begin to separate again, explain that through repentance, we can become clean again. Our godly conduct should distinguish us from the world.

Preschool Highlights for SQUARE 1 & ROUND 2

Today your child learned the Bible teaches us that even though the tongue is a small part of our body, it can be very powerful. The words we say can be used to help others or hurt them. Speaking kind and helpful words and encouraging others are good choices. **I Can Make Good Choices With My Words.**