

Sunday Worship: Aug. 28th, 2022

Lake Joseph Community Church

Responsive Psalm 145:1-9

Read: James 3:1-12 – Kelly Bruneau

Sermon: Taming the Tongue

- III) in our Church family we studied the book of James recently
- → wholistic Xian living – Head, Heart, Hands →
be doers of the word not just hearers
- today we consider the **power** of words...
- III) ASP – mounted police 2 Friesians → tiny **bit** in horses mouth vs. body (2lb-1,400lbs)
- ie/ **shark** at Marine Land – kiss; **cobra** (charmer)

- we have dominion over beasts, not **tongue**
- **rudder** (pilot) guides whole ship (1/1000)
- weight of human tongue = 65 g, vs. 65 kg!
- tongue **wield great power:** for good & evil
- III) power of MLK Jr.s' words; ignite nation to rethink equality
- **v.1: fear the position of leader/teacher**
- say more publicly, more likely to stumble
- III) Ford's political strategy – don't speak!
- *Better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak and to remove all doubt.* **ABE LINCOLN**
- **v.2:** all stumble with our words (imperfect)
- great forest set ablaze by 'small fire!'
- he **proves power** of tongue with many images

- tongue → corrupts whole person – sets course of life on fire – meaning??
- judgmental venom toward others, becomes self-consuming – self-loathing
- tongue is evil it is set on fire by **hell!**
- but main teaching: read 9-10
- fresh & salt water don't share same source
- tongue made to **praise G & bless our neighbour**
- **no one does it perfectly (v.2), BUT...**there is a Holy Helper - **One who knows us, yet loves us!**
- HS of G, you are welcome, inspire our tongues
- people disappoint...yes, BUT with HS help, instead of judging & tearing down with our tongue, we can **forgive, bless, welcome**

- what **power a word forgiveness** has
- **read – 2 Cor. 5:19**
- G is saying: I gave you a tongue to bless not curse, draw all to me, not push away
- to continue the ministry of reconciliation between our holy G & sinful humanity
- May G enable us to use our **most powerful tool** for praise & worship & the blessing of all people

Hymn – O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Benediction