

Part 1: Taming the Tongue

It is so important to have “Faith Conversations” at home in between Sundays. Many faithful college students said they attributed their strong faith to the fact that they had faith conversations in their home. We hope these will help you to talk about God, making faith relevant, wherever you are: in the car, at dinner, in a restaurant, etc.

Conversation Starter:

This is a really good 2 minute animated video for children (of any age) to introduce them to what the Bible says about the tongue. (If you have older teens, watch the video and you could just say this illustration of taming animals, but not the tongue.) <http://www.videosforyouth.com/mini-movies/14218/Taming-The-Tongue> (You can click to play it full screen on your computer without purchasing it.)

Conversation Scripture:

Read James 3:7-11. (Even though the video just read this verse, have your child(ren) open their Bible and read it again. You always want to get into the Word, so they become more familiar with it.)

Conversation Discussion:

- How is the tongue like a little fire?
- Do you think the Bible is right about the tongue, that it’s hard to control?
- Share a time you wish you could take back something said?
- When do you find it hardest to hold your tongue? (When someone offends you? When you feel betrayed? When someone treats you unfairly? When you get angry? When things don’t seem fair?)
- Why do you think it is so hard to “tame your tongue?”
- If we really believed God created everyone, how might we treat them (even when they hurt us)?
- How did Jesus show He had his tongue tamed?
- What are some ways you can stop yourself *before* you are about to say something you shouldn’t? (Put your hand over your mouth and run? Pinch yourself? Stop yourself as you sense yourself getting angry, etc.)
- What should you do when you mess up? (Ask for forgiveness and then do something that shows you mean it. It’s amazing how love in action can “cover a multitude of sins.” 1 Peter 4:8)

Don’t forget mom/dad, when you answer these questions too, you show your children about being a real follower of Christ and that there is grace. They will respect you all the more when you reveal you aren’t perfect and in need of forgiveness just as much, or maybe more, than they do. ☺