

**Dig Deeper @Home – “I Pledge Allegiance ...”
Complement to lesson on 05/02/21 – “To God over Self”**

ICE BREAKER – Questions to open dialogue and learn more about those gathered

1. Share a time when you said something and then wished you hadn't
2. Would you rather be seen and never heard or heard and never seen?

MEMORIZE – James 3: 17-18

But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

READ James 3

Questions to ponder/discuss:

1. What does the Holy Spirit draw your attention to as you read this passage? What sticks out to you?
2. What general observations can you make? Anything repeated? Contrasted? Compared?
3. What can we learn about either God or the state of humanity through this passage?
4. Spend some time googling pictures of ships with their rudders. Or take a trip to a local marina to see a boat in person. After looking at the pictures or the boats in person read again James 3: 4-6
 - a. What is this saying about the tongue?
 - b. What are you to do about it?
5. Read Luke 6: 43-49
 - a. What in these verses is consistent with what James is saying in his letter?
 - b. In what ways are you guilty of calling Jesus, “Lord, Lord” and not doing what he says? What are you going to do about this?

Experiential activity – Fresh Water Springs

James wants us to use our tongues for the glory of God and the good of others. He wants our tongues to be springs of fresh water. Of its many qualities, fresh water refreshes. As people who are “doers of God’s word,” we want our tongues to be springs of fresh water that refreshes others with our words. So do that. Each day this week, use your words to encourage and lift up someone where you live, someone where you work and someone where you play/hang out.

SING (Suggested songs to sing. Use these, or any favorites of the gathered group, to worship Jesus!)

I Pledge Allegiance to the Lamb - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mECQOt2z7mw>

Build your Kingdom Here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQ3EZbgeCaU>

Onward Christian Soldiers - (Mennonite Hymnal #591)

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. A time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Go from this place and be doers of God’s word who accompany their faith with actions. Trust the Holy Spirit to enable you to reflect the likeness of Christ by using your words to bless, build up and encourage all people where you live, work and play.