

# Teaching & Learning

(James 3:1-12)

**Introduction:** The epistle of James has been called “the gospel of common sense.” To say the least, it is an extremely practical book. The third chapter provides some wonderful material for the one who would be a “gospel teacher.” Perhaps some have concluded that the general theme of this chapter is a proper use of the tongue, but a closer analysis reveals that James is discussing a more specific area of Christian service – the qualities of an ideal “gospel teacher.”

## I. An Ideal Teacher Recognizes the \_\_\_\_\_ of His Role in Imparting Spiritual \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) James 3:1-2
- B) A Christian enters a greater realm of responsibility by becoming a teacher.
- C) Not only is he accountable for his own religious practice but, also for the information he imparts to others to practice.
- D) James’ admonition, “Let not many of you become teachers...” was not designed to \_\_\_\_\_ us from seeking to teach but, was intended to arouse in us a sense of responsibility, an awareness of the \_\_\_\_\_ of our job as teachers.

## II. An Ideal Teacher Recognizes the \_\_\_\_\_ of Misusing the Tongue (3:3-12).

- A) The connection between James’ discussion of the tongue & the exhortation in verse 1 is obvious.
- B) James’ notes the difficulty in controlling the tongue (vs. 3-5a).
- C) Illustrates the profound damage this small member can produce (vs. 5b-8).
- D) James shows the inconsistency in our use of this gift of God (vs. 9-12).

## III. An Ideal Teacher is Characterized by “\_\_\_\_\_ From Above” (vs. 13-17).

- A) Wisdom & understanding of God’s truth is illustrated by our good behavior.
- B) There is no place in the church for...
  1. Jealousy
  2. Selfish ambition
  3. Arrogance
  4. This “wisdom” is earthly, sensual and demonic.
- C) James’ points to the wisdom from above that should characterize every gospel teacher:
 

1. _____	4. _____
2. Peaceable	5. Full of _____ & good fruits
3. _____	6. Unwavering
7. Without _____	

## IV. Summary and the Four Basic Elements of Teaching (v. 18)

- A) \_\_\_\_\_ is taught: “And the seed...” (i.e. God’s word)
- B) The \_\_\_\_\_ of the teaching: “...whose fruit is righteousness...”
- C) The \_\_\_\_\_ of teaching: “...is sown in peace...”
- D) \_\_\_\_\_ teaches it: “...by those who make peace.”

**Conclusion:** Where could we find a better list of qualities to characterize an ideal gospel teacher than here in “James’ Teacher Training Class”?

*My Notes:*