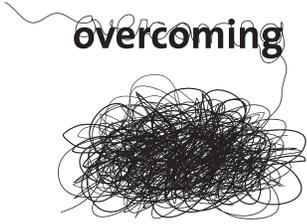


overcoming



OVERCOMING “Sticks and Stones”— Words that Heal Instead of Hurt

Overcoming, Part 3

Ed Noble, Lead Pastor

May 9 & 11, 2014

OVERCOMING... if we want to be happy, only option is to learn to *overcome* problems... including the world of problems that comes from “words”.

Notice:

- ✓ Apparently, the “sticks and stones” guy *is an idiot*.

In reality our “words” are...

² For we all stumble in many ways. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect/completely mature person, able to bridle the whole body as well... ⁵ So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by the human race.

James 3:2, 5–7

- ✓ **LAST** — The last thing to come around.
- ✓ **HARDEST** — The hardest thing to domesticate.
- ✓ **REVEAL** and **SHAPE** — both show who we really are and make who we really are!

⁸ But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; ¹⁰ from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way.

James 3:8–10

GETTING TOWARDS WORDS THAT “BLESS”

1. **NEW VISION**: The “imago dei” has to capture our *imagination*.
2. **NOT**: It’s not about *trying harder to choke out the right words*.

¹³ Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth.

James 3:13–14

- **Faking it** only works so long...
- **Humility helps**... lots — ask for help.
- **Letting go** is GOLD!

¹⁵ This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. ¹⁸ But the fruit that is righteousness is sown in peace by the makers of peace.

James 3:15–18

3. **GOT TO GET GOD INVOLVED** — there are two different kinds of “smart” — we need to choose carefully.
 - God gets involved by *faith*, by *calling on* Him, by *invitation*!



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1. NEW _____: The "imago dei" has to capture our _____.

2. NOT: It's not about _____.

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James 3:15–18

3. GOT TO GET _____ — there are two different kinds of _____ — we need to choose carefully.

- God gets involved by _____, by _____ Him, by _____!