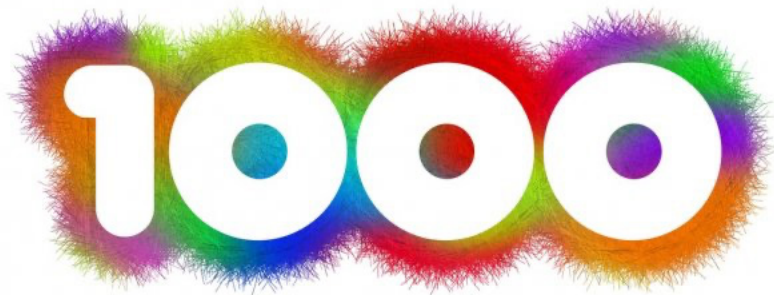


St John Church of Christ

December 6, 2020

Now meeting Online Only

ONLINE



A Word Worth a Thousand Pictures

Our new online Adult Bible Study continues this morning at 10:30. It's based on John McKeel's recent book, *Peter the Friend of Jesus Speaks*. Our programs are available over the internet starting Sundays at 10:30 for Adult Class and 11:00 for Worship. Just visit

www.StJohnChurchOfChrist.org

and select "Sermons" from the menubar at the top, or click this link to visit our page on YouTube:

[St. John Church of Christ](http://St.John Church of Christ)



Someone once said, "A picture is worth a thousand words," however Don Chaney, a radio-advertising salesman once observed:

"You give me a thousand words and I'll take the Lord's Prayer, the Twenty-Third Psalm, the Hippocratic Oath, a sonnet by Shakespeare, the Preamble to the Constitution, Lincoln's Gettysburg address, and I'll still have enough words left over for just about all of the Boy Scout Oath. Now would you trade these one thousand words for any picture?"

Then there was the Creation: "And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." God spoke the world into existence. He created light, heaven, land, vegetation, seasons, fish, birds, animals and people all with a word (Genesis chapter 1). The Apostle John

wrote: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God," (John 1:1). Don't ever doubt the power of speech!

But our speech can be good or bad. James, the brother of Jesus, said, "The tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell," (James 3:6). It's been said that a person's worth depends upon their two smallest organs: their heart and their tongue.

How can I learn to control my mouth? First let me say, "It ain't easy!" (Bad grammar, but right on target.) So how do we go about "tongue taming"? Here are some hints:

Continued on back page

Continued from front page

Granny's observation was correct: "God gave us two ears and one tongue so we should listen twice as much as we talk."

Before you open your mouth, ask yourself, "Is it necessary for me to say anything?" Someone joked, "Christians don't gossip, they just share prayer requests."

Ask yourself, "Is it true?"

Ask yourself, "Is it kind?"

Finally, share this prayer, "Lord, may my words be tender and kind for I may have to eat them."



News & Prayer Requests

December is here and the holidays are upon us! Of course it is different in the midst of the pandemic, so let's pray hard for safety for our friends, our families, and our community.

Please pray especially for:

- The Turner family in Great Bend as they continue to heal.
- Stan as the doctors continue to minister to him.
- Curtis, Stan's friend in Pratt, as he wrestles with cancer.
- Susan and Dennis Rosenbaum as Susan struggles with Covid.
- Paul, John's friend from high school in Washington, as he too deals with cancer.
- But above all else, let's give thanks for the many blessings God continually gives us – even in these hard times!