

## Good Tongue, Bad Tongue

Mom could hear arguing from the dining room. She quickly ran in to stop the fight.

"May, you're so dumb!" Auggie shouted.

"And you're stupid!" May yelled right back.

"Hey, hey, hey!" Mom intervened. "Both of you need to cool down. Go to your rooms."

Auggie and May both angrily stomped to their rooms. Mom heard a door slam. She sighed and opened her scripture app on her phone. These kids needed a lesson.

After several minutes, Mom called for Auggie and May to come to the living room. Both silently walked in, a little calmer than earlier, and sat down on the couch. Mom sat in the chair across from them.

"Auggie, May, I heard you each say very unkind words to each other. This makes me sad. Though you didn't push or hit each other, words can hurt just as bad."

Auggie and May were silent as Mom opened her phone.

"James chapter three talks about this," Mom began as she scrolled through her scriptures. "He mentions that though the tongue is very small, it can do a lot of damage. Our tongues can hurt and offend people. Auggie, read this. Verse 10."

"'Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.'"

"This scripture is saying that we are saying good things and bad things, but we should only be saying one of those." Mom took the phone back from Auggie. "Which should it be? May?"

"We should be saying good things." May answered quietly.

"That's right," Mom confirmed. "Auggie, May, I want you both to say something nice about each other. Auggie, you go first."

"Well," Auggie thought for a moment. "You're a really good artist, May."

"Thanks," May gave Auggie a smile. "You're really good at soccer."

"See?" Mom saw Auggie smile back at May. "Saying kind things are so much better than saying mean things. I want you two to work on that, okay?"

Auggie and May both agreed. They then turned to each other, apologized, and hugged it out.