



## **Sainly Sips with Deacon Ken**

This week's saintly sip is about our tongues! Let's see what scripture says about the tongue –

James 3: 1-8 . . . *“Do not be too eager, brethren, to impart instruction to others; be sure that, if we do, we shall be called to account all the more strictly. We are betrayed, all of us, into many faults; and a man who is not betrayed into faults of the tongue must be a man perfect at every point, who knows how to curb his whole body. Just so we can*

*make horses obey us, and turn their whole bodies this way and that, by putting a curb in their mouths. Or look at ships; how huge they are, how boisterous are the winds that drive them along! And yet a tiny rudder will turn them this way and that, as the captain's purpose, will have it. Just so, the tongue is a tiny part of our body, and yet what power it can boast! How small a spark it takes to set fire to a vast forest! And that is what the tongue is, a fire. Among the organs of our nature, the tongue has its place as the proper element in which all that is harmful lives. It infects the whole body, and sets fire to this mortal sphere of ours, catching fire itself from hell. Mankind can tame, and has long since learned to tame, every kind of beast and bird, of creeping things and all else; but no human being has ever found out how to tame the tongue.”*

How are we with OUR TONGUES? Do we speak as followers of Christ? Or could our language, the words we use, use a little cleaning up? It is often said that what comes out of our mouths comes from the heart (Matthew 15:17-19).

I work in the oil and gas industry, have traveled the world, and have heard about everything that one could imagine (& things one couldn't imagine as well). One cannot assume that most of the foul language that we hear comes from un-educated people. On the contrary! Most of the vulgarity comes from those with one, or maybe two college degrees, from all walks of life, at all levels of managerial hierarchy, and independent of being in mixed company (men and women).

It is a person's lack of intimacy with Our Lord Jesus Christ that is the source of their vulgarity. Let us all grow close to Christ so that we use our tongues for blessings rather than cursing!

God Bless you all;

**Deacon Ken**