

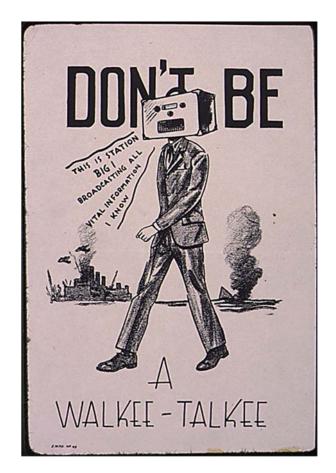
## **Growing through James ...**

Faith and Actions is a 10 week sermon series that hopefully will reveal to each of us how God is calling us to live each day. The video's, the sermons, and the weekly inserts are all available at our website, <a href="https://stpaulsalive.org">https://stpaulsalive.org</a>.

WORSHIP at the RIVER returns TONIGHT at 7pm! Join us at the RED BANK BATTLEFIELD PARK as we look at Colossians! REVIVAL TIME IS HERE!!

MAKE PLANS FOR <u>CHRISTMAS IN JULY</u> next Sunday night (7/28)  $AT\ THE\ RIVER\ ....$ 

A serious question ... when was the last time you participated in a BIBLE STUDY? It might have been here at St. Paul's or perhaps someplace else. If you can't remember when or you never have ... why don't you try our TUESDAY TUNE-UP from home?



FAITH & ACTIONS week #6

Sticks & Stones may break my bones

BUT NAMES ... NAMES ... MOCKING,

DEMEANING ...

NAMES and words can hurt forever!



The phrase "Loose Lips Sink Ships" was repeated often during the Second World War out of fear that spies for the Axis enemies might discover the movement of our ships and troops by listening to every day conversations of innocent people.

The picture on our insert today was a pin used in World War 2 along with a number of posters as part of a general campaign of the American government during World War II to advise servicemen and other citizens to avoid careless talk that might undermine the war effort. There were many slogans with "Loose lips sink ships" being the best known and it remained part of the language after the war was over.

Throughout history the written and the spoken word have had immense power to effect change, start wars, and convince people to accept rulers, decisions, and changes that they might otherwise oppose.

"My task, which I am trying to achieve is, by the power of the written word, to make you hear, to make you feel--it is, before all, to make you see."

- Joseph Conrad in his book Lord Jim
- <sup>21</sup> Death and life are in the power of the tongue; those who love it will eat its fruit." Proverbs 18:21

'A good person brings good out of the treasure of good things in his heart; a bad person brings bad out of his treasure of bad things. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.' LUKE 6:45

'So then, whatever you have said in the dark will be heard in broad daylight, and whatever you have whispered in private in a closed room will be shouted from the housetops.' LUKE 12:3

## Questions ...

- 1. Jesus last command to those of us who believe before He ascended into heaven was to 'Go therefore and make disciples of all nations ... teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you.' When you consider the words that you use speaking with friends or at work or that you type on social media ... are they words that reflect the teaching of Jesus Christ?
- 2. The two verses from Luke that I have included remind us that even the words we think might be secret will get out (especially in these days of the internet) and that more than almost anything our words reveal who we are. When you get home today and are by yourself, list a few things that you have said recently that you wish you could have stopped from being posted online or heard by another person. If you have not written or said any, think about words that you have heard from people claiming to be Christians that hurt the image of Jesus Christ.
- 3. Can you list 20 words or phrases that reflect the Gospel message of Jesus Christ that would be easy to use in your everyday conversation or your posting online?
- 4. The Hillsong singers' song OCEANS includes these words, 'Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders. Let me walk upon the waters; Wherever You would call me.' How can your use of words reveal that you are willing to ask God to have God's Spirit lead you because you trust God?