



Christ Church

HAYWARDS HEATH

TalkBack

GOSSIP

22.07.18



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HOW SERIOUS IS GOSSIP?

ROMANS 1:28-32; 2 CORINTHIANS 12:20; 1 TIMOTHY 5:12-13

WHAT IS GOSSIP?

SLANDER - PROVERBS 11:12-13

"WHISPERER" - PROVERBS 20:19

GIVE SOME EXAMPLES:

DISCUSS: WHY DO PEOPLE GOSSIP

FROM THE HEART - MATTHEW 12:34

FOR MOMENTARY SATISFACTION - PROVERBS 18:8 - "SWALLOW GREEDILY"

REVENGE, CONTROL, SELF PROTECTION, PRIDE, BREAK FRIENDSHIPS WHICH THREATEN US -
PROVERBS 16:28

WE LIKE BAD STORIES - LIES OF SATAN?

DISCUSS: WHAT CAN BE GOOD AND GENUINE REASONS FOR SHARING BAD INFORMATION? WHAT ARE THE DANGERS AND LIMITS WE TO APPLY? WHEN DOES SHARING INFORMATION CROSS THE LINE TO GOSSIP?

BUT WHAT ABOUT:

A) IF I JUST LISTEN?

B) IF I AM JUST SHARING?

C) I NEED SOME ADVICE?

D) I AM ASKING FOR PRAYER?

E) PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW THIS FACT?

HOW TO COMBAT GOSSIP

- SEE THE DESTRUCTIVE FORCE OF WORDS (JAMES 3:1-12)
--> PROV 21:23, GUARD YOUR TONGUE
- REPENT, AVOID SITUATIONS OR PEOPLE WHO GOSSIP OR CAUSE US TO (PROV 20:19)
- SOMETIMES WE MUST SAY NOTHING (PROV 10:19)
- RECOGNISE REAL POWER IN GOD
- UNDERSTAND WHO YOU ARE IN CHRIST AND BE CONTENTED WITH THAT
- LEAVE JUSTICE TO GOD, SHOW MERCY AND GRACE
- BELIEVE THE BEST, MAKE SURE YOU KNOW THE WHOLE TRUTH AND DON'T ASSUME MOTIVES
- COMMEND THE GOOD (EPH 4:29); LOVE AND SERVE PEOPLE;
USE WORD TO BUILD UP (1 THESS 5:10-12),
- BEING GOSSIPED ABOUT – OVERLOOK, CONFRONT FORGIVE, COVER
PROV 10:12 AND 1 PETER 4:8
- GOSSIP THE GOSPEL MORE THAN ANYTHING ELSE,
- GOSSIP ABOUT JESUS MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE

BIBLE PASSAGES

Romans 1:28-32

28 Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. 29 They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, 30 slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; 31 they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. 32 Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practise them.

2 Corinthians 12:20

20 For I am afraid that when I come I may not find you as I want you to be, and you may not find me as you want me to be. I fear that there may be discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, slander, gossip, arrogance and disorder.

1 Timothy 5:12-13

12 Thus they bring judgment on themselves, because they have broken their first pledge. 13 Besides, they get into the habit of being idle and going about from house to house. And not only do they become idlers, but also busybodies who talk nonsense, saying things they ought not to.

Proverbs 10:12

12 Hatred stirs up conflict, but love covers over all wrongs.

Proverbs 10:21

21 The lips of the righteous nourish many, but fools die for lack of sense.

Proverbs 11:12-13

12 Whoever derides their neighbour has no sense, but the one who has understanding holds their tongue. 13 A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret.

Proverbs 18:8

8 The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to the inmost parts.

Proverbs 16:28

28 A perverse person stirs up conflict, and a gossip separates close friends.

Proverbs 17:4

4 A wicked person listens to deceitful lips; a liar pays attention to a destructive tongue.

Proverbs 20:19

19 A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid anyone who talks too much.

Proverbs 21:23

23 Those who guard their mouths and their tongues keep themselves from calamity.

Proverbs 26:17

17 Like one who grabs a stray dog by the ears is someone who rushes into a quarrel not their own.

Matthew 12:34

34 You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

2 Thessalonians 3:11

11 We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies.

2 Thessalonians 3:6-14

6 In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. 7 For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, 8 nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, labouring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. 9 We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate. 10 For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: 'The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat.' 11 We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. 12 Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat. 13 And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good. 14 Take special note of anyone who does not obey our instruction in this letter. Do not associate with them, in order that they may feel ashamed.

James 3:3-12

3 Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. 2 We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check. 3 When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. 4 Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. 5 Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. 6 The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

7 All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, 8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

9 With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. 10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. 11 Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? 12 My brothers and sisters, can a fig-tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring

Ephesians 4:29

29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

1 Peter 4:8

8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins.

