

GOSSIP, SO WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? PART I

Focus Text: Proverbs 26:22

INTRODUCTION

There are some who have nothing else to do but spread lies and rumors. These individuals get joy from making others look bad or ruining reputations. Some just have the need for attention. However, they forget the damage their tongues can do at the expense of others. One's tongue can edify a life or destroy one. We are to be helpers of one another. However, many times, we allow negative emotions to cause us to make statements that in due time, we regret.

Tool #1 Define Gossip

1. What is one characteristic of a gossip? **Proverbs 11:13**
2. How crucial can gossip be? **Proverbs 18:21**
3. Name five key phrases that precede gossip?
 - a. "Don't tell anyone I told you this but..."
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.
4. Describe characteristics of a gossip.
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.
 - e.

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Tool #2 Know what causes one to engage in gossip

5. What is the mindset of a gossip? **Romans 1:28, 29**
6. What does a gossip lack? **1Timothy 5:12, 13**
7. Give examples to the reasons that individuals participate in gossip?
 - a. Popularity –
 - b. Acceptance –
 - c. Ruin Reputations –
 - d. Jealousy –
 - e. Covetousness -

Tool #3 Understand what the Word of God says about gossip

8. Discuss the following. **Leviticus 19:16**
9. Discuss the following. **Matthew 7:12**
10. Discuss the following. **Ephesians 4:29**