



Sermon Outline
February 23, 2020
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Gossip

Proverbs 21:23

Definition of gossip: *Unconstrained conversation or reports about other people, typically involving details that are not confirmed as being true.*

Proverbs 21:23 - Those who guard their mouths and their tongues keep themselves from calamity.

What's _____ about gossip?

Proverbs 18:8 - The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to the inmost parts.

Proverbs 26:22 - The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to the inmost parts.

Possessing and sharing significant information about others can make you feel more significant yourself.

People love to hear private/privileged/confidential information.

What's _____ about gossip?

Proverbs 11:13a - A gossip betrays a confidence...

Proverbs 16:28b - ...a gossip separates close friends.

Proverbs 26:20 - Without wood a fire goes out; without a gossip a quarrel dies down.

1. Gossip runs with a _____ crowd.

Romans 1:29-30a - 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**, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful...

2. Gossip is no _____ of persons.

* **It skews the _____ of the one being spoken about.**

* **It warps the perspective of the listener.**

* **It diminishes the _____ of the speaker.**

People who talk to you about others will also talk to others about you.

Everything that's said needs to be true but not everything that's true needs to be said.

Putting the _____ on gossip:

1. Before you speak to another person about another person have a conversation with _____.

* **It's impossible to tell a _____.**

Luke 12:2-3 - There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. What you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight, and what you have whispered in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed from the roofs.

2. Only speak in a discerning way about another person who is not present to someone who is part of the _____ or part of the _____.

3. _____ each other.

Questions to ask when your gossip alert goes off:

Have you talked to this person about this?

What's the purpose for you telling me this?

When people are fishing for information respond by saying: That's probably a conversation you need to have with them.

* **Instead of getting wrapped up in discerning how other people are living their lives, make the most of living _____.**