

**Being a God-Hater?
Some Biblical Reflections on Gossip**

Gossip:

Foundations

1. **Gossip is the dangerous line that is crossed too often by someone who t_____ t___ m_____**

Proverbs 20:19

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

Proverbs 10:19

When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise.

2. **Gossip is as objectionable a sin as m_____ (Gossip is right up there with being a G___-h_____)**

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 practice 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.

Don't listen to gossip

1. **A_____ gossip altogether (and the person who b_____ words).**

Proverbs 20:19

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

2. **Our flesh has an a_____ for 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.

Don't speak gossip

1. **Gossip does not understand what I_____ looks like**

Proverbs 17:9

Whoever would foster love covers over an offense, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.

1 Peter 4:8

Love covers a multitude of sins.

2. Gossip separates c_____ f_____

Proverbs 16:28

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

3. Gossip cares more about being the t_____ of a s_____ than it does about being t_____

Proverbs 11:13

A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret.

Proverbs 20:19

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

1 Timothy 5:13

...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.

4. Gossip will eventually t_____ a_____ its teller and result in their own b_____ r_____

Proverbs 25:9-10

⁹If you argue a case with your neighbour, do not betray another man's confidence, ¹⁰or he who hears it may shame you and you will never lose your bad reputation.

5. Gossip makes the f_____ b_____ and removing the gossip puts the f_____ o_____

Proverbs 16:28

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

Proverbs 26:20-22

²⁰Without wood a fire goes out; without a gossip a quarrel dies down. ²¹As charcoal to embers and as wood to fire, so is a quarrelsome person for kindling strife. ²²The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to the inmost parts.

6. K_____ s_____ (and covering offenses) is the p_____ that you are trustworthy

Proverbs 11:13

A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret.

Deuteronomy 29:29

The secret things belong to the LORD our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may follow all the words of this law.