



Sermon Outline
November 3, 2024
Pastor Bryan Myers

Gossip Deflated

1 Peter 3:9-10

** Although the tongue weighs very little,
very few people are able to hold it.*

*** The Bible's clear that we need to have an appropriate _____ for the words we speak.**

James 1:26 - Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.

*** The _____ of your conversation is crucial.**

Proverbs 12:18 - The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

** Speaking about important issues, situations, or incidents with people who are **part of the problem, part of the solution**, or someone who can provide **wise, godly counsel** is _____ gossip.*

Ecclesiastes 3:7b – (There is) a time to be silent and a time to speak.

Our working definition of gossip: *Sharing inappropriate information about someone who isn't present with another person that could lead to a moral judgment and usually contains a certain entertainment value.*

*** Gossip often includes some _____ mixed with some of our own personal interpretation & judgement.**

*** Gossip tends to be _____,
hidden, secret, stealthy, sly.**

** News is information that's everybody's business. Gossip is _____ information that's really nobody's business.*

1 Peter 3:9-10 - Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing. For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep their tongue from evil and their lips from deceitful speech."

Deflating gossip will require identifying:

1. _____ you engage in it or have become a recipient of it.

** Simply having gossip on your _____ is half the battle.*

*** Don't be _____. Just be aware.**

** Remember! Those who talk to you about others are very likely to talk to others about you!*

2. _____ you do it. *Explore the reasoning behind your need to share information about someone with another person.*

*** Make a commitment to neither contribute nor condone it. Don't become a _____.**

3. _____ would be appropriate clarifying questions to ask when gossip is encountered.

*** Questions for others:**

- *Before you share this information, am I part of the problem, part of the solution, or are you seeking counsel?*
- *Would you help me understand why you are telling me this?*
- *When do you plan to share this with that person?*

*** Questions for yourself:**

- *Would I share this information if the other person was in the room? What if Jesus was in the room?*
- *Could this information cause someone to think negatively about this individual?*
- *Is it kind? Is it necessary? Is it verifiable & completely true?*

A gossip deflating prayer:

Psalm 19:14 - May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.