

GOSSIP

Psalm 139:23-24 & Proverbs 6:16, 19

Excuses Week 2

*“Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.” - Psalm 139:23-24 NLT*

*“When we are talking about a situation with somebody who is neither part of the problem or part of the solution, then we are probably gossiping.” - Rick Warren*

*“ There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him... <sup>19</sup> a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.” - Proverbs 6:16, 19*

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

WHY DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN GOSSIP?

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OVERCOMING THE SIN OF GOSSIP:

- IS MY CONVERSATION HELPFUL OR HURTFUL?

*“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up...” - Ephesians 4:29*

*“Scoundrels create trouble; their words are a destructive blaze. A troublemaker plants seeds of strife; gossip separates the best of friends.”  
Prov 16:27-28 NLT*

- AM I MAKING PRIVATE MATTERS PUBLIC?

Harvest Community Church

March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

*"It is foolish to belittle one's neighbor; a sensible person keeps quiet. A gossip goes around telling secrets, but those who are trustworthy can keep a confidence."* - Proverbs 11:12-13 NLT

*"When arguing with your neighbor, don't betray another person's secret. Others may accuse you of gossip, and you will never regain your good reputation."* – Proverbs 25:9-10 NLT

- AM I PERMITTING OTHERS TO GOSSIP?

*"Wrongdoers eagerly listen to gossip; liars pay close attention to slander."* - Proverbs 17:4 NLT

### YOUR WORDS MATTER

*"But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned."* - Matthew 12:36-37

My words have the power of life and death!