God's Guidance on Gossip

David Banning · Ephesians 4:29 · Series: **Christian Living (The Struggle With Sin)**

INTRODUCTION

- Gossip is a corrupt form of communication, a destructive way to use our gift of speech.
- Sometimes that is precisely where the struggle is. It's knowing what exactly constitutes gossip.
- Gossip alienates brethren from each other. It creates suspicion and distrust.

1 Refrain From Attitudes That Help Lead to Gossip

2 Thessalonians 3:11–12; Proverbs 18:8

- The Bible would warn us to refrain from the kinds of attitudes and behaviors that help lead to gossip that make the soil fertile for gossip.
- For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.
- He's talking about a person who, neglecting their own responsibility, sees the need to always have their nose in everyone else's business.
- The words of a whisperer are like dainty morsels. They go down into the innermost parts of the body.
- Don't be a meddler in other men's business. Don't be curious about every salacious detail in someone else's life. That is the thinking and the mindset of a gossip.
- David Banning needs to get busy taking care of David Banning's business. And that's what the rest of us need to do too.

2 The Scripture Plainly Teaches Us Not to Gossip

Romans 1:29; 2 Corinthians 12:20; Proverbs 11:13

- The word translated here, gossip or whisperer, is a word that literally means secret slander.
- It is included in the description of the godless world at that time.
- He who goes about as a tailbearer reveals secret, but he who is trustworthy conceals a matter.
- He who goes about as a slanderer reveals secrets, therefore do not associate with a gossip.
- When something is shared in confidence, they keep it in confidence.
- That's what a gossip is, brethren. It's a person who reveals secrets, information that was entrusted to them and intended to keep private.

MY NOTES