

Sticks and Stones

#3: I know you are, but what am I?

How To Put An End To Gossip

1. Look at gossip the _____
Romans 1:29-30 *They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful...*

*Gossip _____

Proverbs 6:19 *There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him: ... a man who stirs up dissension among brothers.*

*Gossip _____

*Gossip _____

Proverbs 16:28 *A perverse man stirs up dissension, and a gossip separates close friends.*

2. Check your words _____

*Am I 100% sure it's true?

Ephesians 4:15 *Instead, we will speak the truth in love...*

*Why do I want to say this? Check your motive

Romans 12:10 *Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.*

*Is this something I was told in confidence?

Proverbs 11:13 *A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy man keeps a secret.*

3. Challenge gossip _____

*Can I quote you on this?

*You know what I like most about this person...

*Have you talked to them about this? I will.

Matthew 18:15 *If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you.*

Ephesians 4:29 *Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs...*

"When we are talking about a situation with somebody who is neither part of the problem nor part of the solution, then we are probably gossiping." Rick Warren

- Is this person going to help me fix the problem?
- Would I be comfortable if this person were to walk in on this conversation?
- Am I building this person up in their eyes or tearing them down?

Chinese proverb: Speak only well of people and you never need to whisper.

Proverbs 18:8 *The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to a man's inmost parts.*

Proverbs 20:19 *A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid a man who talks too much.*

2 Corinthians 12:20 *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 quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, factions, slander, gossip, arrogance and disorder.*

3 John 1:10 *So if I come, I will call attention to what he is doing, gossiping maliciously about us. Not satisfied with that, he refuses to welcome the brothers. He also stops those who want to do so and puts them out of the church.*

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

Proverbs 25:9-10 *If you argue your case with a neighbor, do not betray another man's confidence, or he who hears it may shame you and you will never lose your bad reputation.*