

What "God's Word" Says About GOSSIP!

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DEFINITIONS

GOSSIP: A person who repeats idle talk and rumors especially about the private affairs of others.

SLANDER: The utterance to another person false statements, damaging to a third person's character or reputation.

RUMOR: General talk not based on definite knowledge; mere gossip; hearsay.

DISPARAGE: To lower in esteem or discredit by insinuation, invidious comparison, or faint praise.

MALIGN: To speak evil of; to defame or slander with malicious ill will.

SLUR: To disparage or discredit; to cast aspersions on.

SMEAR: To harm the reputation of; to malign or slander.

DEFAME: To attack or injure the reputation or another of another by false, malicious statements or half-truths.

TALEBEARER: A person who spreads scandal, tells secrets, gossips, etc.

BUSYBODY: A person who mixes into other people's affairs when not invited; a meddler or gossip.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Whoever privately **slanders** his neighbor will be cut off: the high look and a proud heart will not I suffer. (Ps. 101:5)

These six things does the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: A false witness that speaks lies, and he that **sows discord** among brethren. (Prov. 6:15, 19)

He that hides hatred with lying lips, and he that utters a **slander**, is a fool. (Prov. 10:18)

A **talebearer** reveals secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit conceals the matter. (Prov. 11:13)

The words of a **talebearer** are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly. (Prov. 18:8)

He that goes about as a **talebearer** reveals secrets: therefore meddle not with him that flatters with his lips. (Prov. 20:19)

Where no wood is, there the fire goes out: so where there is no **talebearer**, the strife ceases. (Prov. 26:20)

Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which **cause divisions** and offenses contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them. (Rom. 16:17)

Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and **evil speaking**, be put away from you, with all malice: (Eph. 4:31)

Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that **walks disorderly**, and not after the tradition which he received of us. (2 Ths. 3:6)

For we hear of some walking among you disorderly, working not at all, but are **busybodies**. (2 Thess. 3:11)

Even so must their wives be grave, not **slanderers**, sober, faithful in all things. (1 Tim. 3:11)

And they will learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but **tattlers** also and **busybodies**, speaking things which they ought not. (1 Tim. 5:13)

Holding fast the faithful word as he has been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the **gainsayers**. (Titus 1:9)

For there are many **unruly and vain talkers** and deceivers, especially they of the circumcision: Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake. (Titus 1:10-11)

Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all **evil speakings**, (1 Pet. 2:1)

But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a **busybody** in other men's matters. (1 Pet. 4:15)

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