

## SESSION 4 BIBLE VERSES – KEEP IT SHUT

**Romans 1:29** *NIV* <sup>29</sup> They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, <sup>30</sup> slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; <sup>31</sup> they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy. <sup>32</sup> Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.

**Proverbs 6:1-5** *NIV* Warnings Against Folly **6** My son, if you have put up security for your neighbor, if you have shaken hands in pledge for a stranger, <sup>2</sup> you have been trapped by what you said, ensnared by the words of your mouth. <sup>3</sup> So do this, my son, to free yourself, since you have fallen into your neighbor's hands: Go—to the point of exhaustion—and give your neighbor no rest! <sup>4</sup> Allow no sleep to your eyes, no slumber to your eyelids. <sup>5</sup> Free yourself, like a gazelle from the hand of the hunter, like a bird from the snare of the fowler.

**Psalms 19:12-14** *NIV* <sup>12</sup> But who can discern their own errors? Forgive my hidden faults. <sup>13</sup> Keep your servant also from willful sins; may they not rule over me. Then I will be blameless, innocent of great transgression. <sup>14</sup> May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer.

**Matthew 14** *NIV* John the Baptist Beheaded **14** At that time Herod the tetrarch heard the reports about Jesus, <sup>2</sup> and he said to his attendants, "This is John the Baptist; he has risen from the dead! That is why miraculous powers are at work in him." <sup>3</sup> Now Herod had arrested John and bound him and put him in prison because of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, <sup>4</sup> for John had been saying to him: "It is not lawful for you to have her." <sup>5</sup> Herod wanted to kill John, but he was afraid of the people, because they considered John a prophet. <sup>6</sup> On Herod's birthday the daughter of Herodias danced for the guests and pleased Herod so much <sup>7</sup> that he promised with an oath to give her whatever she asked. <sup>8</sup> Prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me here on a platter the head of John the Baptist." <sup>9</sup> The king was distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he ordered that her request be granted <sup>10</sup> and had John beheaded in the prison. <sup>11</sup> His head was brought in on a platter and given to the girl, who carried it to her mother.

**Psalms 141:3** *NIV* <sup>3</sup> Set a guard over my mouth, LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips.

**Proverbs 11:13** *NIV* <sup>13</sup> A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret.

**Proverbs 16:28** *NIV* <sup>28</sup> A perverse person stirs up conflict, and a gossip separates close friends.

**Proverbs 20:19** *NIV* <sup>19</sup> A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid anyone who talks too much.

**Proverbs 26:22** *NIV* <sup>22</sup> The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to the inmost parts.

**2 Corinthians 12:20** *NIV* <sup>20</sup> 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 discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, slander, gossip, arrogance and disorder.

**Proverbs 26:20** *NIV* <sup>20</sup> Without wood a fire goes out; without a gossip a quarrel dies down.

### BOOK CHAPTER 7 & 8/HOMEWORK REFERENCES:

**Genesis 27** Jacob & Rebekah plot about stealing Esau's birthright

**Genesis 37** Joseph's brothers complain & plot to harm him

**Exodus 16:2** *NIV* <sup>2</sup> In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron.

**Job 2:11** *NIV*<sup>11</sup> When Job's three friends, Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite, heard about all the troubles that had come upon him, they set out from their homes and met together by agreement to go and sympathize with him and comfort him.

**2 Samuel 11:15** *NIV*<sup>15</sup> In it he (David) wrote, "Put Uriah out in front where the fighting is fiercest. Then withdraw from him so he will be struck down and die."

**Matthew 13:55** *NIV*<sup>55</sup> "Isn't this the carpenter's son? Isn't his mother's name Mary, and aren't his brothers James, Joseph, Simon and Judas?"

**Mark 6:3** *NIV*<sup>3</sup> Isn't this the carpenter? Isn't this Mary's son and the brother of James, Joseph,<sup>[a]</sup> Judas and Simon? Aren't his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

**1 Corinthians 4:19** *NIV*<sup>19</sup> But I (Paul) will come to you very soon, if the Lord is willing, and then I will find out not only how these arrogant people are talking, but what power they have.

#### **GOSSIP IS WHEN:**

- We divulge a secret we were specifically asked not to share.
- We divulge a secret that we are pretty sure is not meant to be shared, even if we weren't explicitly instructed not to repeat it.
- We tell a story about someone we have not yet verified to be true.
- We speak about others in a way that paints them in a negative light so the listener will form an unflattering opinion.
- We talk in a cryptic way about someone, subtly suggesting some thing questionable or even scandalous about his or her character.
- We start out a story with a statement such as, "You know, they say..." "They" can speak for themselves. Quoting "they" as the source of a story is a red flag. "They" are the origin point of ginormous amounts of gossip.

#### **GOSSIP IS NOT:**

- Processing a conflict or difficult situation between you and another person (or persons) with a trusted and tight-lipped friend, family member, mentor, counselor, or support group. The words spoken are straightforward facts, and you make no effort to cast the other person in a bad light. You truly desire support, guidance, and prayer for handling the situation.
- Giving your honest opinion when asked about someone's character in a reference situation, such as when someone is applying for a job, a scholarship, or a leadership position.
- Giving your opinion about another person with words that impart grace, point out the honorable parts of their personality and character, and leave the less-than-lovely parts unsaid. My mama always told me that if you look hard enough, you can find the good in anyone. This reminds me of an old rhyme that goes like this: *There's so much good in the worst of us, and so much bad in the best of us, that it hardly becomes any of us, to talk about the rest of us.*

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**Psalm 31** – pg 80-82 Mark it up as guided on page 80 of study guide.

**Psalm 31:7** *NIV* <sup>7</sup> I will be glad and rejoice in your love, for you saw my affliction and knew the anguish of my soul.

**Exodus 14:14** *NIV* <sup>14</sup> The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still.”

**Ecclesiastes 3:7** *NIV* <sup>7</sup> a time to tear and a time to mend, a time to be silent and a time to speak,

**Ecclesiastes 5:2** *NIV* <sup>2</sup> Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few.

**Psalm 15** *NIV* A psalm of David. <sup>1</sup> LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent? Who may live on your holy mountain? <sup>2</sup> The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous, who speaks the truth from their heart; <sup>3</sup> whose tongue utters no slander, who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others; <sup>4</sup> who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the LORD; who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind; <sup>5</sup> who lends money to the poor without interest; who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

**James 4:13-16** *NIV* Boasting About Tomorrow <sup>13</sup> Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” <sup>14</sup> Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. <sup>15</sup> Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.” <sup>16</sup> As it is, you boast in your arrogant schemes. All such boasting is evil.

**Galatians 1:10** *NIV* <sup>10</sup> Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

**Ephesians 4:15** *NIV* <sup>15</sup> Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.