

Better Together (part 4 and 5)  
Watch Your Mouth  
7.25.2018  
8.8.2018

## Review

In a time of great individualism, God wants us to become conscious that we are a body of believers that create a place for Him to work.

Totally crossgrain to the atmosphere today...

Are you willing to work with us as a body of believers?

Are you willing for the sake of your spiritual life to deny yourself and commit to the family of a local church and become involved in helping, not just consuming?

There will be things you don't like, but that is part of the process of growing spiritually...

Your bones get denser through challenge - exercise. Your heart too!

Grass, vegetation tempers itself when challenged by climate...

We grow when things don't go our way. We are tempered.

Last 3 times:

1. Remember that God is body conscious!
2. We together create an atmosphere...
3. Don't let yourself be used like a cancer cell.
4. The way we treat each other is the way we treat Jesus Himself!
5. Think, act, and speak unity.
6. Allow love to help you overlook the flaws and misdeeds of others.
7. Be Careful of personal bitter root judgments.

A+B=C

A=Event

B=individual's thought/conditioning

C=Response

1 Peter 4:8 -Amplified

Above all things have intense and unfailing love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins [forgives and disregards the offenses of others].

## **Tonight part 4 - Watch Your Mouth**

### **Words are a powerful force! Words create things...**

Proverbs 18:21 –Amp

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and they who indulge in it shall eat the fruit of it [for death or life].

James 3:2-12 - NLT

Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way.

(3) We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth.

(4) And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong.

(5) In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire.

(6) And the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.

(7) People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish,

(8) but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison.

(9) Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God.

(10) And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right!

(11) Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water?

(12) Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring.

### **A huge problem right now in culture that is exacerbated by media, Facebook and social apps is strife and gossip.**

Walking in Love is necessary to our walk with God. And part of walking in love is watching our mouth.

1 Corinthians 13:7 (ESV) Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Bears - covers in silence. Refuses to talk about negative things in other people's lives.

1 Corinthians 13:7 (AMPC) Love bears up under anything and everything that comes, is ever ready to believe the best of every person, its hopes are fadeless under all circumstances, and it endures everything [without weakening].

## **Refuse Gossip**

### **Gossip**

One who chatters idly or repeats rumors about others.

idle talk or rumor, especially about the personal or private affairs of others:

*Gossip spreads division and disunity.*

*Don't repeat scandal. Don't say about someone in their absence what you would not say in their presence.*

*You're just as guilty if you listen!*

Example - Steve S

*Love believes the best of every person.*

Proverbs 6:16-19 - NLT

There are six things the Lord hates— no, seven things he detests: (17) haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that kill the innocent,(18) a heart that plots evil, feet that race to do wrong,(19) a false witness who pours out lies, a person who sows discord in a family.

Message – a troublemaker in the family...

Psalms 15 - NLT

Who may worship in your sanctuary, Lord? Who may enter your presence on your holy hill?  
(2) Those who lead blameless lives and do what is right, speaking the truth from sincere hearts. (3) Those who refuse to gossip or harm their neighbors or speak evil of their friends. (4) Those who despise flagrant sinners, and honor the faithful followers of the Lord, and keep their promises even when it hurts. (5) Those who lend money without charging interest, and who cannot be bribed to lie about the innocent. Such people will stand firm forever.

Example - Kenneth Hagin's son at pastor's house

**Quotes-Sign Posts on the Road to Success**

**Next - 8.8.2018**

## **Satan is the author of Slander (Gossip)**

Slander

The oral utterance or spreading of a falsehood, harmful to another's reputation.

Satan slandered God when he was one of God's angels...and was kicked out of heaven over it...

Ezekiel 28:11-15 (NKJV)

Moreover the word of the Lord came to me, saying, (12) "Son of man, take up a lamentation for the king of Tyre, and say to him, 'Thus says the Lord God:"You were the seal of perfection, Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty. (13) You were in Eden, the garden of God; Every precious stone was your covering: The sardius, topaz, and diamond, Beryl, onyx, and jasper, Sapphire, turquoise, and emerald with gold. The workmanship of your timbrels and pipes Was prepared for you on the day you were created. (14) "You were the anointed cherub who covers; I established you; You were on the holy mountain of God; You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones. (15) You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created, Till iniquity was found in you.

Ezekiel 28:16-18 - NKJV

By the abundance of your trading You became filled with violence within, And you sinned; Therefore I cast you as a profane thing Out of the mountain of God; And I destroyed you, O covering cherub, From the midst of the fiery stones. 17 "Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty; You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor; I cast you to the ground, I laid you before kings, That they might gaze at you. 18 "You defiled your sanctuaries By the multitude of your iniquities, By the iniquity of your trading; Therefore I brought fire from your midst; It devoured you, And I turned you to ashes upon the earth In the sight of all who saw you.

Dake's Annotated Reference Bible

Trading: Merchandising (KJV), Trafficking (KJV)

Hebrew: rekullah (H7404), traffic. It refers to Lucifer's walking up and down slandering God to his own subjects on earth, and to God's subjects among the angels, until he had all his earthly subjects rebelling against the Creator, as well as over one-third of the angels (Isa. 14:12-14 2 Pet. 3:4-6 Rev. 12:4). Whatever it was, it is clear here that the behavior resulted in violence; and Lucifer sinned and broke with God.

(Bible Knowledge Commentary)

The word for trade comes from the verb rakal which means "to go about from one to another."

### **We get some idea of what Satan was trafficking or doing to slander God:**

Isaiah 14:12-14 (NKJV)

How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, You who weakened the nations! 13 For you have said in your heart: I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation On the farthest sides of the north; 14 I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.'

Lucifer was one of God's leaders in heaven and he trashed God to the angels around him to the point that 1/3 rebelled against God.

...once a person tells you a negative thing...it's hard for that negative not to color the person in your eyes.

Numbers 12 - Miriam slandered Moses and it was an offense to God!

Numbers 16 - Rebellion of Korah - Korah unjustly challenged Moses' leadership.

**BALANCE THIS OUT:**

Leaders need input from others. But, it must be at the right place with the right people.

No one should EVER bash an organization or its leader in front of everyone else! What they should do is go to the leaders and have honest conversations, even pointing out areas of disagreement. That is healthy.

What is sinful is pointing out disagreements you have about an organization or its leader to everyone but the LEADER. That is slander, and that brings division, and that is sin!

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 (NLT)

Dear brothers and sisters, honor those who are your leaders in the Lord's work. They work hard among you and give you spiritual guidance. 13 Show them great respect and wholehearted love because of their work. And live peacefully with each other.

Hebrews 13:7 (NLT)

Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives, and follow the example of their faith.

Hebrews 13:17 (NLT)

Obey your spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit.

**If Satan spread gossip and slander in heaven, and was cast down from there to earth, then who do you think is behind gossip and slander today?**

Example - any person used in any way to hinder the ministry of the local church is being used by Satan.

Our church covenant...

**Listen to the Scriptures:**

Psalm 109:2-5 - NLT

While the wicked slander me and tell lies about me. (3) They surround me with hateful words and fight against me for no reason.(4) I love them, but they try to destroy me with accusations even as I am praying for them! (5) They repay evil for good, and hatred for my love.

Psalm 50:20-21 - NLT

You sit around and slander your brother— your own mother's son. (21) While you did all this, I remained silent, and you thought I didn't care. But now I will rebuke you, listing all my charges against you.

Proverbs 11:9 - NLT

With their words, the godless destroy their friends, but knowledge will rescue the righteous.

Revelation 12:10 - NLT

Then I heard a loud voice shouting across the heavens, "It has come at last— salvation and power and the Kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down to earth— the one who accuses them before our God day and night.

Psalm 34:13 - NLT

Then keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies!

1 Peter 3:10-12 - NLT

For the Scriptures say, "If you want to enjoy life and see many happy days, keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies. (11) Turn away from evil and do good. Search for peace, and work to maintain it. (12) The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right, and his ears are open to their prayers. But the Lord turns his face against those who do evil."

Titus 3:2 - NLT

They must not slander anyone and must avoid quarreling. Instead, they should be gentle and show true humility to everyone.

1 Corinthians 4:13

We appeal gently when evil things are said about us. Yet we are treated like the world's garbage, like everybody's trash—right up to the present moment.

Psalms 101:5 - MSG

I put a gag on the gossip who bad-mouths his neighbor; I can't stand arrogance.

James 4:11 - NLT

Don't speak evil against each other, dear brothers and sisters. If you criticize and judge each other, then you are criticizing and judging God's law. But your job is to obey the law, not to judge whether it applies to you.

### **Action Points:**

#### **What to do if someone seeks to entice you to listen to gossip or slander:**

1. Immediately stop the conversation and ask the person to pray with you, and lead in a prayer for the person they were seeking to gossip about.
2. Stop the conversation, and mention kindly that you are the wrong person to talk to about the issue with the other person. Kindly suggest that they go talk personally to the individual they were seeking to talk about.

### **WORDS CREATE YOUR WORLD**

Hebrews 11:3

By faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that the things which are seen were not made of things which are visible.

Hebrews 3:1

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,

Proverbs 6:2

You are snared by the words of your mouth; You are taken by the words of your mouth.

Proverbs 8:7-8

For my mouth will speak truth; Wickedness is an abomination to my lips. (8) All the words of my mouth are with righteousness; nothing crooked or perverse is in them.

Proverbs 8:13

13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; pride and arrogance and the evil way  
And the perverse mouth I hate.

Proverbs 10:11

The mouth of the righteous is a well of life, but violence covers the mouth of the wicked.

Proverbs 12:13

The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his lips, but the righteous will come through trouble.

Proverbs 12:14

A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth, and the recompense of a man's hands will be rendered to him.

Proverbs 12:18

There is one who speaks like the piercings of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health.

Proverbs 12:25

Anxiety in the heart of man causes depression, but a good word makes it glad.

Proverbs 13:2

A man shall eat well by the fruit of his mouth, But the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence

Proverbs 13:3

He who guards his mouth preserves his life, but he who opens wide his lips shall have destruction.

Proverbs 15:23

A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, and a word spoken in due season, how good it is!

Proverbs 16:23-24

The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, and adds learning to his lips. (24) Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones



Proverbs 17:20

He who has a deceitful heart finds no good, and he who has a perverse tongue falls into evil.

Proverbs 17:27-28

He who has knowledge spares his words, and a man of understanding is of a calm spirit. (28) Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; When he shuts his lips, he is considered perceptive.

Proverbs 18:7

A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul.

Proverbs 18:20-21

A man's stomach shall be satisfied from the fruit of his mouth; from the produce of his lips he shall be filled. (21) Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.

Proverbs 21:23

Whoever guards his mouth and tongue keeps his soul from troubles.

Ecclesiastes 5:2-3

Do not be rash with your mouth, and let not your heart utter anything hastily before God. For God is in heaven, and you on earth; therefore let your words be few. (3) For a dream comes through much activity, and a fool's voice is known by his many words.

Matthew 12:34-37

Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned"

