

FAITHFUL FAITHFUL MEN

2 Samuel 15

Gossip...

1. ... is a serious sin
2. ... is like murder in that one's character is assassinated
3. ... grieves the heart of God
4. ... comes from a narcissistic and arrogant perspective
5. ... reveals a man's immaturity
6. ... is an outer indication of an inner deficiency
7. ... is like a sharp knife stabbing the back of another
8. ... is one-sided and at least partially a lie
9. ... is a polar opposite of the gospel
10. ... is often an attempt to raise oneself up while bringing others down, because the gossip cannot or will not advance on their own merits
11. ... is deeply destructive attempt to receive unwarranted affirmation and significance
12. ... is often often veiled in some kind of religious prayer request which is weak and sad
13. ... is the means by which trustworthiness is annihilated

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

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

Solutions in Ministering to a "gossip"

1. Try to identify the underlying problem and try to meet that need in the "gossip".
2. Confront the "gossip" in love and don't be an accomplice to the crime by saying nothing. This does no one any favors.
3. Many people are unaware of their sin—but they should be—it is costing them big time.

I will raise up for myself a faithful priest, who will do according to what is in my heart and mind. I will firmly establish his priestly house, and they will minister before my anointed one always. 1 Samuel 2:35