

Sermon Series: REVIVAL IS HERE

Sermon Title: “When All the Gossips Shut Up & All the Church Members Pray Up”

Scripture: Psalm 85:6, Matthew 12:33-37 (NIV)

Review: When all the sleeping people wake up: It’s time to wake up, put off & put on!

GOSSIP OR PRAYER...IT’S YOUR CHOICE

“With the _____ (tongue) we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God’s likeness. Out of the same _____ (mouth) come praise and cursing, my brothers, this should not be.” (James 3:9-10)

1. GOSSIP _____ (CONDEMNS) US

-“if anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless” (James 1:26)

-“I will watch my ways and keep my tongue from sin; I will put a muzzle on my mouth” (Psalm 39:1)

-“a gossip betrays confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret” (Proverbs 11:13)

-“a gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid anyone who talks too much” (Proverbs 20:19)

-“without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down” (Proverbs 26:20)

-“they get in the habit of being idle and going from house to house, and not only do they become idlers, but also busybodies who talk nonsense, saying things they ought not to” (I Timothy 5:13)

2. PRAYER _____ (ACQUITS) US

-“if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land” (II Chronicles 7:14)

-“I sought the Lord and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears...this poor man called, and the Lord heard him, he saved him out of all his troubles” (Psalm 34:4-6)

-“you have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy,’ but I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons & daughters of your Father in heaven” (Matthew 5:43-45)

CLOSE: Gossip or Prayer...it’s your choice: “For by your _____ (words) you will be acquitted, and by your _____ (words) you will be condemned” (Matthew 12:37)

OPEN ALTAR: PRAYER