

Sermon Discussion Questions

Words: GOSSIP – Matt Slocum

11 June 2023

Sermon Text: Ephesians 4:24b-32

AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for specific needs of group members.

MESSAGE INTRODUCTION

In week 2 of our "Words" series, Pastor Matt explores the topic of Gossip. Gossip isn't simply telling someone else's story; it actually strips our prayers of their power. As followers of Christ, we are called to Prophecy, which is to speak out Kingdom revelation and release God's power through our words. This week we will examine ways we try to disguise what is gossip, by calling it a different name and examine what the Bible says about it.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week, we were asked to consider our words and ask ourselves if they were bringing freedom, redemption, and grace. What did you discover?
2. What impacted you the most from this week's sermon?
3. "Gossip is attractive because it satisfies our need to be right." Explore this statement. Do you struggle with a need to be right?
4. "Gossip hides behind virtuous titles." What titles have you found gossip lurking behind? Did you realize it at the time?
5. "Gossip strips our prayers of power by misdirecting them." Have you withheld from forming a conclusion until you've prayed? What tips do you have for those of us who struggle with this?

Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. What's your go-to dance move and will you show us?
2. If you got to choose your name, what would it be and why?
3. If you had a pet parrot, what would you teach it to say?

6. Gossip has affected all of us, either by participating or being the topic of discussion. However, there is healing and forgiveness for us in Christ. Take some time now to pray specifically over group members who request it.

APPLICATION

Much like last week, consider your words. Are you participating in gossip? Is there someone in your life who is trying to get you to gossip with them? Be aware and remind yourself you don't have to associate with gossip.

COMING UP

To join a small group or find out more about what is going on at NWC, go to <https://nwckc.com> or the New Wine Church Community Group Facebook page. Study materials are also available on the website or Facebook page.

Youth Summer Camp, 19-24 June, Eagle Sky Camp, Piedmont, MO. Cost is \$525. See website for more details and to register.

Child Dedications, 25 June, 9 and 11 am, Oak Park HS. See website for more details and to register.

New Wine Kids Camp at PowerPlay, 12-14 July, 10 am to 2 pm. Ages 4 through 5th grade. Cost is \$75. See website for more details and to register.

FINAL THOUGHT

Gossip is a seed that will be harvested.