

WORDS: THE GOOD, THE BAD & THE UGLY, Part 2

(Selected Proverbs)

Central Idea: *Because God intends us to use our words to benefit others, He hates the insidious work of the gossip.*

I. A Biblical Understanding of Gossip

A. God's view

B. Defining the terms

II. What the Book of Proverbs Says about Gossip

A. Causes

B. Characteristics

C. Consequences

D. Cure

FOR INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION OR GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Give careful thought to the nature and content of your conversations.
2. Do they focus on people who are not present? Do they express negative thoughts about others? Are your conversations truthful or full of speculation?
3. Why is gossip so easy for us to participate in?
4. What role does jealousy play in the life of the gossip? What other reasons can you think of which might cause a person to gossip?
5. How can we be more conscious of the impact of our words and of God's desire for our words to benefit others, not hurt others?

Community Bible Church
Rev. Charles Tschetter, Lead Pastor

This outline is provided to assist you in understanding and applying today's message. *Words: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly, Part 2* is the third message in a series on Proverbs: Wise Living in a Foolish World. This message can be listened to or downloaded at cbcomaha.org. You may also stream and download CBC podcasts from itunes or google play.

Words: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly, Part 2

A Biblical Understanding of Gossip

- God's View
- Defining the terms

The Book of Proverbs and Gossip

- Causes
- Characteristics
- Consequences
- Cure



Words: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly, Part 2

There are six things which the Lord hates, yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that run rapidly to evil, a false witness who utters lies, and one who spreads strife among brothers.



Words: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly, Part 2

English dictionary ... gossip

Noun ... casual or unconstrained conversation or reports about other people, typically involving details that are not confirmed as being true.

Synonyms ... tittle tattle or tattling; whisper; hearsay; rumor; scuttlebutt; dishing or to dish the dirt



Words: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly, Part 2

1. The focus is usually on people (personal lives)
2. The person isn't present
3. The content is negative
4. The motive is selfish (not to build someone up in love)
5. The facts are uncertain or missing



Words: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly, Part 2

A Biblical Understanding of Gossip

- God's View
- Defining the terms

The Book of Proverbs and Gossip

- Causes
- Characteristics
- Consequences
- Cure



Words: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly, Part 2

1. Talk less



Words: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly, Part 2

2. Ask yourself some hard questions about your speech

- *Why* am I sharing this information?
- Does the person *need to know*?
- Is it *true*?
- Is it *confidential*?
- Is it *profitable*?
- Is it *kind*?
- Is it *necessary*?



Words: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly, Part 2

3. Refuse to listen

4. See gossip for what it is ... **SIN**

*A tongue is a slave of the heart,
so make sure your heart is a good
master.*

