

# My Big Fat Mouth (Week 4)

Sam Roberts – 12 August 2018

## Discussion and Questions:

1. How would you define gossip? Is it any time anyone talks about another person in their absence?
2. Reputations are at stake when gossip abounds. What causes us to ignore that and do it anyway?
3. The Bible is not silent on the subject of gossip. Look up Proverbs 11:13, 16:28, 18:8, 20:19 and 26:20. The common thread is the damage gossip does. Sam says it hurts the person it is spoken about, the listener and the speaker. Can you relate to any of those?
4. Guarding your ears is a step you can take to avoid engaging in gossip. What did you think about the question “why are you telling me this” or “have you had a chance to speak to them about this”? Is it something you would use?
5. Close your mouth was the second thing you can do to disengage with gossip. Can you remember the verse we learned together? Proverbs 21:23 “Watch your tongue, keep your mouth shut and you will stay out of trouble.” How do you intend to apply this to your life?
6. Matthew 12:34 says “...out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks” and is the crux of the issue. If you are honest, what needs do you hope gossiping (or lying, criticizing and complaining, for that matter) will fill in your life? Encourage each other now with truth that can change all that. (Sam used Psalm 139:13-16 and Ephesians 2:10 for starters)

Conclude with prayers of expectation and gratitude for the work God has begun in you.

## Upcoming dates:

- Barn clear-out – Saturday August 18<sup>th</sup>
- Season Launch – Sunday August 26<sup>th</sup> 5pm
- Year 5&6 Overnighter (boys) – Saturday September 1<sup>st</sup>
- Year 5&6 overnighter (girls) – Saturday September 8<sup>th</sup>
- CORE – Monday September 17<sup>th</sup> – 7.30pm