



Killing Gossip; Building the Body!

Ephesians 4:29-32 – May 4, 2025

Ephesians 4:29-32

[29] Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. [30] And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. [31] Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. [32] Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. (ESV)

Proverbs 26:20

For lack of wood the fire goes out, and where there is no whisperer, quarreling ceases. (ESV)

James 3:5

So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! (ESV)

Proverbs 26:22

The words of a whisperer are like delicious morsels; they go down into the inner parts of the body. (ESV)

Romans 1:28–30

And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. [29] They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. **They are gossips**, [30] slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, (ESV)

Galatians 5:15, 20

But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another... Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, [20] idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions...

Calvary Membership Covenant:

We will protect the unity of the church by: refusing to sow discord and divisiveness and gossip.

Introduction:

*Put your oar in the water!
Offense & Defense*

1. The Deceptive Destroyer: Corrupting talk. (29)

(Proverbs 26:20-22, 2 Samuel 15:1-6, James 3:5-10, Romans 1:28-30)

2. The Root of the Disease: Self-Righteousness. (17-20)

(Galatians 5:15, 20, Genesis 3:1-5)

3. The Better Way: Building with Grace. (29)

(Ephesians 2:1-9)

Application questions on the back →

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For the following application questions, review your notes from the front.

SUNDAY after church...

Think through the morning and: 1) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you were able to give. 2) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you received. 3) List songs that touched your heart.

MONDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS:** What is more important in the Christian life: offense or defense? How is this series encouraging you to “put your oar in the water”?

TUESDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS:** Why is corrupting talk so destructive? Why is it so deceptive? Why is gossip so rarely confessed to one another compared to other sins?

WEDNESDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS:** How does the lust in our flesh to exalt self, fuel corrupting talk? Have you ever had the chance to stop the “gossip train” in a conversation? How did people react?

THURSDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS:** How have gracious words from the saints helped build you up in Jesus over the years? What are some specific examples you can remember? When was a time the Lord gave you an opportunity to give grace to another person with your words? How did they react?

FRIDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS:** Do you ever intentionally think about being a builder with your mouth or does it just flow naturally from your heart? How can you nurture your heart so that gracious words that build up naturally flow from your mouth? How can you be more intentional with words of grace to those in your life?

SATURDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS & BUILD:** How is the Lord leading you to build up the Body of Christ tomorrow?

*Let us join the work of Christ in bringing His Light to the world!
Our purpose is **to know...follow...and love Christ!***

