

# GOSSIP MONGERING PEOPLE

*Series: How to Deal with Difficult People*

**Proverbs 18:8, Matthew 12:36-37**

**SERIES THOUGHT:** You CAN'T control what OTHERS say and do, but you CAN control what YOU say and do.

## **OVERCOMING THE SIN OF GOSSIP**

*When tempted to share insider information ask yourself...*

- ❶ *Is my conversation HELPFUL or HURTFUL?  
(Ephesians 4:29, Proverbs 16:27-28 NLT)*
- ❷ *Am I making a PRIVATE matter PUBLIC?  
(Proverbs 11:12-13 NLT, Proverbs 25:9-10 NLT)*
- ❸ *Am I PERMITTING others to gossip?  
(Proverbs 17:4 NLT)*

## **WHAT YOU PERMIT - YOU PROMOTE!**

*When dealing with gossip-mongers you can try to be...*

- ✓ SUBTLE:
- ✓ CARING:
- ✓ BIBLICAL:
- ✓ DIRECT:

Current Series: How to deal with difficult people?  
*Gossip Mongering People Part4* by Pastor Jesse Elizondo (1/25/2015).

# REALife Application

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step. If you're leading a group through this guide, don't feel like you have to answer every question. Pick out those questions that will stir up conversation and action among your group.

What types of people tend to get under your skin the most? Why do these people bother you so much?

### **Main Idea:**

Your words matter so speak words that give life.

### **Key Questions:**

What causes you to participate in gossip?

Share a time when you were affected by gossip. How did it make you feel?

In what situations do you find yourself gossiping the most?

**Optional Questions:** If needed, include one or more of these scriptures and questions to extend your conversation.

With your Bible or your Bible App, read and discuss Proverbs 6:16-19, Proverbs 18:8, and Matthew 12:36.

Evaluate yourself. Do you find yourself engaging more in conversations that are helpful or hurtful? Explain.

How have you seen the rise of social media affect gossip?

Prior to hearing this message, how did you view gossip?

Who do you need to speak life-giving words to this week? How and when will you do it?

### **Next Steps:**

What steps do you need to take to overcome the sin of gossip?

# GOSSIP MONGERING PEOPLE

*Series: How to Deal with Difficult People*

**Proverbs 18:8, Matthew 12:36-37**

**SERIES THOUGHT:** You CAN'T control what OTHERS say and do, but you CAN control what YOU say and do.

## **OVERCOMING THE SIN OF GOSSIP**

*When tempted to share insider information ask yourself...*

❶ *Is my conversation \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_?*  
(Ephesians 4:29, Proverbs 16:27-28 NLT)

❷ *Am I making a \_\_\_\_\_ matter \_\_\_\_\_?*  
(Proverbs 11:12-13 NLT, Proverbs 25:9-10 NLT)

❸ *Am I \_\_\_\_\_ others to gossip?*  
(Proverbs 17:4 NLT)

## **WHAT YOU PERMIT - YOU PROMOTE!**

*When dealing with gossip-mongers you can try to be...*

✓ \_\_\_\_\_:

✓ \_\_\_\_\_:

✓ \_\_\_\_\_:

✓ \_\_\_\_\_:

Current Series: How to deal with difficult people?

*Gossip Mongering People Part4* by Pastor Jesse Elizondo (1/25/2015).

# REALife Application

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions, and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step. If you're leading a group through this guide, don't feel like you have to answer every question. Pick out those questions that will stir up conversation and action among your group.

What types of people tend to get under your skin the most? Why do these people bother you so much?

### **Main Idea:**

Your words matter so speak words that give life.

### **Key Questions:**

What causes you to participate in gossip?

Share a time when you were affected by gossip. How did it make you feel?

In what situations do you find yourself gossiping the most?

**Optional Questions:** If needed, include one or more of these scriptures and questions to extend your conversation.

With your Bible or your Bible App, read and discuss Proverbs 6:16-19, Proverbs 18:8, and Matthew 12:36.

Evaluate yourself. Do you find yourself engaging more in conversations that are helpful or hurtful? Explain.

How have you seen the rise of social media affect gossip?

Prior to hearing this message, how did you view gossip?

Who do you need to speak life-giving words to this week? How and when will you do it?

### **Next Steps:**

What steps do you need to take to overcome the sin of gossip?