

The Bible warns against participating in gossip, but what exactly is it? We all talk about daily events and the situations our friends face. So when does it become gossip? When we share something about another person that they wouldn't want others to know - speaking behind their back in a way that damages them.

The book of Proverbs says: "The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to the inmost parts.... A gossip separates close friends.... A gossip betrays a confidence.... Without a gossip a quarrel dies down." (Proverbs 18:8; 16:28; 11:13; 26:20)

We must be very careful not to hear or convey evil speech. Our words should always build up, and not tear down. Have you been guilty of repeating unkind or unwise words? If so, ask God to forgive you and to give you the internal discipline to refrain from evil gossip. Be discreet; don't repeat!

Proverbs 11:13 "A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret."