

## Speak Light Wk. 3 “Gossip: The Cancer of Darkness” Believers Statesboro 03-27-22

Speak Light Week 3 Pastor Scott Moore / Believers Church of Statesboro / www.believersstatesboro.com

**This Cancer of Darkness Had Been a Problem in Churches for a Long Time** 2 Cor. 12:20

### What is Gossip?

**Next Step – Today, I commit to memorize this definition of gossip.**  
**“Sharing anything about someone, when the act of sharing it, is not part of the solution of that person’s problem.” -Melody Green**

### How the God of Light Feels About the Darkness Gossip

Leviticus 19:16 / Proverbs 6:16-19 / Psalms 101:5 5

### The \_\_\_\_\_ of Gossip

Proverbs 11:13 / Proverbs 16:28 / Proverbs 18:8 / Proverbs 26:20 / Romans 1:28-32

### How to Kill the Cancer of Darkness with Light

1. **Stop talking \_\_\_\_\_ people and let’s start talking to people.**

Ephesians 4:29 / Galatians 6:1

**Next Step – Today, I commit to stop talking about people and start talking to people.**

2. **Learn to \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_.** Matthew 18:15 NLT “If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back.”

3. **Stop \_\_\_\_\_ to Gossip.** (I’m just concerned and listening to gossip, not spreading it!)  
Proverbs 17:4 A wicked person listens to deceitful lips; a liar pays attention to a destructive tongue.  
Why do you listen? 1 Samuel 24:9  
It takes two to tango. Proverbs 20:19 / Love doesn’t listen to evil. 1 Corinthians 13:6-7

**Next Step – Today I will consciously make an effort to stop listening to gossip.**

4. **Light up the darkness by \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.** Matthew 5:23-24 “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift. Acts 24:16

**Next Step – Today I will ask myself, “Who have I spoken darkness to, rather than light? Who must I ask for forgiveness?” I will take action to go to them and make it right!**

### Life App Group and Family Devotional Application

1. What is the cancer of darkness that tries to grow in churches?
2. How did we define gossip? What do you think about that definition? Agree, disagree?
3. What does God think about gossip and what are some of the results of gossip seen in scripture? Have you seen or experienced the negative results of gossip in your relationships?
4. What do we mean when we say, “stop talking about people and talk to people”? What good will that do?
5. What do you do when someone offends you? Ok now, that you gave the biblical answer, what do you really do? How do most people handle an offense against them? What are the 3 Steps in Matthew 18:15-17?
6. What kind of people listen to gossip in Proverbs 17:4? Why do we listen? Per the definition of love in 1 Corinthians 13:6-7, are you walking in love toward others when you allow someone to speak evil of them?
7. Will not listening shut the cancer down? What should you say to someone who brings gossip to you?
8. Read Matthew 5:23-24. What are we to do when we realize we have spoken darkness rather than light? Wouldn’t it be ok to finish your act of worship first and then they to go and reconcile? Why or why not? Anyone what to share a time when you had to “go and make it right” with someone?
9. Did you have opportunities to speak light at the Serve the Boro event Saturday? Share. Will you make a conscience effort to speak life and light this weekend at Serve the Boro?

*Answers: Results / about / deal - offenses / listening / asking – forgiveness*