

# Spoken Words: What to do about Gossip

By Kevin Kusunoki, July 06, 2023

Like one who grabs a stray dog by the ears is someone who rushes into a quarrel not their own.

Like a maniac shooting flaming arrows of death is one who deceives their neighbour and says, "I was only joking!"

Without wood a fire goes out; without a gossip a quarrel dies down. As charcoal to embers and as wood to fire, So is a quarrelsome person for kindling strife.

The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to the inmost parts.

Like a coating of silver dross on earthenware are fervent lips with an evil heart. Enemies disguise themselves with their lips, but in their hearts they harbour deceit. Though their speech is charming, do not believe them, for seven abominations fill their hearts. Their malice may be concealed by deception, but their wickedness will be exposed in the assembly. Whoever digs a pit will fall into it; if someone rolls a stone, it will roll back on them. A lying tongue hates those it hurts, and a flattering mouth works ruin.

## Proverbs 26:17-28 NIV

Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgement on it. There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you – who are you to judge your neighbour?

## James 4:11-12 NIV

Your notes

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. What type of gossip do you classify as?
2. How has the spirit of judgement impacted your relationships with other people?