

# 60 SECONDS IN THE SCRIPTURES

## GOSSIP

### THE FACTS:

- ✓ The Bible way of saying, “gossip” is “talebearer.”
- ✓ Scriptures that emphasize talebearing include: Pro. 11:13; 16:28; 17:9; Lev. 19:16; 26:22; 1 Cor. 6:9,10.
- ✓ Gossip is defined as: “a person who habitually reveals personal or sensational facts about others; a rumor or report of an intimate nature” (m-w.com).
- ✓ Based on the definition above, gossip can be true or false—betraying a confidence and sharing harmful information or slandering someone which involves creating or repeating lies.
- ✓ Gossip may involve repeating something we don’t know is true or not yet is damaging to a person’s reputation.
- ✓ Gossip is often spoken with the illusion that it will make a person feel better about themselves by bringing someone else down.

### THE FOCUS:

- ✓ Encouraging words and words of edification are those that should be spoken over any other (Eph. 4:29; Rom.14:19).
- ✓ Lying should never be a part of a Christian’s life (Col. 3:9; Eph. 4:25).
- ✓ We will give account of what we say in judgment (Mat. 12:36,37).
- ✓ It is wise to listen more than we speak (James 1:19)
- ✓ Slandering someone will keep us out of Heaven (1 Cor. 6:19,20)
- ✓ Refusing to listen to gossip will help it to die (Pro. 26:20)
- ✓ Using our mouths in a way that glorifies God is the best practice (Psa. 71:8).