

Me and My Big Mouth
This Mouth Is on Fire

*"Rumors are dainty morsels that sink deep into one's heart."
Proverbs 18:8 (NLT)*

Who gets burned by gossip?

1. Gossip burns the person BEING TALKED ABOUT.

"A troublemaker plants seeds of strife; gossip separates the best of friends." Proverbs 16:28 (NLT)

2. Gossip burns the person LISTENING.

"Wrongdoers eagerly listen to gossip; liars pay close attention to slander." Proverbs 17:4 (NLT)

3. Gossip burns the person SPEAKING.

"...Don't betray another person's secret. Others may accuse you of gossip, and you will never regain your good reputation." Proverbs 25:9-10 (NLT)

What do we do about it?

1. GUARD your ears.

Ask:

"Why are you telling me this?"

"Have you talked directly to them about this?"

"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." Matthew 18:15 (NLT)

2. CLOSE your mouth.

"Watch your tongue and keep your mouth shut, and you will stay out of trouble." Proverbs 21:23 (NLT)

3. Only talk BEHIND PEOPLE'S BACKS to BUILD them up.

[Jesus] "Do to others as you would like them to do to you." Luke 6:31 (NLT)

"Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them." Ephesians 4:29 (NLT)

"...Anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!"

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NLT)