

SPEAK NO EVIL

JAMES 4:11-12

Sermon Questions

1. What do you think is the deadliest weapon in Satan's arsenal? _____
2. James 3:1-4:12 is about the tongue starting church _____ and _____.
3. Censoriousness means being prone to _____, _____ and _____ others.

The Sin of Censoriousness (v. 11a)

4. James puts a big sin in the church foyer that says: "Do not _____ against one another."
5. Is there a good sense of judging? Yes/No
6. Jesus talks about a judgmental spirit in Matthew _____.
7. Agnes Beaumont was accused of a sinful relationship with which preacher?
 - a. John Calvin
 - b. John Bunyan
 - c. John MacArthur

The Sinfulness of Censoriousness (vv. 11b-12)

8. What are the reasons judging and slandering is so sinful?
 - a. Reason 1: It _____ God's Law.
 - b. Reason 2: It _____ God's Position.
9. Have you committed this sin before? Yes/No

Some Remedies for Censoriousness

10. What are the remedies for Censoriousness?
 - i. _____ your own _____ and God's grace.
 - ii. _____ in the Law.
 - iii. _____ to your Lawgiver, Judge, and Saviour.

Discussion Questions

1. As you reflect on this message, is there a pattern of judging others and speaking against them in your life, even in private, or to your spouse, or a best friend?
2. We can think we are obeying God when we are really neglecting portions of his law. The Pharisees liked to magnify certain parts of the law (tithing mint, dill, and cumin) but neglected the weightier matters of it (see Matthew 23). Is this law of loving our neighbour with our thoughts and speech and refraining from judgment and slander a part of the law you have neglected?
3. Is it a daily pattern for you to meditate on your sin and on God's grace? How can you incorporate that into your daily routine?

Discussion Questions for Children

1. Are you prone to quickly judge and speak against your siblings or friends when they do things you don't like? Have you considered that that is God's position, and not yours? That your job is to love your brothers and sisters, not judge them?
2. Have you begun to memorize the two great commandments: to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself? (Matt 22:34-40). Perhaps you can ask your parents to help you memorize them.
3. Do you think of Jesus as your Judge, who will examine what you do on the day of Judgment? Or just as your Saviour, who died on the cross to save you from your sins? Consider that he is both, so you must trust in him for salvation and tremble before his power and authority to judge.