

ZIP IT!!
James 4:11-12
Pastor Roy Halberg

→Grandma knew best when she said: “If you can’t say something good about someone, then don’t say anything at all”

→THE BIG IDEA: a person with a genuine living faith does not badmouth his brother

→This isn’t the first time that James has spoken to us about our mouth:

- 1:26 If anyone thinks himself to be religious and yet not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man’s religion is worthless
- 3:2 If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man able to bridle the whole body as well
- 3:6 the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity...sets on fire the course of life
- 3:8 No one can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil and full of deadly poison

1. The REBUKE of their behavior- James 4:11a “Do not speak against one another”

2. The REASON for the rebuke- James 4:11b ”He who speaks against a brother, or judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law”

3. The RESULT of their behavior- James 4:11c “If you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law, but a judge of it”

SO WHAT? NOW WHAT? TAKING IT HOME!!

1. Let’s get on the positive side of this topic . . . How SHOULD we speak to others?

- Eph 4:15 but speaking the truth in _____
- Eph 4:25Therefore, laying aside falsehood, SPEAK _____ EACH ONE of you WITH HIS NEIGHBOR
- Eph 4:29 Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for _____ according to the need of the moment, so that it will give _____ to those who hear
- Eph 4:31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and _____ be put away from you, along with all malice
- Eph 4:32 Be _____ to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you
- Col 4:6 Let your speech always be with _____=, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

2. How do you measure up? Is there a behavior to change? Something to confess?

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