

### 3.) GOSSIP AND ITS DESTRUCTION

#### The “Zip It!” Series

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#### I. THE TONGUE CAN LEAVE A PATH OF DESTRUCTION

**Text: James 3:1-12; 4:11**

*A gossip betrays a confidence; so avoid a man who talks too much. (Proverbs 20:19)*

*Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down. (Proverbs 26:20)*

- The “Prayer Request” Gossiper
- The “I Love That Guy” Gossiper
- The “I Don’t Know When To Shut Up” Gossiper
- The “Just Telling The Truth” Gossiper

*I am in the midst of lions; I lie among ravenous beasts — men whose teeth are spears and arrows, whose tongues are sharp swords. (Psalms 57:4)*

*29 Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. 30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. 31 Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. (Ephesians 4:29-31)*

#### II. LET’S BEGIN TO CLEAN UP THE DESTRUCTION

*23 "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to your brother; then come and offer your gift. (Matthew 5:23-24)*

- Who have you left in your path of destruction?
- Who must you ask for forgiveness?