

Backbite and slandering

Scripture Reading: Proverbs 10:18; 1 timothy 3:11; 2 timothy 3:3; Titus 2:3

When two friends get together, they would begin their talk concerning their own matters but end up speaking about others. For a few, gossip is like honey flowing into their mouth, they cannot stop enjoying it. Mostly, those who are not cautious of wasting their time fall into this category. Are you a person like that?

When we hate a person, instead of fighting with them, with an intent to defame their name we try to magnify what they did and tell it to others with all possible attachments and adjustments so that they are insulted to the core. This report spreads from one person to the other and ultimately spoils the person's reputation among people.

A certain lady went to a pastor and said, "Pastor, I have severely affected the reputation of a person by speaking ill about him among people. I deeply regret what I've done. Please tell me what can be done to set this right?" the pastor said to the lady to buy some seeds and just throw them at the road side as she walks. She did as the pastor said.

Then the pastor said the women, "Go and collect back the seeds that were thrown on the road side." The women went back in search of the seeds came back to the pastor saying, "Pastor, I'm not able to find any seed. It's all gone down to the ground and a few has been carried away by the wind". Then the pastor said, "the words you've spoken are like those seeds. It cannot be taken back. Hereafter don not backbite and slander about others."

Always speak highly about others. Who are those who slander? The foolish and the sluggard (lazy) are those who slander. Those who do not have a life for themselves try to waste away their time by speaking about others. Have you ever spread a bad report about others? If you have done so, it's time to repent and seek the forgiveness of God?

Questions:

1. Who are those who slander?
2. What should we speak about others?