



THEOS MIRACULUM®

# SANCTIFYING THE TONGUE

## Avoid Repeating Things

“He who covers a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates friends.” **Proverbs 17:9**

**God hates when we sow discord among the brethren (Prov. 6:14). One of the primary ways we do this is by “repeating” things that are no one’s business. It is wrong. It only fosters gossip and strife.**

“A talebearer reveals secrets, but he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.” **Proverbs 11:13**

## Criticism

**A fault-finding spirit is an offense to God. It is the opposite of what we are supposed to be doing. When we are abounding in love we look for and “affirm what is excellent” (Philippians 1:9).**

Criticism and fault-finding block our prayers from being answered.

“Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; You shall cry, and He will say, ‘Here I am.’

**He will manifest His presence...**“If you take away the yoke from your midst, The pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness” **Isaiah 58:9**

## Passing judgment

**When we draw a conclusion about “why someone acted the way they did” we are judging. In pride, we are taking the place of God. When we are in pride, God is obligated to resist us. When we judge others, we bring judgment upon ourselves.**

“For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you.” **Matthew 7:2**

**We are not to pass judgement on others, but are to judge ourselves.**

“For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.” **1 Corinthians 11:31**

“Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.” **Matthew 7:5**

## Opinion

**It is not always a sin to give our opinion, but it is one of the ways that we most often sin with our tongues. Do we really need to “chime in” and give our opinion? Most of the time, the answer is “no”. Often, as soon as we start to give our opinion, we begin sinning with ungodly criticisms and/or judgments. The less we say, the less we sin.**

“In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise.” **Proverbs 10:19**

# Debate

**Debate is another way that we get ourselves out of the Spirit.**

“But avoid foolish disputes, genealogies, contentions, and strivings about the law; for they are unprofitable and useless.” **Titus 3:9**

DGS Dhinakaran said that he had resolved to never debate or dispute with anyone, but rather to abide in the peace of God. He said “If someone comes to me and tells me that the donkey that Jesus rode on had three legs, I will just smile, nod my head and agree. I am not going to argue.” This is wisdom. There are conversations that we do not need to get involved in. We don’t need to give our opinion. It is better to be quiet, to stay in the Spirit and to walk in the peace of God.

# Gossip

Gossip is when two or more people are talking (not in a positive way) about a person who is not there and can’t defend themselves. It is when the brethren are together in unity that God commands the blessing (Psalm 133). Gossip destroys the unity of the Spirit. Professing Christians who gossip are probably the number one tool that satan uses to keep the body of Christ in a place of disunity and powerlessness.

# Slander

**This is to maliciously malign a brother or sister, even with knowingly false statements. It is a grievous offense and brings God’s judgment.**

“Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, Him I will destroy; The one who has a haughty look and a proud heart, Him I will not endure.” **Psalm 101:5**

## Sanctifying the Tongue

“Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it.” **James 4:11**

### Complaining

**Complaining is not a little sin. It reveals a self-centered and ungrateful heart. Because of complaining the Israelites wandered aimlessly for many years and eventually died in the wilderness. While “thanksgiving” bring us into His Presence (Psalm 100) complaining keeps us out.**

Complaining will prevent us from inheriting His promises.

“Do all things without complaining and disputing, **15** that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world.” **Philippians 2:14-15**

### Guarding our Tongue

“In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips is wise”. **Proverbs 10:19**

“Whoever guards his mouth and his tongue keeps his soul from trouble.” **Proverbs 21:23**

# Guarding our lips starts with guarding our heart and thought life.

“From the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks” **Luke 6:45**

“Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.” **Proverbs 4:23**

# Cultivating Graceful and Edifying Speech

“And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, **19** speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, **20** giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ” **Ephesians 5:18-20**

“I will bless the Lord at all times; His praise will continually be in my mouth” **Psalm 34:1**

**“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” 1 Thes. 5:16-18**

Pray daily, asking God for words of encouragement for others.

“The Lord God has given me the tongue of the learned, That I should know how to speak A word in season to him who is weary. He awakens Me morning by morning, He awakens My ear To hear as the learned.” **Isaiah 50:4**

# Pray to have God's love that sees what is excellent in others

“And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, 10 that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, 11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”

**Philippians 1:9-11**

**Being thankful to God, praising Him, building up others, and speaking with love and grace is the lifestyle of the overcomer.**

## What is your Lifestyle?