

*“Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord...” - 1 Cor 15:58*

# NORTHSIDE EXHORTER

*A Teaching Bulletin to Inform & Edify God's Family at Northside*

1513 W. Rollercoaster Rd. Tucson, AZ 85704

[www.northside-churchofChrist.com](http://www.northside-churchofChrist.com)

**March 24, 2019**

## **“What You Don't Know CAN Hurt You – Part 1”**

We are familiar with the cliché, *“What you don't know can't hurt you”*. This is a common saying when it comes to gossiping, lying, bad news, & knowing another man's heart. Nevertheless, what we don't know CAN hurt us. Therefore, let us avoid the practices of gossiping & lying.

### **Gossiping (Psalms 41:7 & Proverbs 16:28)**

The word “gossip(s)” is found in the ESV a total of 4 times (*Ezekiel 36:3, Romans 1:29, 2 Corinthians 12:20, & 1 Timothy 5:13*). However, the two verses associated with gossiping in this article were chosen because it captures the damage resulting from gossip. Gossip is idle talk or rumor, especially about the personal or private affairs of others. When a person gossips, then it is due to one's hatred towards the one who is the subject matter. As a result of this gossip, the goal is to devise someone else's hurt. If an individual is the topic of gossip, then they do not want to know what negative things someone else is saying about them. Therefore, in this sense, what they don't know can't hurt them. Gossiping has never formed any positive relationships, but rather it has destroyed friendships & has caused great pain. It has destroyed the friendship or companionship between the gossip & a friend or the gossip has destroyed someone else's close friendship. Therefore, individuals must stay away from gossip because of the damage it can do. So many adopt this cliché to keep these unwelcomed circumstances from happening, but they happen nonetheless.

### **Lying (Proverbs 6:16-19 & Proverbs 10:18)**

The Bible also talks about lying. According to the Scriptures, the Lord hates a lying tongue. Many preachers lie when it comes to salvation. Many individuals lie about themselves to boost their egos & lie about others to destroy their credibility. God does not like this because it displays the dishonesty in the person doing the lying. God knows whether a man is lying or not without any investigation, but we do not. Oftentimes, to keep from being hurt, we will hear information about others, but never examine whether those things are so because we are afraid as to what we might find out. The truth may hurt us. Therefore, what you don't know can't hurt you. Furthermore, people lie in an effort to hide their hatred for the person they are lying about. Well, the Bible says this person is a fool. However, man will adopt this cliché to keep from having to label someone Biblically as a fool. – *More Next Week!*

-

*Antoine N. Holloway*