Wisdom in Speaking

First, Understand What Gossip

Psalm 41:6 "They visit me as if they were my friends, but all the while they gather gossip, and when they leave, they spread it everywhere." **NLT**

Second, Recognize What Gossip _____

#1. Gossip Destroys _____

Proverbs 16:28 "Gossip is spread by wicked people; they stir up trouble and break up friendships." **TEV**

Proverbs 16:28 "A troublemaker plants seeds of strife; gossip separates the best of friends." **NLT**

Proverbs 20:19 "A gossip betrays a confidence; so, avoid a man who talks too much." NIV

Proverbs 20:19 "A gossip goes around telling secrets, so don't hang around with chatterers." **NLT**

#2. Gossip Destroys _____

Proverbs 18:8 "The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to a man's inmost parts." **NIV**

Proverbs 18:8 "The words of a gossip are like tasty bits of food. People like to gobble them up." **NCV**

#3. Gossip Destroys _____

Proverbs 11:13 "A gossip goes around telling secrets, but those who are trustworthy can keep a confidence." **NLT**

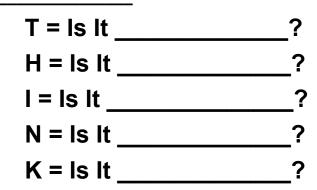
James 3:1-6 "My brothers and sisters, not many of you should become teachers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. 2 We all make many mistakes. If people never said anything wrong, they would be perfect and able to control their entire selves, too. 3 When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them

obey us, we can control their whole bodies. 4 Also a ship is very big, and it is pushed by strong winds. But a very small rudder controls that big ship, making it go wherever the pilot wants. 5 It is the same with the tongue. It is a small part of the body, but it brags about great things. A big forest fire can be started with only a little flame. 6 And the tongue is like a fire..." **NCV**

Third, _____ to Stop Gossip

1._____

Proverbs 26:20 "Without wood a fire goes out; without gossip a quarrel dies down." NIV



James 3:3-6 "A bit in the mouth of a horse controls the whole horse. 4 A small rudder on a huge ship in the hands of a skilled captain sets a course in the face of the strongest winds. 5 A word out of your mouth may seem of no account, but it can accomplish nearly anything — or destroy it! It only takes a spark, remember, to set off a forest fire. 6 A careless or wrongly placed word out of your mouth can do that. By our speech we can ruin the world, turn harmony to chaos, throw mud on a reputation, send the whole world up in smoke and go up in smoke with it, smoke right from the pit of hell." **THE MESSAGE**