

When Truth Shouldn't Be Spoken

"The one who conceals hatred has lying lips, and whoever utters slander is a fool." Proverbs 10:18 (English Standard Version)

Ephesians 4:25 - We are to speak _____; but _____?

A Brief Study Of "Slander"

A. Warnings against slander in the Old Testament:

1. Psalm 15:1-3 - We won't _____ on God's holy _____ if we are guilty of slander.
2. Psalm 101:5 - Slandering our _____ angers _____.
3. Proverbs 10:18 - It is a fool who _____ his hatred and utters _____.
4. Leviticus 19:16 - _____ was warned to not go _____ as a slanderer.
5. Slander usually involves _____ charges, but "it may be a _____ circulated ... with a hostile purpose."

B. Warnings in the New Testament about slander:

1. Matthew 15:19,20a - Slander comes from the _____ and it will _____ us.
2. Colossians 3:8 - Christians must _____ slander.

When Speaking Truth Is Hurtful

A. Deciding when - and how - to speak the truth:

1. Numbers 13:30-32a - The _____ spoke the truth, but in a way that turned the people against _____.
2. 1 Samuel 22:6-23; Psalm 52:2 - Doeg's words led to the _____ of _____ priests, as well as many others.
3. Galatians 2:4 - Some tried to _____ out their _____.
4. 1 Corinthians 13:7; Mark 2:4 - Love will _____ the _____ of others if there is nothing productive to be gained.
5. Bloom: We don't often hear of examples of how "a _____ was preserved because someone did not _____ - _____ about - an offense."

B. Ephesians 4:29-32 - Let us make sure no _____ talk comes out, but only what is good for _____ up.

Matthew 18:15-20 - There is a time to speak truth that _____.
But in other situations, may we be _____ what we say.

Central Church of Christ, Johnson City, Tennessee, August 12, 2018, p.m.