

GOSSIP. STOPPING IT

By Dr. Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.

Mildred, the church gossip, and self-appointed monitor of the church's Morals, kept sticking her nose into other people's business.

Several members did not approve of her extra curricular activities, but feared her enough to maintain their silence.

She made a mistake, however, when she accused George, a new member, of being an alcoholic after she saw his old pickup parked in front of the town's only bar one afternoon. She emphatically told George (and several others) that everyone seeing it there would know just what he was doing

George, a man of few words, stared at her for a moment and just turned and walked away. He didn't explain, defend, or deny... He said nothing.

Later that evening, George quietly parked his pickup in front of Mildred's house...walked home... and left it there all night!

You gotta love George – He is a pro on stopping church gossip.

The word "**Gossip**", as one understands it - is translated as such in the New International Version of God's Word. Then in the King James Version it is translated as follows:

- 1) Whisperer - Proverbs 16:28
- 2) Whisperings - II Corinthians 12:20
- 3) Talebearer - Proverbs 11:13; 18:8; 20:19; 26:20; 26:22

Gossip by implication means slander, to speak deliberate falsehoods and to deceive by a lie. One's mouth may get one in trouble with others and mostly God.

Plainly, don't get short changed. Let's be ready to meet our Maker. The Bible (in Acts) teaches that to avoid hell and gain heaven - one must:

- 1) Believe In Jesus As Savior (16:31)
- 2) Repent Of Sins (17:30)
- 3) Confess Christ Audibly (8:37)
- 4) Be Baptized In Water (2:38)
- 5) Live A Christian Life (14:22)
- 6) Be Active In the Church (2:47)

KYOWVA Evangelistic Association

1541 S. 7th Street * Ironton, OH 45638

Web Page: www.kyowva.com * Free Bible Course Upon Request