

Schedule of Events

Breakfast Meeting April 23, 2022 beginning at 8:00 AM

Think on These Things Philippians 4:8

Title

AM Sermon:

Our Family News

Pray for / Ed Maxwell, Josiah, Helen Spicer, Bill and Peggy

Traveling/Working / Terry Campbell, Wyatt Couch, Steve and Abby

Radio Programs / Listen to "Searching the scriptures", our weekly radio program on KMBQ 99.7 Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM.

Today's Scripture / Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, ³⁰ Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents. **Romans 1:29-30 (KJV 1900)**

Wisdom for Today / For I have heard the slander of many: Fear was on every side: While they took counsel together against me, They devised to take away my life. **Psalms 31:13 (KJV 1900)**

PM Sermon / George Jensen

Attendance last Sunday:

For more information check our website at www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Evangelist

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Bill Beebe (907) 841-9261 billbeebecoc@gmail.com

April 17, 2022 Bulletin for the



church of Christ

— AT WASILLA —

God's Plan of Salvation

Hear Romans 10:17

Believe Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6

Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10

Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matt 10:32-33

Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16

Remain Faithful Matt 24:13, Rev 2:10, James 1:12

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

Contact Information

Meeting Times

Sunday

Bible Classes **10AM**

AM Worship **11AM**

PM Worship **5PM**

Wednesday

Bible Study **7PM**

Office Hours

Call or Ck Web

Come join us!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

2061 N. Merciful Circle
Wasilla, Ak 99654
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors always welcome; Members expected

“I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.” Psalm 122:1

Things “They” Said

Bill Beebe

How many times in a conversation have we heard something that started with the two words “They said”? It is really easy to get into the habit of using language similar to that, so easy in fact that often we don’t even know that we are using it. In addition it is so prevalent in our conversations that it doesn’t register in our minds and we consider the statement that follows it as being absolutely true. But often it is not true. The person telling us something with “They said” as an introduction to a statement has not, in many cases, checked to make sure what they are saying is truthful. They are just repeating something that they read or heard, or that someone else told them that also used “They said” as a modifier. This allows the person repeating the statements to shift the blame for the veracity of the statement to the group “They” if someone questions them about what is being said. But it also makes it almost impossible to correct incorrect information or to stop misinformation from spreading. In this case, “They said” is often the precursor to gossip.

Gossiping is a sin that is not specifically called this in the King James Version of the Holy Bible. However there are several passages that refer to it. In **Proverbs 16:28 (KJV 1900)** we read, “A froward man soweth strife: And a whisperer separateth chief friends.” But in other versions it is specifically called gossip here. Consider the same verse in the Contemporary English Version “Gossip is no good! It causes hard feelings and comes between friends” and the Holman Christian Version reads “A contrary man spreads conflict, and a gossip separates close friends”. These verses clearly teach that gossiping is something that causes problems between people and even close friends, but they do not clearly teach that this is a sin. In the Enhanced Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon; the word translated as “whisperer” in the KJV carries these meanings. ¹murmur (rebelliously), ²whisper (maliciously) and ³backbiter.

However as we study further in the Bible we find that David wrote in **Psalm 41:7 (KJV 1900)** “All that hate me whisper together against me: Against me do they devise my hurt”. Here David clearly tells us that people who whisper or gossip do so specifically from hatred and with the intention to hurt him. Whisperers, or gossipers, today often hurt the people that are the subject of their speech or comment, even if they are unaware that the originator of the

thought was doing it out of hatred. Repeating gossip or whispering about someone serves little purpose other than hurting the subject of the discussion.

But it is the Apostle Paul who made it crystal clear that this is a sin. Read as he writes to the Christians in Rome in **Romans 1:29–30 (KJV 1900)** “Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, 30 Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,” and to those in Corinth in **2 Corinthians 12:20 (KJV 1900)** “For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults:” In both passages the word used for “whisperers” in Romans 1 and “whisperings” in 2 Corinthians 12 carry the idea of someone that slanders others. Strong writes this about the word “from a derivative of psithos (a whisper; by implication a slander; probably akin to (pseudomai); whispering, i.e. secret detraction; whispering.” And the Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament has this comment “from psithurízō (n.f.), to whisper. A whispering, particularly of slander and detraction, hurtful gossip (2 Cor. 12:20). Also from psithurízō (n.f.): psithupistes (5588), a whisperer.”

So the next time that you are tempted to start your comment with “They said” stop for a minute and consider the potential implications of the discussion. Is what you about to say gossip that carries with it a slanderous thought? If it does Christians would not repeat it. If it doesn’t why use the modifier “They said” rather than attribute the comment to the person who told you? Gossip is a sin, and it is one that we rarely discuss. Too often we put it into a group of other things we consider minor transgressions such as a “little white lie” and certain curse words that have come into general use today. However, when you are repeating something that you feel the need to say “They said” consider this; **Romans 6:13 (KJV 1900)** “¹³ Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.” And **1 John 3:8 (KJV 1900)** “He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.” All sin separates us from God, regardless of how the world may categorize it.