10 Reasons to Maintain Confidentiality

1) Leviticus 19:16
   God specifically forbids gossip.

2) Proverbs 11:13
   Gossips and trustworthy people work at opposite ends of the human spectrum. Trustworthy people build you up. Gossips are demolition experts, trying to tear you down.

3) Romans 1:29
   God catalogs gossip with greed, hate, envy, and murder.

4) 1 Timothy 5:13
   Gossiping often grows out of laziness. We have nothing better to do than sit around talking about other people, and we often wind up saying things we might later regret

5) Matthew 7:1
   Gossip puts us in the place of judging others. In a court of law rumors and opinions are not allowed because they might unjustly sway the opinion of the jury. Therefore, it is when we tum our living rooms into courtrooms where we sit as judge and allow rumor and opinion to color and often damage the reputation of others who have no chance to defend themselves.

6) Proverbs 18:8
   Gossip hurts others. It also destroys your credibility if the gossip proves false.

7) Matthew 7:12
   The Golden Rule can also be applied to our speech- "Talk about others in the same way you would like them to talk about you."

8) Ephesians 4:29
   If we focus on what is good and helpful, gossip will find no foothold in our hearts.

9) Colossians 3:8-17
   If you think you may be about to gossip, ask yourself, "Does the person I'm talking to need to know this? Is it true, accurate, and helpful?"

10) 1 Peter 3:10-12
   "If you want a happy life and good days, keep your tongue from speaking evil, and keep your lips from telling lies. Tum away from evil and do good. Work hard at living in peace with others. The eyes of the Lord watch over those who do right, and His ears are open to their prayers. But the lord turns His face against those who do evil."

Our Small Group Agreement

My Agreement

I agree not to reveal anything said in confidence in this group, to anyone who is not in this group and will not discuss others' problems with anyone outside of this group, but keep total confidentiality. In this way, you, my sisters in Christ, will know that your weaknesses, sorrows, and privacy will not be public knowledge but will be placed in our hearts and in our prayers for the sole purpose of offering you support and love through our Savior, Jesus Christ.

I agree to make attendance to all group sessions a top priority. I agree also to be on time for each session. I recognize that my lateness harms my learning and that of the other group members and is a distraction to all in the group. If I must miss a session, I will still do my assignment. I will try to let the teacher know beforehand when I will not be there.

I agree to complete to the best of my ability the assignments between group sessions so that I can grow and have a meaningful interaction with our group. I do, however, understand that I am encouraged to attend even if I do not complete an assignment.

Signed_____Date_____

If you have any questions about what has been said during our class sharing time, please contact me/us ... your leader(s), friend(s), and sister(s) in Christ!

Small Group Leader(s) Name(s) & Contact Information:

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