

Faith Alive!

No Tear-downs, No Trash-talk

James 4:11-12

Don't bad-mouth each other, friends...

No Tear-downs, No Trash-talk – James 4:11-12



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Exposition

The tongue: handle with care!

– James 1:19; 3:1-12

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Exposition

The tongue: handle with care!

Stop it, Christian!

- **Expect it from the world...**
 - **1 Pet 3:16; 2:12**
- **but stop doing it to each other.**
 - **Gal 5:15**
i.e. **Christians harming other Christians with their tongue**

No Tear-downs, No Trash-talk – James 4:11-12

Exposition

The tongue: handle with care!

Stop it, Christian!

Tearing down and Trashing People

Katalaleo

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Exposition

The tongue: handle with care!

Stop it, Christian!

Tearing down and Trashing People

Katalaleo = ‘to talk/speak’ + ‘down/against’

i.e. to run someone down, to speak negatively,
to speak ill of them, slander...

– **Undermine legitimate authority**

- See Num. 16, 20, 21, 27 ‘they spoke against God and Moses’

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Exposition

The tongue: handle with care!

Stop it, Christian!

Tearing down and Trashing People

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– Undermine legitimate authority

– Slander

False statements that impugn character and malign motives

• See Gen 3:1-5

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Stop it, Christian!

Tearing down and Trashing People

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i.e. to run someone down, to speak negatively,
to speak ill of them, slander...

- Undermine legitimate authority
- Slander
- Speaking ill or poorly of other people
 - See Luke 18:11

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Exposition

The tongue: handle with care!

Stop it, Christian!

Tearing down and Trashing People

What's the big deal?

- **A breach of the Royal Law**
 - James 2:8; Matt 7:12; Lev 19:18
- **Who do you think you are?!**
 - Rom 14:4
 - Rom 12:3

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Exposition

Personal Reflection and Application

- **Fault-finding and criticism are not spiritual gifts!**
- **Go beyond simply keeping your lips sealed to using them to speak well of people. Eph 4:29**
- **Adopt a ‘7 for 1’ policy...**
- **Ask yourself:**
 - **Have I given myself the benefit of the doubt, but refused it to others?**
 - **Have I made excuses for my shortcomings but am intolerant of others’?**
 - **Have I judged others strictly while expecting grace for myself?**