



Have you ever wondered how a relationship that started out so good got so messy and difficult? In this series from the book of James, *Relationslips*, we'll identify five lies that will ruin relationships. We'll also discover God's truth, that when believed and applied to our lives, will set us free and bring peace and joy to our relationships.

1. "Very few things have the power to ruin relationships like hurtful words." Do you agree/disagree with this statement? Why?
2. Read James 4:11-12. In James 3:10, it says that *from the same mouth come blessing and cursing*. Now here in this passage, in order to speak words of blessing and not cursing, what is the command we must obey in v.11?
3. How do we speak evil against one another? Give some examples.
4. What does it mean to judge a brother? Does this mean we can't point out others' sins? Why or why not?
5. What is the difference between speaking evil against/judging and proper correction? How do you think a person's motivation might be different in each situation?
6. What is *the royal law* referred to in James 2:8? How does believing the lie of pride, "I'm not the problem, you are," cause us to sit as judges above this law?
7. The antidote to believing the lie of pride which produces evil speech is found in v.12. Who is the only lawgiver and judge? How does he save and destroy?
8. So with this in mind, *who are you to judge others by speaking evil against them?* In other words, are you playing God, believing, "I'm not the problem, you are," and speaking destructive words to others? Or are you humble before God, the only lawgiver and judge who can save and destroy, and turning to him for the help you need to both forgive your sins and to help you speak words of life?