

Overview of the Sins of the Tongue

1. **Slander** is the utterance of false charges or misrepresentations that defame and damage another's reputation.
2. **Gossip** is repeating idle talk and rumors about others.
3. **Meddling** is to concern oneself with, or take part in other people's affairs without being asked or needed—a busybody with the tongue.
4. **Vilification** means to use abusive or slanderous speech to defame or degrade someone else.
5. **Judging** is to criticize or censure someone else's life lacking the authority and the facts to do so.
6. **Lying** is a false statement with the intention to willfully deceive the hearers.
7. **Fabrication** means to invent and form stories and lies.
8. **Equivocation** is the use of words or expressions that are susceptible to a double signification, with a view to mislead.
9. **Hearsay** is repeating anything that is based upon what someone else told you and not your personal knowledge of the situation.
10. **Defamation** is the uttering of slanderous or malicious words to try to destroy someone's reputation.
11. **Maligning** is harboring bitterness, hatred, and spitefulness against someone and expressing this by speaking evil of that individual.
12. **Complaining** means to utter expressions of annoyance or resentment, or to find fault with something or someone.
13. **Whining** is complaining in a childish, undignified way using a high-pitched voice.
14. **Whimpering** is complaining by making a series of low, feeble sounds.
15. **Murmuring** means to utter indignant complaints in a secretive or indirect manner.
16. **Boasting** means to speak so as to make more of yourself than reality justifies.
17. **Cursing** is insulting, pronouncing doom or wishing evil on another.
18. **Conspiring** is conversation that involves making plans to destroy someone.
19. **Flattery** means to give excessive compliments in order to gain an advantage over someone.
20. **Blasphemy** is the act of insulting or showing contempt for God.