

**Alderwood Community Church
June 10, 2018**

Stop Playing God!

James: A Faith that Works – Part 9

James 4:11-12

(Page 1198 or 1218-1219)

Big idea: We arrogantly play God when we criticize or condemn others.

**1. Stop _____, _____, _____
and _____ about your fellow believers. (v.11a)**

To speak against - καταλαλέω - speak ill of, speak degradingly of, speak evil of, defame, slander, accuse, speak maliciously of

To judge – κρίνω - pass an unfavorable judgment upon, criticize, find fault with, to judge as guilty, to condemn

(Matthew 7:1-5, 15-23; Romans 2:1-4, 14:1-15:6, 16:17-18; James 5:19-20; Galatians 6:1-2; Proverbs 6:16-19, 11:13, 16:28)

2. When you do, you are placing yourself _____ God and
in _____ to God. (vv. 11b-12)

Why do we put down others, judge others and speak degradingly of others?

_____ – we do it to elevate ourselves above others, but we are actually elevating ourselves above God's Word and above God Himself!

"God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." **James 4:6**

_____ - we do it to hurt others, to retaliate and to destroy others.

"The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body."
James 3:6

3. _____ of this sin and _____ your mouth
to God for His purposes.

Confess this sin to God –

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." **1 John 1:9**

Use your mouth to build others up –

"Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear." **Ephesians 4:29** (Proverbs 12:18; 16:24)