House Rules: Part 2

Jacob Hudgins · James 3:2–8 · Series: **House Rules**

INTRODUCTION

- My goal today is not to overwhelm you, but to stimulate your thought in certain directions about these rules and about how we can build in our homes the kind of homes that we talked about yesterday, homes where we're actually following Jesus all the time.
- In this session, we'll talk about we speak with love and no gossip allowed, and then in the next hour, we'll talk about taking responsibility and dealing with our problems.

1. We Speak With Love

Scripture: James 3:2–8; 1 Corinthians 13:4–7

- So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire. **(James 3:5)**
- We show kindness instead of harshness. **(1 Corinthians 13:4)**
- We build up instead of insulting.
- Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. **(Ephesians 4:29)**
- Speaking with love means that we disagree and correct instead of attacking.
- Love focuses on the substance of what we disagree about, not on attacking the person we're disagreeing with.

2. No Gossip Allowed

Scripture: Titus 3:1–2; 2 Thessalonians 3:11; 1 Timothy 5:13; Mark 7:21–23; 1 Peter 4:15

- I define gossip as saying bad things about other people in order to ruin their reputations or condemn them, especially when they're not around.
- To speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people. **(Titus 3:2)**
- It's not the truth of the statement that makes it a malicious accusation. It's the intent behind it. **(Daniel 3:8)**
- A dishonest man spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends. **(Proverbs 16:28)**
- Does this need to be said? I think this is a question that all our speech needs to be asked of.
- And maybe best is just refuse to participate.

3. We Take Responsibility

Scripture: Galatians 6:1–5

- Each will have to bear his own load. **(Galatians 6:5)**
- I am responsible for my work. **(1 Thessalonians 4:11–12; Ephesians 4:28)**

- I am responsible for my actions. **(1 Thessalonians 4:3–4)**
- Without stated expectations, we have a hard time taking responsibility.
- I am responsible for my messes. **(Psalm 51)**
- I made a mistake. I shouldn't have said that. I shouldn't have done that. You're right. Can you forgive me?

4. We Deal With Our Problems

Scripture: Leviticus 19:17–18

- You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. **(Leviticus 19:17)**
- We do it to maintain healthy relationships. **(Matthew 5:23–25; Matthew 18:15)**
- Be angry and do not sin. Do not let the sun go down on your anger. **(Ephesians 4:26)**
- We also do it to stop sin before it spreads. **(Hebrews 3:12–13; Hebrews 12:15)**
- Good sense makes one slow to anger. It is his glory to overlook an offense. **(Proverbs 19:11)**
- It's going to take courage to deal with our problems.

MY NOTES