

Recognizing an Accusatory Mindset That Can Poison Your Relationships

Accusation is a weapon that originates from Satan's identity. He *is* the accuser of the brethren.

That's what he is in everything he does. Satan goes before God day and night, accusing you and me constantly! He is a legalist that looks for any way to accuse someone and uses people to accuse others. His target is the brethren.

In other words, he goes after believers and trains them to go after each other. When we have an accusatory thought about someone's motives, actions or attitude, we are most likely listening to Satan's front line of evil spirits. Even if your thoughts seem "right," you are still listening to an enemy. When you accuse in thought or words, you join his kingdom against your brothers' and sisters' road to freedom.

Rejection makes way for an accusing spirit. We don't trust other people, so we accuse them in their motives daily. This makes way for a number of destructive tools that reinforce the enemy in our camps.

1. Condemnation – The whole mindset of accusation is very condemning. It takes "facts" and uses them as arrows to condemn people, rather than build them up. Truth is meant to set them free from and destroy the enemy that binds them. It was never meant to be used as a weapon to hurt people. When we stop coming at people in condemnation, love has a chance to permeate the atmosphere, where we can have honest communication and grow together. When we condemn, we pronounce a sentence on someone with no chance for them to change and be free.

Accusation points the finger and seeks to place blame. It releases guilt onto people, keeping them bound instead of freeing them. No one gets free with guilt weighing on them, but rejection trains us to use guilt to get people to love us and do what we want. This is all part of distorted relationships. It flows with all manner of judgmentalism, criticism and cynicism.

2. Gossip and Slander – Accusation teaches us to have an appetite for bad news, where we develop a radar for information regarding other people's flaws and failures. Rather than being a safe place for relationships, we end up hurting our brothers and sisters more than the world does. Why do we need the world to persecute us when we Christians are fine at tearing apart our own?

The *People Magazine* culture that we live in thrives off seeing others not do well and making it a topic of discussion. Satan loves when we start doing character assassinations on each other. Gossip and slander are some of the most disgusting things that could exist in the body of Christ. We justify speaking about other people's business and other people's sins without respect and honor for God's children, for His body, and for His creation!

Gossip and slander have split churches, destroyed businesses and broken families apart. It has ruined the free flow of God's Spirit. It has halted revivals. It has destroyed entire denominations and fellowships.

Why? The lenses people viewed their relationships through were distorted and they spoke words that tore down, split apart and hurt others.

Question: Where do you need to recognize that accusation may be speaking to you to get you stirred up about others? {eoa}

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