

## Teen Topics Reputation

### **The Issue:**

How do people view you? What kind of reputation do you have? Such questions are important to consider, for the way people view you often reflects the kind of life you are living. Knowing that our actions speak louder than our words, we must take our reputations seriously as we represent Christ.

### **What does the Bible say?**

Note what the Bible says about a good reputation:

- > Prov. 22:1 – A good name is better than great riches.
- > Matt. 5:16 – A good reputation will bring glory to God.

Note what the Bible says about guarding our reputation:

- > Eph. 5:3 – Do not be associated with sinful behavior.
- > I Thess. 5:22 – Avoid every kind/appearance of evil.

Note what the Bible says about how people should view us:

- > Phil. 2:14-15 – Our lives should be blameless, clearly different from those of the world. We should shine as lights for Christ.

### **What should I do?**

The reputation we have will either give people a good view or a bad view of Christ. The biggest hindrance to the cause of Christ is believers whose reputations fail to demonstrate the life changing power of the gospel. Our world does not need mere “professing Christians,” but rather true believers who are serious about their faith and whose commitment to Christ pours out of their lives on a daily basis! The only way people will know that we are different is if our lives look different! This starts with truly being different in how we think, in what we desire, and in what we live for! When people think about you, can they see that you are different?

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