Though not common in modern usage, conveys the idea of someone who spreads secrets a gossip or tale-bearer. Biblically, this kind of person is seen as untrustworthy and even dangerous to the health of relationships and the unity of the community.

1. Biblical References to Gossip and Tale-bearing

The Bible warns explicitly about people who reveal secrets or stir up strife with their words:

> *Proverbs 20:19 (NKJV)* – “He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets; therefore do not associate with one who flatters with his lips.”

> *Proverbs 11:13 (NIV)* – “A gossip betrays a confidence, but a trustworthy person keeps a secret.”

The person with *kitango* is not just talkative they are unfaithful with what is entrusted to them. They break trust and disrupt

peace. The Hebrew word translated as “talebearer” or “gossip” (*rakil*) literally means someone who travels about spreading stories, often with harmful consequences.

2. The Character of a Gossip

In today’s terms, a person with *kitango* is a gossip someone who cannot keep private matters to themselves. They often speak out of turn about things they’ve seen or heard, even if those things were meant to be kept confidential. This kind of person does more harm than good.

For example, if someone is welcomed into a home as a guest and later exposes the private matters of that household, they are being ungrateful and dishonorable. Such actions show a lack of integrity and compassion. The Bible calls us to a higher standard:

> *Ephesians 4:29 (ESV)* – “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.”

3. Why Gossip is Spiritually Dangerous

Gossip is not just socially harmful it is a spiritual sin that God detests:

> *Proverbs 6:16-19 (NIV) lists seven things God hates, including* “a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.”

> *James 3:6 (NIV) warns that* “The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body…”

Those who speak carelessly destroy friendships, families, and even churches. Paul warns Timothy about people who *“go about from house to house, and not only idlers but also gossips and busybodies”* (1 Timothy 5:13, ESV).

4. God’s Desire: Trustworthiness and Discretion

God calls His people to be trustworthy, discreet, and peacemakers. The ability to keep a matter private is a sign of

maturity and spiritual wisdom:

> *Proverbs 17:9 (NIV)* – “Whoever would foster love covers over anoffense, but whoever repeats the matter separates close friends.”

> *Matthew 5:9 (ESV)* – “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.”

Being a person who keeps others’ secrets, avoids spreading rumors, and chooses peace over drama reflects the very character of God, who is our perfect example:

> *Matthew 5:48 (NKJV)* – “Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”

5. Guarding Your Own Tongue

We often sabotage our own peace and blessings through careless speech. Scripture strongly urges believers to control their words:

> *1 Peter 3:10 (ESV)* – “Whoever desires to love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit.”

> *Proverbs 21:23 (NIV)* – “Those who guard their mouths and their tongues keep themselves from calamity.”

A controlled tongue brings life, but a reckless one leads to ruin:

> *Proverbs 18:21 (NKJV)* – “Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”

Final Encouragement

Choose to be a person who brings healing and peace through

your words. Don’t be a *kitango*. Instead, reflect the heart of God in how you speak and listen. Honor others’ privacy. Encourage rather than expose. Be someone others can trust.

May the Lord give you wisdom and grace to use your words wisely, and may your life be marked by peace, integrity, and blessing.

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