



# RUMORS...WE ALL HEAR THEM

But what should you do after you hear a rumor?

Rumors! Everyone has probably been affected by a rumor at one time or another. Sometimes it's positive, but more than likely, it's a negative comment or story about a person, a business, or an organization. The sad part about passing along these rumors is that many times they are not completely true, and can have a huge impact on the person or business involved.

So, if you've been privy to a juicy rumor, how do you react? Most of us, by our very nature, seem to enjoy hearing the details of something that we haven't heard. Especially if it appears to shed a negative light on something. So, after listening what should you do?

First of all, we should always question the validity of the rumor. Does it make sense?

Does it comport with what you already know? Is it something that you should pass on to someone else, or does it rise to the level that you should investigate it yourself? Personally, I like to go to the source of the rumor. If it's about a person, ask them about it. If it's a business, ask the owner or manager for an explanation. If it's a church or an organization, talk to the pastor or chairman. Then, decide for yourself whether to believe what you've heard.

Negative rumors, whether they're true or not, can still have a negative impact on a friend, a business, or even yourself. We should always think twice before repeating a story that may, or may not, be true.

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