

Talk To Me Ephesians 4:25-32

Relationships Require Communication

Sharing our understanding with others

We cannot read minds

Those "old married couples" who finish each other's sentences have decades of "understanding sharing" to draw on

It is not possible to help one another without communication

Much of our societal problems come from a lack of communication

Jobs, Families, Government, Travel, etc

Many of our religious issues are a result of poor communication

Misunderstandings, out of context quotes, hearsay, etc

Families wither and die because of a lack of communication

We need to communicate

Communicate - "to transmit information, thought, or feeling so that it is satisfactorily received or understood" M-W online

Related to fellowship - **Philippians 4:15**

It is passing knowledge, sharing thoughts, conveying ideas to one another

Speaking: how to speak; tone is important

Speak with love and to hear with love.

For benefit of one with whom you are speaking.

Listening: not forming a defense; not judging motives

Give of ourselves, devoting 100% of your attention to the other.

Remember communication is a 2-way street - give & receive - **James 1:19**

Give Attention To Communication

Follow God's Word

Golden Rule - **Matthew 7:12; Ephesians 4:25-27,29-32**

Get a grip on your anger - **James 1:19; Proverbs 21:23**

We have an obligation to speak truth and to build up others

Gossip and anger cannot interfere with that

Clear And Understandable Language

1Peter 3:7; Ephesians 5:17; Proverbs 10:19

Paul uses **2Corinthians** to correct some distortions of his message in **1Corinthians**

Power of an example - **Matthew 5:16**

And Illustration

Nathan confronted David's sin with parable that allowed to see his sin clearly, "You are the man"

Jesus took a common, everyday situation that they were familiar with – shepherding sheep,

fishermen, planting crops, etc, to make spiritual application, explaining the kingdom of heaven

"Who is my neighbor?" (Good Samaritan - **Luke 10:29**)

His inquiry at the house of Simon (not Peter) - **Luke 7:41-42**

Careful In Correction

Correction must be carefully considered - **Ephesians 4:31; Proverbs 15:1; 10:12; 15:18; 28:25; 29:22**

When we let frustration or anger lead in trying to help others see a problem it will cause strife more often than correction

Take Time To Listen

It is essential that we listen and understand all 'sides' - **James 1:19; Proverbs 11:12**

Every action has reason behind it, understanding can help communicate better - **Philippians 2:3-4**

A reasonable and friendly attitude will go a long way in helping us help others and ourselves

Seek To Encourage

Proverbs 15:4; Ephesians 4:29

Foundation Must Be Love

1Corinthians 13:4-7; Colossians 3:12-13

Seen in the Husband-Wife relationship - **Ephesians 5:25-33; 1Peter 3:1-9**

Jesus is our example - **1Peter 2:21-25**

Maturity - Experience

1Corinthians 14:20; 16:13; Hebrews 5:12-14

Talk With God First

Pray - **1Thessalonians 5:17**

Keeping God "in the loop" will help us follow his example

This will keep our focus on doing good with our communication, encouraging with our words, building one another up so that we grow stronger.

As in all things we must put our trust in God if we are to improve our communication.

DLH