

Guarding the Doors of Our Relationships

Message #6 "Communication- Can You Hear Me!"

Ephesians 4:23-25 and Survey

June 13 & 14, 2009

"Now your attitudes and thoughts must all be constantly changing for the better. 24 Yes, you must be a new and different person, holy and good. Clothe yourself with this new nature. 25 Stop lying to each other; tell the truth, for we are parts of each other and when we lie to each other we are hurting ourselves." Eph. 4:23-25 TLB

*If **Commitment** is the Foundational Door, **Words** are the Practical Door and **Forgiveness** is the Essential Door, then **Communication** would be the Maintenance Door.*

Communication = _____ and _____ information. This can be done by _____ and _____ methods.

BRIDGE BURNERS- Communication Killers

1. *Winners Mentality*
2. *Fear*
3. *Lack of Honesty*
4. *Negative Atmosphere- Eph. 4:25-32*
"...put off falsehood...your anger...unwholesome talk...bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice..."
5. *Unforgiving Spirit*
6. *Out of Control Anger*
7. *Silence*
8. *Crying*
9. *Emotional Sabotage*
10. *Emotional Dictatorship*

"Communication gives partners the opportunity to disagree with each other without making them pay. If you can't have a disagreement, that is the equivalent of being an emotional Hitler." Pastor Phil

BRIDGE BUILDERS- Communication Enablers

1. _____ (in a _____)- Prov. 24:26
"An honest answer is like a kiss on the lips."
"Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming. 15 Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is, Christ." Eph. 4:14-15

Lesson: Honesty is the _____.

2. _____ - Romans 12:15
"Rejoice with those who rejoice, mourn with those who mourn."
"Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers." 1 Peter 3:7

Lesson: Communication is enhanced when we see through the _____.

3. _____ - Prov. 18:13

“...he who answers before listening...that is his folly and his shame.”

“If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. 16 But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ 17 If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.” Matt. 18:15-17

Lesson: Don’t listen with your _____.

4. _____ **Spirit**- 1 Cor. 13:4-7

“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.”

Lesson: Every person makes assumptions, interpretations and conclusions about what they hear- _____.

5. Share the _____ -

Three Levels of Communication

Shared _____ - Essentials

Shared _____ - Expression

Shared _____ - Emotion

Lesson: Communication is the _____ the door to a guarded spirit and a healthy relationship.

A daily devotional guide is available at the Welcome Center and the Venue resource table.