

The Family, Part 03

Communication: The Key to a Successful Family Life

by Bishop & Pastor Keith & Deborah Butler | Bible Study Notes | Ministered 7/19/2020

Introduction Summary

In order to succeed at anything in life, you have to be able to effectively communicate to others. The best place to find out how is in the Bible. In Psa. 33:6 we read that God created the world with His words. In the same way, we create the circumstances in our world with our speech. In this lesson, we will look at five points to successful communication.

- I. Be precise with your speech, for it can make you sin (Mat. 5:37).
 - A. Your words can cause you to sin (Ecc. 5:6).
 - B. You can control any area of your life with your words (Jas. 3:2).
- II. You can help or harm yourself with your speech (Gal. 5:14).
 - A. Acknowledge the good things God says about you (Phm. 1:6).
 - B. Find all the verses in the epistles that say *in Him*, *in Whom*, and *in Christ*.
 - C. Saying what God says enables you to say the right thing when it matters most.
 - D. When you have intense emotions, respond according to Scripture (Eph. 4:26).
 - E. If you wouldn't say it to yourself, don't say it to someone else (Luke 6:31).
 - F. If you say you can do God's Word, you can do it.
- III. Get rid of non-productive words which harm others and yourself (Mat. 12:36).
 - A. *Idle* means *useless*.
 - B. *Judgment* means *accusation* or *condemnation*.
 - C. Your words can help you or harm you (Mat. 12:37).
 - D. When talking to someone else, a soft answer is best (Pro. 15:1, 28).
 1. Think about how you would want someone to answer you, before you speak.
 2. Repeat what the other person said: *Are you saying...?*
 3. Communicating on social media is the same as speaking to someone face to face.
 - a. In person, you can see gestures and other non-verbal forms of communication.
 - b. On social media, you can't see gestures.
 - c. Married people know how important it is to be face to face.
 - d. Many have lost their jobs over social media communications.

4. Do not treat teens the same as small children.
5. Don't immediately respond. Think about what you will say (Pro. 15:28).
6. A man's voice can be intimidating (Col. 3:21).

E. This is talking about how you speak among those who don't know God (Psa. 39:1).

1. You represent Christ when communicating with the lost.
2. Your words matter.

IV. Listen before you speak (Pro. 18:13).

- A. First, make sure you heard what they said.
- B. Do not interrupt people when they're talking.

1. Busy people have to be aware of this.
2. Don't develop a habit of assuming the point someone's trying to make.
3. Develop patience with the other person.
4. Let them finish before you respond.

V. Don't give verbal payback: tit-for-tat (Pro. 20:22).

- A. Slow down and think before you speak (Pro. 24:29).
- B. When we were children, we could get away with it.
- C. You have to decide to put these things out of your mouth (Col. 3:8).

1. *Anger* means *vengeance*.
2. *Wrath* means *fierceness*.
3. *Malice* means *badness*.
4. *Blasphemy* means *evil speaking*.
5. *Filthy* communication means *vile conversation*.
6. Christians don't curse.
7. One day, I was on the golf course. I was paired with a few other guys. Whenever they hit a bad shot, they would curse. When I hit a bad shot, I never cursed. They wanted to know why. I told them I was a pastor. The fact that I kept my words clean spoke to them and they stopped cursing for the rest of the time.

Closing Summary

Find out what God says about you and your situation and begin saying that. Speak what you want to come to pass in your life. Applying the principles set forth in this lesson will help you to become a better communicator. Following these principles will bring greater success to all your relationships: your marriage, children, extended family, job, business or ministry.