

Communication Seminar

Trinity Fellowship Church
Saturday, October 24, 2009



COMMUNICATION Seminar
October 24, 2009

- I. Introduction
- II. Seminar

C-_____!

Texts:

- Proverbs 15:1—*"A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger."*
- Ephesians 4:31—*"Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice."*
- James 1:19—*"Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger..."*
- James 3:17—*"But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere."*

Notes:

O-_____!

Text:

- Matthew 18:15—*"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother."*

Notes:

M-_____!

Notes:

M-_____!

Texts:

- Colossians 3:9—*“Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices...”*
- 1 John 3:18—*“Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.”*

Notes:

U— _____!

Texts:

- Proverbs 18:2, 13, 15—“ *A fool takes no pleasure in understanding, but only in expressing his opinion....If one gives an answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame... An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.*”
- James 1:19—“*Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger...*”

Notes:

N— _____!

Texts:

- Colossians 3:9—“*Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices...*”

Notes:

I— _____!

Texts:

- *Ephesians 4:26, 27—"Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil."*
- *Matthew 5:23-26—"So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny."*

Notes:

C— _____ !

Texts:

- *Romans 12:10—"Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor."*
- *Romans 13:7—"Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed."*
- *Matthew 5:21, 22—" You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire.
("Insults" means "says Raca!" or worthless one)*
- *James 3:8-10—"... no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse*

people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so."

Notes:

A—_____!

Texts:

- 1 Corinthians 8:1, 2—*"Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that 'all of us possess knowledge.' This 'knowledge' puffs up, but love builds up. If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know."*
- James 3:17—*"But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere."*
- Proverbs 12:15—*"The way of a fool is right in his own eyes, but a wise man listens to advice."*
- Proverbs 26:12—*"Do you see a man who is wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him."*

Notes:¹

T—_____!

Texts:

¹ See *When Agreement Can't Be Reached* at the end of these notes for some helpful counsel for when we cannot fully agree with others.

- 1 Corinthians 13:7—“Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”
- 1 Corinthians 1:4-9—“I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.”
- Galatians 5:9—“I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view than mine, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is.”

Notes:

E— _____!

Texts:

- Mark 7:21-23—“For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”
- James 4:1-4—“What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”

Notes:

Appendix

When Agreement Can't Be Reached

By James Hurley

There are...situations in which differences come between a leader and those who respond to him or to her. These can often be resolved by communication. For Christians in such situations there is the added guidance of the Scripture and the peaceful work of the Holy Spirit. Prayer and Scriptures have their place alongside talk. Our sinfulness, ignorance and sheer diversity will nevertheless still lead to situations in which differences are not resolved and in which neither side is willing to yield to the other. In marriage, such situations can be severe crises if the situation is such that a decision must be made even if there is no agreement.

The Scripture is the guide for faith and life in the Christian home. A husband's authority in the home is a derivative: as a servant of God, his authority comes from God. He is, therefore, subject to Scripture in all that he does, and has no freedom to guide his family in ways which contradict it. Should he clearly do so, individual members must follow God before man. The example of Sapphira's willing sin and personal accountability makes this clear (Acts 5:9).

There are, however, other situations, not involving contradiction of biblical teaching, in which husband and wife, even after discussion, prayer and consultation with others, remain irreconcilably committed to different courses of action and are not prepared to give way for the sake of the other. There need not be many such cases, but in a fallen world there will be some. In them, the responsibility of the husband to lead and of the wife to respect his initiative requires her to yield to his decision.

The manner in which situations are handled is crucial. The husband may not be high-handed and stubborn, knowing that she will finally have to give way. That is not the model of Christ's headship. Neither may the wife be grudging and resentful. That is not the manner of our response to Christ. In the last analysis, when the two can devote no more time to individual and joint seeking of the grace of God to permit them to come to one mind or to be willing to yield to the other, an exchange along the following lines is in order:

Husband: 'Not because I am inherently wise or more righteous, nor because I am right (although I do believe I am or I would not stand firm), but because it is finally my responsibility before God we will take the course which I believe right. If I am being sinfully stubborn, may God forgive me and give me the grace to yield to you.'

Wife: 'Not because I believe you are wise in this matter (I don't) or more righteous, nor because I accept that you are right (because I don't or I would not oppose you), but because I am a servant of God who has called me to honour your headship, I willingly yield to your decision. If I am wrong, may God show me. If you are wrong, may he give you grace to acknowledge it and to change.'

Such decisions must be made. They can be steps of commitment to God which cement a relationship and assure both partners of the other's loving commitment. They can alternatively be times which show sinful abuse. The sort of commitment outlined above can be used to preserve the dignity and honesty of both partners by setting matters in their proper context.. For the Christian, times of irreconcilable difference between marriage partners need not lead to bitter stalemate, crushing abuse or 'trench warfare'. They can lead to a deeper love, growth and assurance of mutual commitment.

(Man and Woman in Biblical Perspective, p. 150, Zondervan, © 1981)