

Intoxicating Love

Communication

Sunday, June 8, 2014

James 3:1-12

I. Introduction

Most marriage surveys rank communication as the #1 problem in every marriage. Most marriages seem to bog down in this quagmire of bad communication. When communication breaks down, barriers build up and the cold shoulder is the normative posture in a marriage.

Communication is necessary in EVERY relationship! It is important in our relationship with God, husband/wife, parent/child, siblings, employer/employee.

Great communication begins with God, the Author and Perfecter of all communication. He alone is the perfect communicator and we will never get to the place of perfection of communication in our relationships especially marriage.

We were created in God's image. As a result, we were created for communication, communication that is designed for beauty, intimacy, and harmony.

"But he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.'" 2 Corinthians 12:9

II. Words Have Value

"Words are powerful, important, significant. It was meant to be that way. When we speak, it must be with the realization that God has given our words significance." Paul Tripp

The Bible has a lot to say about the destructive power of wrong speech.

"There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts, but the tongue of the wise brings healing." Proverbs 12:18

No two people can effectively walk together, work together, or live together without a good communication system.

"Communication is the basic skill needed to establish and maintain sound relationships. A sound husband and wife relationship is impossible apart from good communication." Jay Adams

We can get comfortable finding our meaning, purpose, and values without having to interact and communicate with others. Communication is to be nurtured in all relationships, but especially marriage.

III. Listening Has Value

“Of all the principles involved in effective communication, none is more important than good listening.” Wayne Mack

Good communication is a two-way street involving free, open conversation and careful, attentive listening. It involves BOTH sending and receiving of a message. Without both, good communication is impossible.

Proverbs 18:13 – “If one gives an answer before he hears, it is his folly and shame.”

IV. Conclusion

“In the marriage relationship, communication may be termed survival. It is not optional but vital. It is the life stream, the nerve, the heartbeat. Where it is lacking, the marriage relationship deteriorates and dies. Where it is healthy, the marriage relationship flourishes, and the two become one.” W. Mack