



# Godly Relationships

## Effective Communication





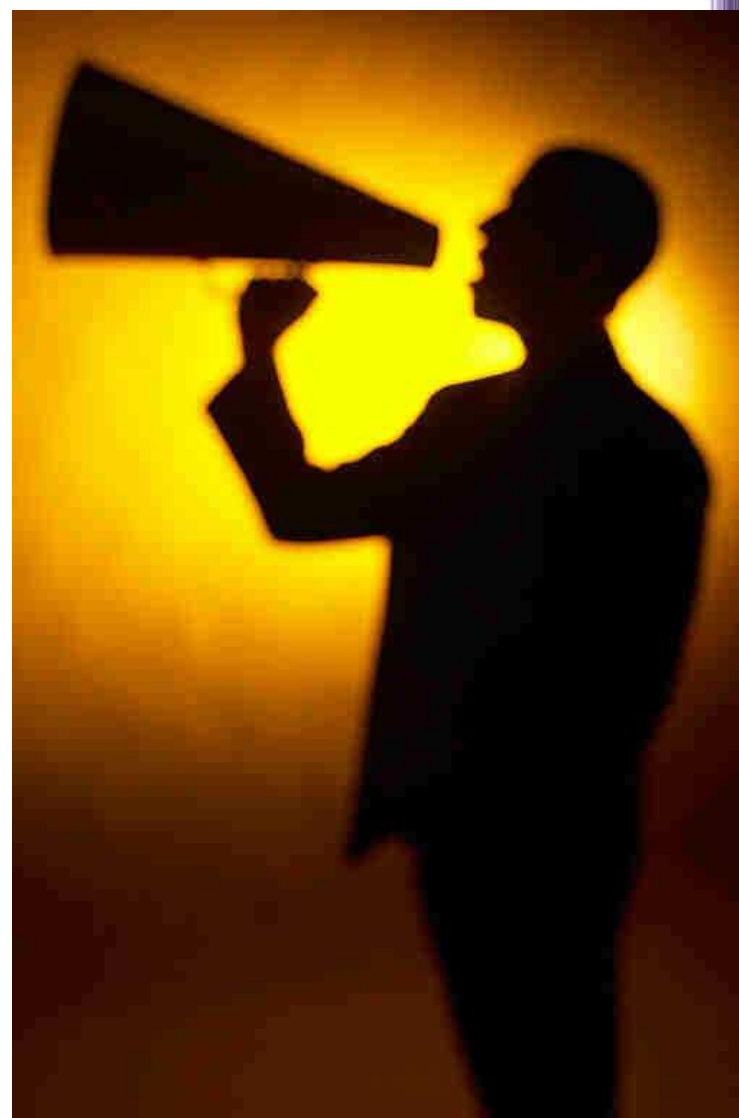
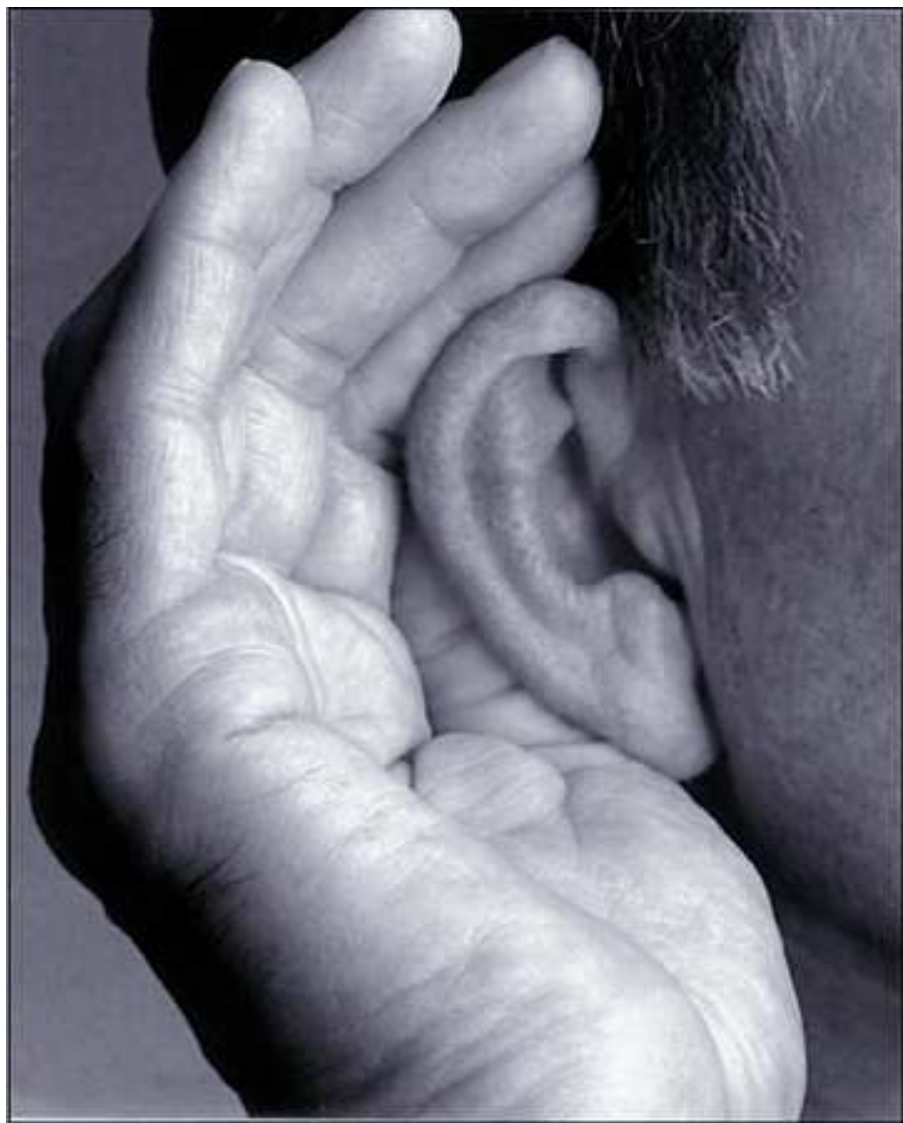
**“Communication is the Basis of Life”**

“Balance is the Key to Life”

“The Place of Agreement is the Place of Power”



Dr Ed Cole







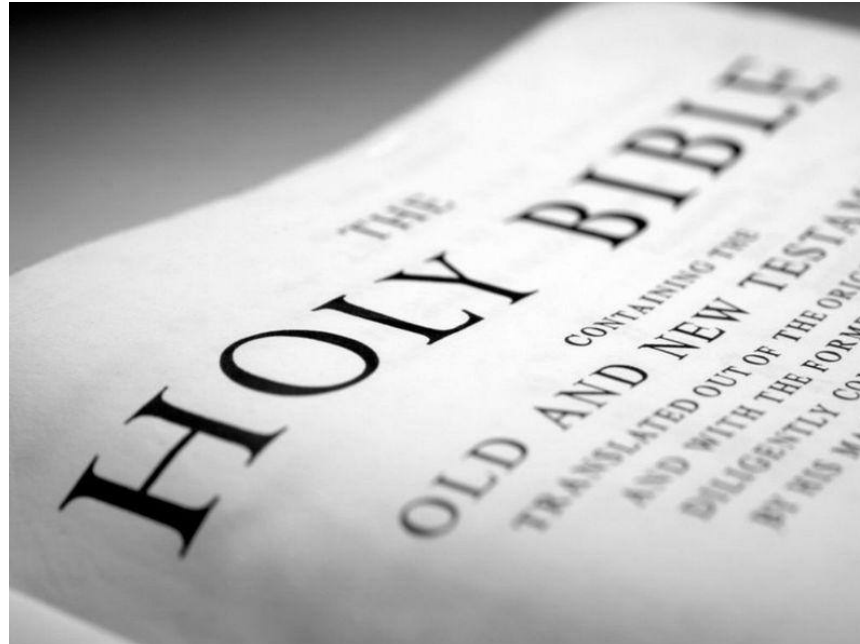




**Firstly** - God's primary ways of communication with us are through the His Word.

### **Romans 10:17 (NIV1984)**

*<sup>17</sup> Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.*





And **Secondly** by the Holy Spirit.

**John 14:26 (NIV1984)**

*<sup>26</sup> But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.*









*“It is not fitting, when one is in God's service, to have a gloomy face or a chilling look”.*

## **Francis of Assisi**





It is true? (Exodus 20:16)

Is it kind? (Titus 3:2)

Is it necessary? (Proverbs 11:22).



## Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV1984)

*<sup>19</sup> Therefore **go and make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,  
<sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*



*“Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary  
use words”.*

**Francis of Assisi**



Question: What must I do to inherit eternal life?

Jesus answered? NO – He asked a question in return

**Luke 10:20-27 (NIV)**

*<sup>25</sup> On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus.*

*Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup>*

***“What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?” <sup>27</sup>***

*He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”; and, “Love your neighbor as yourself.”*



If the Bible says it  
I believe it  
That settles it.

If the Bibles says it  
That settles it  
Whether I believe it or not

Are you ready to COMMIT the way you  
COMMUNICATE to God?





## References

<http://www.buzzle.com/articles/grey-zone-decisions.html>

<http://www.biblegateway.com/>

<http://www.google.co.za>

Audio (WMA) and text (PDF) ministry

FREE MINISTRY DOWNLOADS



## AUTHOR: Des Burrows

- ❑ For more ministry downloads visit:  
<http://www.freechapel-alberton.co.za/ministry-archives.aspx>
- ❑ For more ministry downloads by Des Burrows visit:  
<http://www.freechapel-alberton.co.za/ministry-archives.aspx?speaker=Des%20Burrows>

# COPYRIGHT INFORMATION



- ❑ Unless otherwise stated, Scripture quotations are taken from the NIV:
  - THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV®  
Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™  
Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.
- ❑ Scripture quotations taken from the NASB:
  - New American Standard Bible®,  
Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977,  
1995 by The Lockman Foundation  
Used by permission. (<http://www.Lockman.org>)
- ❑ Scripture taken from The Message  
(<http://www.biblegateway.com/versions/Message-MSG-Bible/>)
  - Copyright © 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002  
Used by permission of NavPress Publishing Group.

## Godly Relationships – Communication.

### **SLIDE**

You have heard and I have said many times that the late Ed Cole who has been called the Father of the Christian Men's movement in the US stated that,

“Communication is the basis of Life”

Without communication there is no life.

With too much communication “Houston we have a problem.

Because this can lead to **GOSSIP**

And so the next philosophy from Ed Cole.

“Balance is the Key to Life”

And more specifically in our communication.

And today we will look at Communication and what the Bible says about this subject.

Just think – If Jesus did not communicate we would all be in a state of **HOPELESSNESS.**

We will also look at what the main elements of communication are.

If you do research on the internet you will find a plethora of information by many motivational speakers, BUT

## **SLIDE**

The two most important elements are hearing and speaking.

I have learnt through many years of dealing with people in training courses, seminars and churches that we need to get two things right

1. The way we listen, and
2. The way we speak or respond (talk back)

More than often when people challenge us we start to form our defense out of our emotion because our pride is at stake.

But if just listened with an open mind and “HEAR” what the other person is saying BEFORE we respond, I believe that the response will be POSITIVE.

And today we are even afraid to communicate because we don't want to be hurt so we make use of the social media to "have our say"

## **SLIDE**

PLEASE REMEMBER that the social media is read by all and if you communicate WRONG a lot of people get hurt.

Is this what God wants?

Absolutely not!

If Jesus did not communicate life we would be hopeless so the lesson is to communicate life to people we talk to or this will lead to their hopelessness.

Is this what God wants?

Absolutely not!

## **SLIDE**

**So what does the Bible say about Communication?**

The two most important types of communication are:



- Between man and God and
- Between humans.

Communication is more than just our ability to talk, but also to **LISTEN**

As we communicate with God, the first part of that communication is **LISTENING**.

Something that many preachers neglect.

What is important to us is that we **LISTEN FIRST** before we speak.

So how does God speak?

## **SLIDE**

**Firstly** - God's primary ways of communication with us are through the His Word.

## **Romans 10:17 (NIV1984)**

*<sup>17</sup> Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ.*

And **Secondly** by the Holy Spirit.

**John 14:26 (NIV1984)**

*<sup>26</sup> But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.*

God speaks to all believers through the Bible, which is all we need to equip us for the Christian life.

**2 Timothy 3:16 (NIV1984)**

*<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,*

In order to fully understand God's communication with us, we must be diligent to:

**Read, Study, Memorize and Meditate on His Word.**

Trying to **shortcut** this process by seeking extra-biblical revelations or "hearing" God's voice is not only unscriptural, but opens us up to the deception of our own fallen nature.

### Proverbs 3:5 (NIV1984)

<sup>5</sup> *Trust in the LORD with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;*

Or worse, the deception of demons who are always looking for inroads into our minds

### 1 Peter 5:8 (NIV1984)

<sup>8</sup> *Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.*

The function of the Holy Spirit's communication with us is to:

First to convict us of sin.

### John 16:7-11 (NIV1984)

<sup>7</sup> *But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.* <sup>8</sup> ***When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment:*** <sup>9</sup> *in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me;* <sup>10</sup> *in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where*

*you can see me no longer;<sup>11</sup> and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned*

Then to guide us into all truth

### **John 16:13 (NIV1984)**

*<sup>13</sup> But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, **he will guide you into all truth.** He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.*

When Jesus went away, His disciples were greatly distressed because they had lost His comforting presence.

But He promised to send the Spirit to comfort, console, and guide those who belong to Christ.

He also “bears witness” to our spirits that we belong to Him, and thereby assures us of salvation.

The Spirit communicates with the Father on our behalf, interceding and praying for us before the throne, especially when we are weary and downhearted and unable to pray for ourselves.

## Romans 8:26 (NIV1984)

<sup>26</sup> *In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express.*

## SLIDE

Our primary mode of communication with God is prayer.

We are to go to God in **prayer for all our needs**.

When we lack something, God says that it is not from His inability to provide, but our lack of diligence to ask or asking with the wrong motives.

## James 4:2-3 (NIV1984)

<sup>2</sup> *You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God.* <sup>3</sup> *When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.*

Even Jesus prayed regularly because of the limitations He took upon Himself in human form.

No longer able to communicate with God face to face, as He did in heaven, Jesus prayed often and fervently to reestablish intimate communication with the Father.

We are to follow His example and “pray continually”

**1 Thessalonians 5:17 (NIV1984)**

<sup>17</sup> *pray continually;*

Secondly, we must examine how we communicate with our fellow man.

It goes without saying that no “filthy communication” should escape from the lips of a Christian, whether said in jest or in earnest.

**Colossians 3:8 (NIV1984)**

<sup>8</sup> *But now you must rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.*

James speaks clearly on this subject in **James 1:19**

*“My dear brothers, take note of this: **Everyone** should be **quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry.**”*



When we speak in anger, we fail to show God's love. Whether speaking to a family member or a stranger, our communication should always come forth in a loving manner.

Otherwise, our testimony is damaged, as is the name of Jesus Christ when His people fail to guard their tongues.

The best way to be sure what comes from our mouths is pure - is to be aware of what is in our hearts.

As Jesus reminded the Pharisees, "out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks."

If our hearts are filled with **UNGODLINESS**, it will eventually come forth in our speech, no matter how hard we try to restrain it.

NOTE TO ALL – Be careful what you say about others and the church IN FRONT OF YOUR CHILDREN.

Others get to hear and THE GOSSIP BEGINS.

Of course, our most important communication to man should be the fulfillment of Matthew 28:19-20

## **Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV1984)**

*<sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

**We need to communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ to a world that desperately needs to hear it.**

**Believers should constantly examine their communication.**

- We should consider **THE TONE** of newer forms of communication such as email and text messaging.
- We should never allow the safety of a computer screen to lead us to harsh and ungodly words towards others.
- We should consider our body language and facial expressions towards others as well.

Simply withholding words is meaningless when our body language communicates disdain, anger, or hatred toward another.

**SLIDE**

*“It is not fitting, when one is in God's service, to have a gloomy face or a chilling look”.*

**Francis of Assisi**

## **SLIDE**

When engaged in conversation, as we prepare to speak, we should ask ourselves:

- It is true? (Exodus 20:16)
- Is it kind? (Titus 3:2)
- Is it necessary? (Proverbs 11:22).

## **SLIDE**

You see folks, it is our MANDATE (Command) to:

### **Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV1984)**

*<sup>19</sup> Therefore **go and make disciples of all nations**, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

And if the way we COMMUNICATE is not to be desired we will chase people away from God.

## SLIDE

*“Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words”.*

**Francis of Assisi**

From this moment make a commitment to God that you will significantly improve your communication with Him and all you come into contact with.

Not only by the words you speak, but learning to listen and not allowing your emotions to rule your communication.

When the expert in the law stood up and questioned Jesus “What must I do to inherit eternal life”

Jesus answered: **NO He asked a question.**

Listen to this.

**Luke 10:20-27 (NIV)**

<sup>25</sup> *On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”*

<sup>26</sup> *“What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”*

<sup>27</sup> *He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”*

So when you prepare to communicate to others the question is:

What is written?

If the Bible says it, that is it.

And I commit to it.

Amen.