

Biblical Principles for Godly Communication
Lesson 5: “Ministering Grace to Others with Our Communication”

Introduction

Ephesians 4:29

- I. Ministering grace to others through our communication requires **heart preparation** (Colossians 3:12-17).
 - A. We must get dressed for the job.
 1. Compassion
 2. Kindness
 3. Humility
 4. Gentleness
 5. Patience
 6. Forbearance
 7. Forgiveness
 8. Love
 9. Peace
 10. Thankfulness
 - B. We must put on Christ.
- II. There are practical ways to minister grace to others through our communication.
 - A. Remove communication **barriers** (Proverbs 18:1; Philippians 2:3-4; Psalm 46).
 - B. Learn to **listen**.
 1. We should delight in **understanding** those talking to us rather than in expressing our opinion (Proverbs 18:2).
 2. Several factors prevent good listening.
 - a. Our **anger** gets in the way of listening (James 1:19-20; Hebrews 13:17; Proverbs 25:12).
 - b. Our **pride** gets in the way of listening (Proverbs 18:2, 13, 15).
 - c. Our **selfishness** gets in the way of listening.
 - C. **Confront** in love (Hebrews 3:12-13; 10:23-25).

1. Do I have the facts right? (Proverbs 18:13; 17)
2. Should love hide it? Is it sinful? (1 Peter 4:8)
3. Is my timing right? (Proverbs 15:23)
4. Is my attitude right? Am I trying to help the other person? (Ephesians 4:29)
5. Are my words loving? (Ephesians 4:15)
6. Have I prayed for God's help? (Proverbs 3:5-6)

D. **Choose** your words carefully (Proverbs 15:28, 25:11).

E. Know when to **speak** and when not to **speak** (Proverbs 26:4-5, 15:23; 1 John 3:18).

F. Express **gratitude** and **praise** often (Philippians 4:8; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7; Proverbs 27:2)

Conclusion

Luke 4:22