

Communication: Discussion Questions

I. Introduction.

- A. What is the biblical basis for intimate communication in marriage? Gen. 2:24-25**
- B. How do men and women differ in communication needs?**
- C. How do men and women differ in styles of communication?**
- D. By what means do we communicate? Pr. 6:13**

II. What are some communication killers? Pr. 18:13,2 10:18,11 11:13 29:20,22 27:2 17:20 12:18-19 15:1,28 16:21,23-24 25:24 26:18-19 18:8 16:28 Ecc. 5:2 Js. 1:19 3:5-8 Eph. 4:25,29,31 Mt. 5:21-22,33-36 I Co. 13:5

- A.**
- B.**
- C.**
- D.**
- E.**
- F.**
- G.**
- H.**
- I.**

- J. Do you ever say things you don't really mean? Mt. 12:34 Pr. 15:2,28**

III. What are some positive biblical principles for communication?

- A. Upon whose needs should you focus? Phil. 2:3-4 Rom. 15:2**
- B. Which is more important--listening or speaking? Js. 1:19 I Pe. 3:7 Pr. 13:3 10:19**
 - 1. Is it possible to listen without really listening? Mt. 13:13**
 - 2. How can you become a better listener? Pr. 20:5**

C. How can you learn to speak the truth in love?

1. Is total honesty always called for? Eph. 4:29 Pr. 18:2 10:19 13:3 21:21
2. How can you communicate on a deeper level?
3. How can you build others up through your speech? Eph. 4:29 Pr. 16:21,24 10:11,21 31:26 14:25 15:7 17:30 27:5
4. Do you know what style of communication best reaches your spouse?
5. Does timing matter? Pr. 27:14 25:11,20 15:23
6. Does manner of speech matter? Pr. 15:1 25:15

IV. Practical ways to improve your communication.

A. A communication exercise. Phil. 2:3-4

1. First the husband explains the wife's point of view.
2. Then the wife explains her husband's perspective.
3. Then the wife gently fills in what the husband missed.
4. Then the husband gently fills in what the wife missed.

B. Set regular times in which you will give your undivided attention to each other.

1. Daily debriefing.
2. Date night.
3. Get-aways.

C. Pray together.

D. Set goals together.

E. Have fun together.

V. Conclusion:

A. The key is your heart. Mt. 12:34-35

B. God speaks to us. Heb. 1:1ff