

Picking up the Ball

The Game of Communication – Lesson 6

Make eye contact with the person to whom you are speaking.

Remember that your body language will speak volumes!

Give your full attention to the other person.

Respond! Pick up the ball!

Keep a confidence – Pr 17:9

Avoid pat answers.

The Power of the Tongue

Controlling the tongue (James 3:1-2)

Tongue is set on fire from hell

Control of the tongue shows control over the whole body

Mouth speaks from what is in the heart (good or bad) – Matt 12:33-37

“Religious” man who can’t bridle his tongue deceives himself – his religion is worthless (James 1:26)

The Problem with Communication

Contentious Women

(try to pick a fight)

Unthinking Men

(don’t think about what they say)

Men and women have different mindsets that they speak from and listen with!

Guarding Our Words in the Battle – Lesson 6

- 1) Pray for protection.
 - a. Ps 141:3 - Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.
- 2) Listen to what the other is saying WITHOUT getting mad!
 - a. Ja 1:19, 20 - This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.
 - b. Pr 19:11 - A man's discretion makes him slow to anger, And it is his glory to overlook a transgression.
 - c. Pr 18:13 - He who gives an answer before he hears, It is folly and shame to him.
 - d. Pr 15:32 - He who neglects discipline despises himself, But he who listens to reproof acquires understanding.
 - e. Pr 13:10 - Through insolence comes nothing but strife, But wisdom is with those who receive counsel.
- 3) Think carefully before you speak. REMEMBER the power of the tongue!
 - a. Pr 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue, And those who love it will eat its fruit.
 - b. Pr 15:28 - The heart of the righteous ponders how to answer, But the mouth of the wicked pours out evil thing
 - c. Pr 17:27 - He who restrains his words has knowledge, And he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding
 - d. Pr 14:3 - In the mouth of the foolish is a rod for his back, But the lips of the wise will protect them.
 - e. Pr 12:18 - There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, But the tongue of the wise brings healing.
- 4) Remember the example that God would want us to be and why.
 - a. I Pe 2:21-23 - For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH; and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;
 - b. I Pe 3:8-10 - To sum up, all of you be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit; not returning evil for evil or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing. For, THE ONE WHO DESIRES LIFE, TO LOVE AND SEE GOOD DAYS, MUST KEEP HIS TONGUE FROM EVIL AND HIS LIPS FROM SPEAKING DECEIT.
 - c. Pr 24:29 - Do not say, "Thus I shall do to him as he has done to me; I will render to the man according to his work."
- 5) NOW open your mouth in KINDNESS, LOVE, and UNDERSTANDING!
 - a. Pr 31:26 - She opens her mouth in wisdom, And the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
 - b. Ps 34:13-14 - Keep your tongue from evil, And your lips from speaking deceit. Depart from evil and do good; Seek peace and pursue it.
 - c. Pr 11:11 - By the blessing of the upright a city is exalted, But by the mouth of the wicked it is torn down.
 - d. Job 16:5 - I could strengthen you with my mouth, And the solace of my lips could lessen your pain.
 - e. Pr 16:21, 23-24 - The wise in heart will be called understanding, And sweetness of speech increases persuasiveness. Understanding is a fountain of life to one who has it, But the discipline of fools is folly. The heart of the wise instructs his mouth And adds persuasiveness to his lips. Pleasant words are a honeycomb, Sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.
 - f. Ep 4:29-31 - Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.
 - g. Co 4:6 - Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.
 - h. Pr 15:1-4 - A gentle answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise makes knowledge acceptable, But the mouth of fools spouts folly. The eyes of the LORD are in every place, Watching the evil and the good. A soothing tongue is a tree of life, But perversion in it crushes the spirit.
 - i. Pr 18:19 - A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city, And contentions are like the bars of a citadel.
 - j. Pr 18:14 - The spirit of a man can endure his sickness, But as for a broken spirit who can bear it?
- 6) Resolve the problem in God's power.
 - a. Ep 4:26 - BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger,