

Keys to Communication Practicing the Principles of Proverbs

Pastor Dan Haakenson
Tuesday, July 26, 2005

- I. Introduction
 - A. Overview
 - "Key #1" - Tell the Truth
 - "Key #2" - Speak with Kindness
 - "Key #3" - Listen Well
 - "Key #4" - Resolve Conflict
 - B. How do you handle conflict?
- II. Questions in the Quest to Resolve Conflict
 - A. How can I trust and please God in this situation?**
(Prov. 3:5-7; 16:7; 20:22; 28:25; also see 1 Cor. 10:31; 1 Pt. 2:21-25)
 - B. How can I minimize this conflict?**
 - 1. By being slow to fight
(Prov. 3:30; 17:14; 18:19; 19:11; 20:3; 26:17 (of the call to not be a contentious/nagging woman or wife in 19:13; 21:9, 19; 27:15, 16))
 - 2. By being slow to anger
(James 1:19, 20; Prov. 15:18; 16:32; 29:11, 22)
 - C. What log do I need to get out of my own eye?**
(Matt. 7:5; Prov. 28:13; James 4:12)
 - D. How should I seek reconciliation?**
(Prov. 15:1; 26:4-5)
- III. Becoming a person who resolves conflict – living out the Gospel in our relationships.

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As always, keep Scripture first and foremost, but if you want further study on these matters two resources that I'd highly recommend are:

War of Words by Paul David Tripp
P & R Publishing 2000

The Peacemaker, 3rd ed. by Ken Sande
Baker Books, 2004

Discussion Questions

1. How often do you experience conflict? (daily, weekly, monthly)
2. What do you make of the fact that the Proverbs speak more about how to minimize conflict than how to manage it?
3. Which of the Proverbs under "being slow to fight" did you most need and why?
4. Which of the Proverbs under "being slow to anger" did you most need and why?
5. Where will you put into practice these principles on minimizing conflict?
6. How often do you manage conflict by answering with gentleness? (15:1)
7. How would you describe the difference between Proverbs 26:4 and 5? How could you apply the principle there?
8. What difference would it make if we entrusted our conflicts to the Lord? How can you do that?
9. How do the New Testament passages cited in the outline (Eph 4:31-5:2; 1 Peter 2:21-25) call you to resolve conflict?
10. Pray for one another as a group in resolving (minimizing and managing) conflicts.