

Communication in Marriage, Part 2

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I. Introduction.

II. Communication is very complex.

- A. What you mean to say.
- B. What you actually say.
- C. What the other person hears.
- D. What the other person thinks he or she hears.
- E. What the other person says you said.
- F. What you think the other person says what you said.

III. Communication is the meeting of meaning.

IV. We need to constantly be evaluating our communication.

V. Commitments.

A. The commitment to be a revealer.

- 1. Avoid ridicule.
- 2. Realize that love is always a decision.

B. A commitment to be vulnerable.

- 1. Communication blocks.
 - a. Busyness.
 - 1) Budget time and money toward one another.
 - 2) Date each other.
 - b. Lack of understanding. We need to accept feelings and pray about it.
 - c. Silence used as a tool.
- 2. Real communication marries truth and love.
- 3. Listening is mature love. (Proverbs 18:13, 18:2)

C. A commitment to work through conflict.

- 1. Define the conflict.

2. Refuse to win.
3. Avoid “you” statements.

VI. Conflict.

- A. The source of conflict is pride. (1 Peter 5, Ephesians 5:21)
- B. Submission is an aspect of humility.
- C. God opposes those who refuse to submit.

VII. Communication is difficult is because meaning is in people and not in words.

VIII. Things to never do in communication.

- A. Use sarcasm.
- B. Criticize or correct publicly.

Application questions:

1. Why is communication difficult?

2. What are some ways that you have hurt your spouse and your spouse has hurt you? How can communication heal?

3. What can you do to improve communication in your relationship with your spouse? Explain.
