



Study R: Communication

*“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouth,
but only what is helpful for building others up according to
their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.”*

Eph. 4:29

Why: Reasons for the study

- Words are a primary means by which you relate to your Heavenly Father and to every person you encounter.
- God has a biblical way for us to communicate and relate to each other.

What: Principles to grasp

- Our words have great power to build up or to tear down others.
- Our words reveal what is in our hearts.
- Our ungodly communication is usually a manifestation of deeper sins.
- Attentive listening and gracious words will flow from a mind and heart that are submitted to the Lord!
- To speak wisely and to listen carefully conveys love, respect and concern for another.

How: Path to a changed life

- To evaluate both the words they use and the way they listen
- To connect how they communicate with how they are honoring and submitting to God
- To realize how acceptance or lack of acceptance of God’s control over others’ lives impacts how they communicate

Helpful ideas:

- Assign the contrast between *The Poor Listener* and *The Good Listener* as an evaluation checklist and possible confession/reconciliation list.
- *Daily Log* (CTD) to record times they praised spouse and/or children if encouraging words are not a habit