

# Goal of Communication

## God's design for man's dilemma

- Eph 4 (Rules of Communication)
- Be honest (Eph 4:15)
  - Speak (Jas 5:12)
  - Speak the truth (Eph 4:15a)
  - Lovingly speak the truth (Eph 4:15b)
- Keep current (Eph 4:26, 27)
  - Have all issues settled the night before
  - Only discuss what is pertinent to today
  - Consider the following:
    - Do I have all the facts (Prov 18: 13, 15)
    - What is the reason I'm bringing this up (Prov 27:6; Matt 12:34b)
    - Have I dealt with my responsibility (Matt. 7:1-5)
    - Am I loving (Eph 4:15; Prov 15:1)
    - Is this timely (Prov 15:29b; 25:11)
    - Have I prayed about bringing this up (Prov 3:5-6; Phil 4:6-7; I Thess 5:17)
- Attack the problem, not the person (Eph 4:29, 30)
  - Don't use words that tear down
  - Only use words that build up
- Act don't react (Eph 4:31, 32)
  - Improper reactions:
    - Bitterness
    - Wrath
    - Anger
    - Clamor
    - Slander

- Malice
  - Proper reactions:
    - Kindness
    - Tenderheartedness
    - Forgiveness
  - Consider Eph 5:18-21
- Foundation for communication
  - God has a lot to say about Words and communication: (Pr 10:11-14; 18-21; 25:11-14; 26:17-28; Jas 3:1-8)
  - Words are powerful (Prov 11:9; 12:18; 15:4; 18:21; Matt 12:37; Jas 3:1-8)
  - Words are valuable (Prov 20:15; 25:11-14)
  - Source of words (Prov 6:12; 15:28; 16:23-24; Matt 12:34)
- Communication guidelines
  - Listen (Prov 18:13; 19:20; Jas 1:19)
  - Don't talk too much (Prov 10:19; 13:2-3; 17:27-28; Eccl 10:12-14)
  - Don't nag (Prov 21:19; 26:21)
  - Don't meddle (Prov 26:27; I Thess 4:11; I Pet 4:15; Prov 20:3)
  - Don't gossip (Prov 11:13; 20:19; 26:20; II Thess 3:11)
  - Don't brag (Prov 14:23; 27:2)
  - Be slow to speak (Prov 15:28; 29:20; Jas 1:19)
  - Speak in a timely way (Prov 15:23; Eph 4:29)
  - Admit when you're wrong (Prov 29:23; Jas 5:1)
  - Don't lie (Ps 34:13; Prov 12:19, 22; 26:18-19, Eph 5:15, 25)
  - Don't respond in anger (Prov 15:1; Eph 4:26)
  - Avoid quarrels (Prov 17:14; 20:3)
  - Ask God to set a guard over your lips (Ps 141:3; Prov 13:3)
  - Offer sacrifices of praise (Heb 13:15; Prov 25:11)
  - Speak encouragingly (Eph 4:29; Prov 21:3)
  - Bridle your tongue (Jas 1:26; Jas 3:2; 5-6; Prov 10:19)
- Changing habits is not easy, but it can be done (I Cor 10:13; Phil 4:13)
- No matter how ungodly others are in their attitudes and actions, you must communicate biblically. Their sin does not justify your sin! (Matt 7:12)
- If forgiveness is sought, and granted, then the sin is not to be brought up again, just as our sins are put as far as the east is from the west. (Ps 103:12; Isa 1:18; Mic 7:19; I John 1:9; Eph 4:32) **\*\*ROLE PLAY\*\***