



## Study Guide

For Group  
Or Personal  
Bible Study

### Communication – Part 2 Week of May 3, 2009

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#### Warm-Up

If married: How long did your honeymoon last: 7 days, 7 weeks, or 7 years? How did you know it had ended and new realities had set in?

#### Opening Prayer

Leader or conversational prayer: Welcome God into your study; praise Him for the peace we can experience in Jesus, even when we're in conflict with others.

#### Study

- Last week we were asked to share one way we would try to amp-up our communication this past week. Share the results.
- In Sunday's message about communication, we focused on the roots of conflict: selfishness, unmet needs & pride. Share any insights, applications or questions you took from that teaching.
- Read Mark 3:25. What do Jesus' words tell us about the importance of dealing with conflict?
- What do you think causes conflict?
- According to James 4:1-2, what causes conflict? What does the cause of conflict reveal about how we should approach conflict resolution? Where should we begin?
- According to Ephesians 2:16-17 how is conflict resolution different if both parties are Jesus Followers.

- Read James 4:2 again. Though it may be counterintuitive, what's one of the first things we should do when faced with conflict?
- It has been suggested that in a conflict we should always attack the problem rather than the person. According to Jesus words in Matthew 7:3 what's one of the first steps in attacking the problem?
- How important to God is it that we resolve our relational conflicts? Do you think our earthly relationships affect our relationship with God? Read Matthew 5:23-24
- If we continuously choose to allow unresolved conflict in our relationships, what might the result be? Read Proverbs 11:29
- Read Proverbs 15:12. Has pride ever caused you to reject correction or kept you from seeking wise counsel or relational advice?
- What's one action, decision or commitment you'll make as a result of this week's teaching and study on conflict in communication?

#### Closing Prayer

Conversational prayer: voice your requests to God and others; ask God to help you prioritize conflict resolution by being selfless, reflective, prayerful, humble...

#### Resources For Digging Deeper

The DNA of Relationships – Gary Smalley  
The DNA of Relationships For Couples – Gary Smalley  
The DNA of Parent-Teen Relationships – Gary & Greg Smalley  
Cracking The Communication Code – Dr. Emerson Eggerich  
Love Busters – Willard Harley  
Give & Take – Willard Harley  
The Language of Love – Gary Smalley & John Trent