

### Godly Communication Part 3.

The Bible is full of wisdom about communication, but to benefit from it, we must put the WORD into Action.

#### Romans 12:1-2

“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

What is this text calling us to do?

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Read Romans 12:9-21.

List the top three areas you feel challenged to grow in Godly communication.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

List the number one of your three that you feel you need to work on the most.

- 1.

Look up five verses in a concordance, or online using a resource such as [blueletterbible.org](http://blueletterbible.org) that directly addresses the main area you listed above, and write the references below.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Take the verse above that ministers to or convicts you the most and write it out below.

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Over the next week, take time to memorize this verse and let it encourage you daily to walk in obedience and faith.

**Romans 12:18**

“If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.”

What does this verse mean in the context of relationships?

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Romans 12:10 *“Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another;”*

How can you grow in Christ, honoring affection?

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**1 Timothy 4:7**

*“Exercise yourself toward godliness.”*

Growing in Godly communication takes effort.

Are you willing to do spiritual exercises (Reading, praying, and studying Gods Word for wisdom on how to handle situations) to grow in Godliness?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

If yes, write the three ways below to begin growing in this area.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

We cannot grow in Godliness unless we are growing closer to God.

Jesus said. *“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”* (John 15:5, NKJV)

To abide with Christ, we must spend time daily in His Word, and in prayer, we must nourish and strengthen our souls.

Do you read every day? Yes\_\_\_ No\_\_\_

If you answered yes, that’s great! If no, this is a great opportunity to grow like never before.

Jesus said *“It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.’”* (Matthew 4:4)

If you do not have a consistent reading plan, I would encourage you to start in Matthew chapter one and read a chapter every morning (This takes about 5 minutes) and read all the way through to Revelation. This is only about a page per day, and you will finish the New Testament in about nine months. Once you complete, start again. In the evening, start in Genesis chapter one, and begin reading one chapter per night until you finish the whole Old Testament. Then once complete, start over.

As you read, do four things.

1. Pray, ask God to help you understand the text.
2. Learn to be very Observational. Ask questions like who, what, when, where, and why? These help you to really learn to study the text.
3. Work to interpret the text. This means learn to understand what the author is conveying through the message. This is not looking for hidden meanings, it is the opposite, every verse, saying, and Word in the Bible has a context, which you will learn through Observation, the interpretation is simply looking to understand what the author is trying to say.

4. Lastly, we want to look at how God would have us apply the truth or learn from the Word, so that we might grow in Godliness and wisdom:

Sometimes we can overcomplicate this process, so let me highlight what we are trying to do through a practical example.

When you go up to a counter to order food from a restaurant, you might say something like, I will take a number one, because you **observed** the menu and saw an item labeled number one, then the person taking your order will say something like, "That will be twelve forty-five. and you **interpret**, based on your observation of the price listed on the menu, and context, that he is talking about money, and proceed to hand some form of payment. (Application) This is what we want to do with the Word: Observe, Interpret, Apply.

Romans 10:17 says *"So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God."*

Will you commit to this time in the Word, to strengthen your faith and grow in communication between you and God?

Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

If yes.

Write the times you will plan to read below.

\_\_:\_\_ am

\_\_:\_\_ pm

I would encourage you to set a reminder on your phone or alarm, to help you remember the times you set above.

If we want to communicate well with others, we must first learn to communicate well with God.

Luke 18:1 says, *"Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,"*

Praying throughout the day is another important learned discipline. Though our aim should be to pray throughout the day.

I want you to start with some practical ways you can work to increase the amount of time you spend in prayer on a daily basis

List three ways you could make prayer a more consistent throughout the day

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Example: Pray after lunch, pray on your way home from work, make a prayer journal, etc...

Matthew 21:28–32

*“But what do you think? A man had two sons, and he came to the first and said, ‘Son, go, work today in my vineyard.’ He answered and said, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he regretted it and went. Then he came to the second and said likewise. And he answered and said, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said to Him, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that tax collectors and harlots enter the kingdom of God before you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him; but tax collectors and harlots believed him; and when you saw it, you did not afterward relent and believe him.”*

What does this parable teach us about the importance of application to God’s Word, and not just hearing or reading it?

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James 1:22

*“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”*

What is James telling us to do?

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Are there any specific areas you need to work on being a doer of Word? Write out below.

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Matthew 7:24–27

*“Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. “But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall.””*

Jesus highlights in this passage two groups of people: those who hear and do, and those who hear and do not do. Describe below the blessings and warnings of not only hearing but also doing what God says.

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As you begin to study and apply God’s Word more effectively, you will come to challenging and harder days. That’s ok, don’t let those discourage you, press on and press through, stay committed because God’s ways are the best ways.

Jesus prayed for His disciples, Lord, *“Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.”* (John 17:17)

Stay steadfast in putting these new habits into practice, and God will be faithful to help you grow and give you the strength you need if you keep looking to Him in faith.