

LOVING WITH WORDS

40 DAY OF LOVE – (Part 4)

The DICTIONARY definition of communication: “A process by which information is exchanged between individuals through a common system of symbols, signs, or behavior.”

The REALITY definition of communication: “A process by which information is confused by individuals through a conflicting system of emotions, behaviors, backgrounds, and desires.”

James 3:2a Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect...

FOUR LESSONS ABOUT COMMUNICATION

1) THE FOUNDATION OF COMMUNICATION IS TRUST.

Matthew 5:37 (Jesus) “Just say a simple, ‘Yes, I will,’ or ‘No, I won’t.’ Anything beyond this is from the evil one.”

These are the ways we erode trust with our words.

- **LIES**

- **FLATTERY**

Proverbs 26:28 A lying tongue hates its victims, and flattering words cause ruin.

- **Broken PROMISES**

2) THERE IS A CONNECTION BETWEEN MY MOUTH AND MY HEART.

Matthew 12:34 Whatever is in your heart determines what you say.

3) COMMUNICATION THAT MAKES AN IMPACT IS HONEST.

Ephesians 4:15 We will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ.

Ephesians 4:29 Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.

Proverbs 27:5 An open rebuke is better than hidden love.

1 Corinthians 13:6 Love does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out.

4) WHEN WE ARE ANGRY WE NEED TO BE CAREFUL WITH OUR WORDS.

Ephesians 4:26-27 And "don't sin by letting anger control you." Don't let the sun go down while you are still angry, 27for anger gives a foothold to the devil.