

B. Good communication is a **two-way** street involving free, open talking and careful, attentive listening.

1. **Talking** ~ Ask yourself these questions:

a. Is it both **truthful** and **loving**?

“but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ—”
Ephesians 4:15

b. Is it the best **way** to say it?

“A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver.”
Proverbs 25:11

c. Is it the right **time** to say it?

“A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, And a word spoken in due season, how good it is!”
Proverbs 15:23

2. **Listening** ~ Put on these hearing aids:

a. Good listening involves letting the other person speak without **interruption**.

“He who answers a matter before he hears it, It is folly and shame to him.”
Proverbs 18:13

b. Good listening involves giving the other person your undivided **attention**.

“So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;”
James 1:19

c. Good listening involves making sure you understand what the other person is **saying**.

“Counsel in the heart of man is like deep water, But a man of understanding will draw it out.”
Proverbs 20:5

HOW DO YOU NEED TO APPLY GOD’S WISDOM TO YOUR MODERN FAMILY?

MODERN FAMILY God’s Wisdom For Today’s Families Modern Family Communication Pastor Steve Reynolds

INTRODUCTION

A. Modern families have major problems! We no longer live in a culture where the majority of homes include two parents with 2.3 kids and a white picket fence. The reality is modern family life is extremely complex, often dysfunctional and very painful. Is there any hope? YES! God has timeless wisdom for today’s families. He knows and cares and wants to help your family thrive.

“And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

Joshua 24:15

B. You’re invited to attend this powerful series on the modern day family. You will discover how to have healthy relationships in whatever family situation whether single, married, kids, empty nester, whatever.

Oct 7	Modern Family Purpose
Oct 14	Modern Family Busyness
Oct 21	Modern Family Singleness
Oct 28	Modern Family Marriage
Nov 4	Modern Family Technology
TODAY	Modern Family Communication
Nov 18	Modern Family Hurt
Nov 25	Modern Family Sexuality
Dec 2	Modern Family Parenting
Dec 9	Modern Family Finances

C. **TEXT:** Proverbs 18:21 (Pew Bible/Pg. 634/Old Test.)

Communication is to a relationship what blood is to a body. It keeps it **alive**.

MODERN FAMILY COMMUNICATION

I. RECOGNIZE THE PRIORITY OF COMMUNICATION

“He who would love life And see good days, Let him refrain his tongue from evil, And his lips from speaking deceit.”

I Peter 3:10

Negative consequences of poor communication:

A. Closeness is hindered.

“Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.”

Genesis 2:24

B. Conflicts are unresolved.

“Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother.”

Matthew 18:15

C. Confusion is allowed.

“33 For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

40: Let all things be done decently and in order.”

I Corinthians 14:33, 40

D. Christianity is unclear.

“You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up.”

Deuteronomy 6:7

II. FOLLOW THE PARTICULARS OF COMMUNICATION

A. Communicate with God and He will help you communicate with people.

“34 Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

35 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.”

Matthew 12:34-35

“Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.”

Psalms 141:3

B. God created males and females with unique communication styles and needs.

“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Genesis 1:27

“Nevertheless let each one of you in particular so love his own wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.”

Ephesians 5:33

III. UNDERSTAND THE PROCESS OF COMMUNICATION

A. Communicating with one another is a complex process.

Specialists point out that when you talk with another person there are actually six messages that come through:

1. What you mean to say.
2. What you actually say.
3. What the other person hears.
4. What the other person thinks they hear.
5. What the other person says about what you said.
6. What you think the other person says about what you said.

The complexity often results in misunderstandings.