

Remodeling Your Kitchen

February 8, 2009 – Jeff Gunn

¹Blessed are all who fear the LORD, who walk in his ways. ²You will eat the fruit of your labor; blessings and prosperity will be yours. ³Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table. ⁴Thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD. ⁵May the LORD bless you from Zion all the days of your life; may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem, ⁶and may you live to see your children's children. Peace be upon Israel. (Psalm 128:1-6, NIV)

He who guards his lips guards his life, but he who speaks rashly will come to ruin. (Proverbs 13:3, NIV)

We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check... The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. (James 3:2, 6, NIV)

Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones. (Proverbs 16:24, NIV)

1. Godly communication promotes _____.

My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. (James 1:19-20, NIV)

For, "Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from deceitful speech." (1 Peter 3:10, NIV)

1. Godly communication promotes _____.

To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. (1 Peter 2:21-24, NIV)

A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. (Proverbs 15:1, NIV)

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbor, for we are all members of one body. "In your anger do not sin": Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold. He who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with his own hands, that he may have something to share with those in need. Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. (Ephesians 4:25-32, NIV)

2. Godly communication promotes _____.

My next steps in the "Cross-Walk":

- Examine yourself to see if you are in control of your tongue. Ask God to grant you the gift of humility in the use of words.
- Take your sinful words to the One the apostle John calls the Word—Jesus Christ. Trust in his grace for forgiveness.
- Meditate on and memorize 1 Peter 3:10.