

Principles for Biblical Communication

1. Guard Your Tongue

He who guards his mouth and his tongue, guards his soul from troubles. (**Prov. 21:23**)

2. Listen Before Answering

He who gives an answer before he hears, it is folly and shame to him. (**Prov. 18:13**)

Additional Scriptures: **Prov. 15:28; 29:20; James 1:19.**

3. Listen to Wise Counsel

Listen to counsel and accept discipline, that you may be wise the rest of your days. (**Prov. 19:20**)

4. Speak at the Right Time

A man has joy in an apt answer, and how delightful is a timely word! (**Prov. 15:23**)

5. Speak the Truth in Love

But, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him Who is the Head, even Christ. (**Eph. 4:15**)

Additional Scripture: **Col. 3:9.**

6. Speak Words That Edify

Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. (**Eph. 4:29**)

7. Speak Graciously

Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt. (**Col. 4:6**)

Additional Scripture: **Prov. 16:24.**

8. Speak What Is Needed, Not Merely Wanted

He who rebukes a man will afterward find more favor than he who flatters with the tongue. (**Prov. 28:23**)

9. Avoid Excessive Talking

When there are many words, transgression is unavoidable, but he who restrains his lips is wise. (**Prov. 10:19**)

10. Know When to Be Silent

Even a fool, when he keeps silent, is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is considered prudent. (**Prov. 17:28**)

11. Avoid Harsh and Quarrelsome Words

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

Additional Scripture: **Prov. 17:14.**

12. Avoid Reckless Words

There is one who speaks rashly like the thrust of a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing. (**Prov. 12:18**)

Additional Scripture: **1 Pet. 3:9.**

13. Avoid Gossip

A perverse man spreads strife, and a slanderer separates intimate friends. (**Prov. 16:28**)

Additional Scripture: **Prov. 17:9.**

14. Don't Believe Every Accusation

A single witness shall not rise up against a man on account of any iniquity or any sin which he has committed. (**Deut. 19:15**)

15. Don't Take Every Word to Heart

Also, do not take seriously all words which are spoken, so that you will not hear your servant cursing you. For you also have realized that you likewise have many times cursed others. (**Eccl. 7:21-22**)

16. Watch the Source of Your Words

For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart. (**Mat. 12:34**)

17. Remember the Tongue's Power for Good and Evil

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit. (**Prov. 18:21**)

18. Fill Your Heart With God's Word

The good man brings out of his good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of his evil treasure what is evil. (**Mat. 12:35**)

19. Pray About Your Speech

Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips. (**Psa. 141:3**)

20. Remember You Will Answer to God for Your Words

But I tell you that every careless word that people speak they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned. (**Mat. 12:36-37**)