

Small Groups

Leader Conversation Guide – Successful Communication in Marriage

Main Idea

This week, Pastor Jimmy Evans continued Part 3 of our series, “You Asked for It,” by discussing how to have successful communication in marriage. Today’s principles can be applied to communication on any level, but for a good marriage, healthy communication is foundational and is the most important skill a couple can have. As couples, we communicate for 6 reasons: basic information, partnership, conflict resolution, connection, personal information, and intimate communication. When we get stuck in any of these areas, it affects every area of communication. Our goal must be to meet each other’s needs, while understanding that our needs are different as men and women. This may sound tricky, but it’s possible when we realize the most important ministry we have, is to our spouse. Today, let’s dig into these 5 practical keys to successful communication in marriage, and commit to loving our spouse like only we can!

Make It Practical

- Successful communication has the right tone. Our tone communicates we care, and makes each person want to find a way to understand.
- Successful communication provides enough time. Proactive communication is intentional and provides time for personal and intimate communication.
- Successful communication provides an atmosphere of trust. When we follow the 4 laws of marriage found in Genesis 2:24-25, we put our spouse first, pursue them, place them as an equal, and forgive easily.
- Successful communication speaks truth in love. We must give our spouse the right to complain without paying the price
- Successful communication has a team spirit. We shouldn’t tolerate each other’s differences; we should celebrate them.

“Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit. He who finds a wife finds a good thing and obtains favor from the Lord.”

Proverbs 18:21-22

Talk about It

1. This message was full of great wisdom! What was your biggest take-away and why?
2. In what ways do you feel like you could grow most in healthy communication? Which principle can you pull from to help you get there?
3. Share marriage or communication “wins” as a group. If you and your spouse have seen healthy rewards for doing one or more of these areas well, share it with the group to encourage each other.

“For any relationship to grow, we have to speak truth to each other in a loving and gracious manner.” Jimmy Evans

Prayer

Father, today we come to You and ask for healing over our damaged marriages or relationships. Help us speak words of life and grow to be the kind of spouses You designed us to be. Today we bind the spirit of divorce off our marriages, and declare that we will have wonderful, happy lives together. For those of us not married, we pray that this wisdom will affect our relationships for years to come and for the spouse You have prepared for us. In Your mighty name we pray, Amen!

Leader Tips

Today’s message was full of great advice! As your group discusses it, try to keep conversation positive and life giving. We can never know where anyone is in their marriage relationship, so let’s be sure to encourage one another and provide healthy next steps should anyone communicate a need for help in their marriage.