**Relationships (Part Four) Communication**

**I want to speak to you today about *communication*.**

More specifically ***The communication of our hearts!***

We finished *last week* talking about **choosing right friends...**this teaching will continue in that area.

**The foundation of all relationships is *communication*.** If there is **no** **communication**, there is **no relationship**.

* Think of who your friends are...they are **the ones that you *communicate with all the time***.
* *Your spouse* is somebody that ***you communicate with every day***.
* You are ***in relationships*** with these people.
* **If the communication** between *you and your spouse* **is not well**, then ***your relationship*** with your spouse is ***not*** going very well.

**The same goes for *our relationship* with God!**

**If you have no communication with God....there is no relationship.**

* + That is ***why*** *it is so important* to **pray every day!**
	+ If you went a whole day ***without*** talking to your wife...you would be in deep, deep, ***trouble.***
	+ **Why don't we** look at it that way *with God*?

**From the very beginning** of this world, ***God was a communicator***.

**God desired to *communicate with His creation*!**

**Genesis 3:8 -** 8 And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden.

**God spoke to Adam and Eve in *the cool of the day*...**

* *He was trying* **to communicate** with them.
* **They chose** *to hide instead*....
* **They did not** *want to talk to God* at that moment -
* And **we know what happened**.
* They were ***thrown out*** of the garden.
* **Mankind *was cursed*!**

***God has always desired to communicate with man.*** He has ***never*** tried to hide His plans from us...

**Genesis 18:17 -** And the Lord said, “***Shall I hide from Abraham what I am doing,***

***God revealed His plan to*** Adam, and to Abraham, and to Isaac, and to Jacob.

**God has *always* revealed His plan...**

* **Sometimes it was through** *His own voice*.
* Sometimes it was through *His word*.
* Other times through *a prophet*.

**God is a communicator!**

**Our relationship with Him is based upon *communication*!**

* **Jesus was a master at communication.**
* **He *taught in parables* that all people could understand.**
* **He let His people know what *His plans* were.**

**More specifically, *Jesus communicated* that which was in His heart.**

**John 15:15 - *No longer do I call you servants,*** for a servant *does not know* what his master is doing; but ***I have called you friends***, ***for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you***.

**We can see from *Jesus' words*,**

* That ***the difference*** *between* **a servant and a friend -**
* Is based upon **the depth and the content of communication**.

**A servant *doesn't know*** much because ***his lord does not share*** *many things* with his servant.

* + **The servant *hears things like*...**this is what *I need you* ***to do*** today.
	+ He may get *a whole* ***list*** of things.
	+ **That is *not* friendship**, but ***that is servant hood***.

**A friend knows all things...**he *doesn't just know* ***the 'to do' list.***

***The scripture said that Jesus told his friends all things.*** There was ***a progression*** from *servant hood to friendship*.

* **Jesus told** *his true friends* His dreams.
* **Jesus told** them ***everything*** that **He had heard of His father**.

**There is a principle here** that I believe that we all need to understand about ***communicating our hearts***.

**Jesus *did not* tell His servants all things, but He told *his friends all* things.**

**It is natural to have different types of friends.**

**We communicate differently with people that *we would call friends*.**

**Jesus was *careful* with the content of *His communication*!**

* **You have to be careful** *who you tell your secrets to*.
* You have to be very careful *who you tell your dreams to*.
* If they ***are not true friends*** they may *use your dream against you*.

**Now I don't want to be *misunderstood* today...As brothers and sisters in the Lord we are instructed *to love one another* as we love ourselves.**

We understand that *people will be people*, and everybody ***can't be your closest friend***.

**I love how T.D. Jakes describes this...**

In life, in this world, and to some extent even in the church ***you will come across three types of people....***

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***The first group* of people are Your Confidants.**

**You will have *very few of them*** **throughout your life.**

**Confidants will love you unconditionally**.

* **They are** into you. **They will** *support you*.
* They will be there in the *good times and the bad*.
* They will *bail you out of jail*.
* They will be there *when you are sick*.
* They will be there *when you are broke*...***because* they believe in you!**
* They will be *with you till you die*.
* They will *feed you*.
* They will *build you up*.
* They **don't** just *take from you*. They *give back to you*.

**Confidants are special people...**if you *don't have a confidant* in your life, you are ***always going to be giving***, giving, giving, and ***never receiving***.

**You will always be** feeding, feeding, feeding, but ***never getting fed*** yourself.

**We need confidants...**we need those *close and special friends* in our lives.

If we are ever going to ***succeed*** in this walk...**we need confidants.**

**When you *tell them* your dream, *they will help you achieve* your dream.**

* Your **confidants love you** so much *they will confront you*.
* They will get in your face.
* They will tell you when you are wrong.... ***because*** they are confidants.

If you have ***two or three of them in your lifetime*** you are a blessed person.

**You need to *find* your confidant.**

In the process of ***communicating* with people** it is important to understand that *there will always be* people in life *who are* ***your friends***, **but they are *not really into you*.**

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***The Second group* of people are Your Constituents.**

* Your constituents ***are not into you***.
* **They are into** what you are into.
* **They are for** *what you are for*.

**They are not for you....**

* *but they are with you* because of **what you represent**.
* **They are your constituents.**

***If they meet somebody else who can advance their agenda*** better than you, then **they will leave you** and hook up with them.

*They will always hook up with* ***the person who can advance their cause*** the best.

**You must be careful not to mistake** *your constituent* for *your confidant*.

Just understand that ***they are for what you are for***, and ***they won't be around very long*** in your life.... ***Constituents***!

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**The third group of people in your life are Your Comrades.**

***Your comrades are not for you.... they are not into you.***

* And **they are not** *for what you are for*.
* But *they are against* what *you are against*.

***They are your comrades...they fight with you against a common enemy.***

They are like those Old Testament Kings of Israel and Judah who made allegiances with Egypt and Assyria ***because they faced a common enemy*** who was greater than they were.

**Once that enemy was *defeated*,** those Kings were ***no longer*** **comrades**.

* **Don't be confused** by their friendship...**it has a purpose.**
* When you ***defeat*** what it is that you are against...**they will leave you** because they have just ***won their victory***.
* Like scaffolding, they come into your life *for a purpose*, and when the *purpose is complete*, the **scaffolding is removed.**
* **Don't get upset about it....** because *the building always remains* **once the scaffolding is removed.**

Just realize that **your comrades** and **your constituents** ***are not going to be around forever...***they **are** going to leave.

* ***Don't get upset when*** *they don't react* to your dream the way that you expected them to ***because they were never for you in the first place***.
* They were **only for** *what you were for* and **against** *what you were against*.

**Be careful then, who you tell your dreams to.**

***I think of Joseph the dreamer...***Joseph thought he was s*afe telling his dreams to his own brothers*...***his own flesh and blood.***

* Little did Joseph know that ***his own brothers were not*** *his confidants*.
* They were *not for him*, in fact, they were ***not*** even for the things that Joseph was for.
* Even though Joseph loved his brothers very dearly.... they ***did not love him*** the same way.
* At the very best, *his brothers were* **his constituents...**they were against the things that he was against.... **they had the same enemies**.

And when **Joseph communicated** his dreams and his passion to his brothers....

* They **did not like** what they heard.
* They thought he was crazy.
* They got the wrong idea about Joseph.
* They thought that Joseph wanted to rule over them.
* **They chose *not to believe*** his dreams.
* And they *used his dreams against him*....and **sold him** into slavery.

**Don't communicate your dream *with everybody*!**

I am talking today about ***communicating your heart***.

If you want to *succeed in your life*, ***you must communicate your heart***!

If you want to *succeed in the Kingdom*, ***you must communicate your heart!***

**You need *somebody to communicate* your passion to!**

* We need friends who are *really into us*.
* We need somebody that *we can* ***communicate our dream to*. AMEN!!!**

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**Of all the *stories of friendship* in the Bible, my favorite is the story of *David and Jonathan*.**

**David needed a Jonathan in his life!**

**Most of you know the story.**

* David had been *anointed to become the next king* of Israel.
* King Saul's son **Jonathan** became *best friends with David*.
* It was *a very unlikely friendship* because Saul wanted his son ***Jonathan to become the next king.***
* **It was customary** in that day for a *newly crowned King* to **kill all the sons of the former king.**
* **Jonathan** even wondered ***if David would do that*** one day.

**David replied...**how could you ever **think that Jonathan**.

**The Bible says** that the souls of these two men were knit together...

**1 Samuel 18:1-4 - *Saul Resents David -*** 18 Now when he had finished speaking to Saul, **the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul**. 2Saul took him that day and would not let him go home to his father’s house anymore. 3***Then Jonathan and David made a covenant, because he loved him as his own soul***. 4And Jonathan took off the robe that *was* on him and gave it to David, with his armor, even to his sword and his bow and his belt.

In the beginning, **Jonathan didn't understand** everything about David, but as time went by, **David began to *communicate*** his heart with Jonathan.

**David and Jonathan became confidantes!**

**Think of how crazy this story is...**

* The crown prince of Israel, ***Jonathan...***the one who *should claim the throne*, **becomes friends with** *the shepherd boy David*.
* Eventually *David reveals his destiny*...*God is removing Saul* in favor of David.
* Yet, **Jonathan is so into David** that he is not only willing to *give up the throne*, but also *his life* **for David's sake.**

In fact, if it wasn't for Jonathan, **David *wouldn't* have made it to the throne!**

**1 Samuel 19:2 - 2**So Jonathan told David, saying, “My father Saul seeks to kill you. Therefore, please be on your guard until morning, and stay in a secret *place* and hide.

* **Jonathan became David's eyes** on the inside of the palace.
* **Jonathan was able to warn David** at the appropriate times.

**Jonathan was there for David *when nobody else was*.**

* **Jonathan played a large role** in *turning a shepherd boy into a King*.
* We need *a trusted friend like Jonathan*. **We need a confidante**.

***If you are going to share your dream with somebody, make sure you share it with your confidante.***

* *God will always send somebody* into your life to help you fulfill your calling!
* God will send you ***a Jonathan***.
* God will send you a Barnabas.

**You may wonder if you even have *a confidant*.**

**There is one way to be sure.... your confidant will weep for you when you weep, and will rejoice with you when you rejoice.**

**1 Samuel 20:41 - 41**As soon as the lad had gone, David arose from *a place* toward the south, fell on his face to the ground, and bowed down three times. And they kissed one another; ***and they wept together, but David more so.***

**David and Jonathan *were confidantes*.**

The next time you walk into a room and *tell somebody some good news*, stop being happy for a moment and ***watch their reaction...***

**if they *are not rejoicing* for you** then you ought to shut your mouth and *leave that place*.

**Don't** share your dreams with that person...**they are *not* your friend!**

**That is why Jesus said, I tell all things of my father to my friends!**

**David said... Psalm 25:14 - 14**The ***secret of the Lord is with those who fear Him***,
And He will ***show them His covenant***.

***God chooses to communicate his secret with those that fear Him, that word fear means to have respect and reverence for.***

* **You respect those that you care about.**
* **You have *reverence* for those that *you love*.**

**Since you are really into God...He is really into you....and He chooses to share his secret, and His covenant with you!**

* **God is going to *share his dream* with us!**
* **This is what Jesus was talking about when He said *I will tell you all things of my father*.**
* **Jesus was talking about *God's covenant*, *God's dream*!**

**We know then that *Jesus is really into us* because *He communicates* His heart to us!**

**CLOSE: David would have *never made it* without Jonathan.**

***Remember we are talking about relationships today...We can't make it alone!***

*David* **couldn't.** - *Peter* **couldn't.** - *Paul* **couldn't.**

***You know that God wants you to make it don't you?***

That means that ***He is going to send you somebody*** *you can* ***communicate*** *your heart with*.

**Somebody you can share *your dream with*.**

* **Somebody who can** *laugh with you*.
* Somebody who can *cry with you*.
* Somebody who can *be your ears in the palace*.
* Somebody who can *help you through a hard time*.
* Somebody who can *build you up*.

Somebody who can ***pray with you!***

**PRAISE TEAM:**

I wonder as we find a place to pray today...**let's not pray alone...**but let's ***find somebody we can pray with.***

**Together you can pray through** *your situation* today.

**Find somebody to** *pray with*.

Tell them *your needs*.

Pray for *those needs*. ***We need each other!!!!!***