

We Communicate With  
Those We Value

- “We have two ears and one mouth so that we can listen twice as much as we speak”  
– Epictetus
- “We communicate with those we value”

# I. God to man – Bible

## Gen.2

<sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

- Communication implies fellowship, friendship; grace. Grace warns of dangers.
- Deism: God created, said nothing...

## Dt.6:24

“LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good always.”

- Not one command helps God.

## Lk.11:27-28

<sup>27</sup> And it happened, as He spoke these things, that a certain woman from the crowd raised her voice and said to Him, “Blessed is the womb that bore You, and the breasts which nursed You!” <sup>28</sup> But He said, “More than that, blessed are those who hear the word of God and keep it.”

- Jesus turned focus to spiritual things

- Blessed

Honesty. Ac.3:23

Eagerness. Ac.10

- Hear

Agreement. Ac.28

Resolution. 1 Jn.2

## Lk.11:27-28

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- Jesus turned focus to spiritual things
  - Blessed
  - Hear
  - Word of God restricts
  - Observe it. Lk.6

# Luke 6

<sup>46</sup> “But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not do the things which I say? <sup>47</sup> Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like: <sup>48</sup> He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock. <sup>49</sup> But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great.”

## Ro.1:16-17

<sup>16</sup> For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. <sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “The just shall live by faith.”

- Five key words
- Acts 17:6, Jews: gospel turned world upside down...
- Ac.28:28                      1 Co.6:9-10 . . . 1:18

I. God to man – Bible

II. Man to God – Prayer

# We value communication

- We connect with God in prayer
- We must first believe . . .
  1. **God is real.** Ps.90<sup>1</sup> LORD, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. <sup>2</sup> Before the mountains were brought forth, Or ever You had formed the earth and the world, Even from everlasting to everlasting, You are God.

# We value communication

- We connect with God in prayer
- We must first believe . . .
  1. God is real. Ps.90<sup>1</sup>
  2. God is near. Ac.17<sup>27</sup> that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.

# We value communication

- We connect with God in prayer
- We must first believe . . .
  1. God is real. Ps.90<sup>1</sup>
  2. God is near. Ac.17<sup>27</sup>
  3. God is great. 1 Jn.4<sup>4</sup> You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. Gn.39:9

# We value communication

- We connect with God in prayer
- We must first believe . . .
  1. God is real. Ps.90<sup>1</sup>
  2. God is near. Ac.17<sup>27</sup>
  3. God is great. 1 Jn.4<sup>4</sup>
  4. **God is good.** Ja.1<sup>17</sup> Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning

I. God to man – Bible

II. Man to God – Prayer

III. Man to Man – Blessing

# James 3:3-12 – the power of words

## 1. The tongue is small but powerful

3-4: tiny bit ... very small rudder

5: little fire ... burns great forest

6: little tongue defiles whole body

## 2. The tongue is untamable

7-8: only death can tame it

## 3. The tongue is inconsistent

9-10: same instrument can bless or curse.

Prov.18:21

11-12: inconsistent, unnatural use of tongue

# Tongue instructions are not limited to preachers / elders

1. **Correction.** Ac.18:26, giving and receiving
2. **Edification.** Ro.14:19, includes our words, works, examples, encouragement
3. **Concern.** Ph.2:3, requires slaying of pride
4. **Exhortation.** Hb.3:13

Pilot's rules:  
Aviate, navigate, communicate

1. Hear ... 2. Heed ... 3. Help