

SERMON OUTLINE

SERMON TITLE: Communication in Marriage

SERMON REFERENCE: 1 Peter 3:10-11

LWF SERMON NUMBER: #2511

We are grateful for the opportunity to provide this outline produced from a sermon preached by Adrian Rogers while serving as pastor of Bellevue Baptist Church in Memphis, Tennessee. This outline is intended for your personal, non-commercial use.

In order to ensure our ability to be good stewards of Adrian Rogers' messages, Love Worth Finding has reserved all rights to this content.

Except for your personal, non-commercial use and except for brief quotations in printed reviews, no part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means –electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other– without the prior permission of the publisher.

Copyright ©2024 Love Worth Finding Ministries, Inc.

1) INTRODUCTION

- a) 1 Peter 3:10-11
 - i) The word “eschew” in this passage means “hate.”
 - ii) “Ensnare it” means “to chase after.”
- b) The best thing that a husband can do as a father is to love his wife.
- c) The best thing that husbands and wives can do is to communicate together and show the love of Jesus Christ in the home.
- d) 1 Peter 3 was written to husbands and wives.
 - i) It has much to say about communication.
- e) Marriages are made in Heaven, but survival takes place on Earth.
- f) We have to work at our marriages.
 - i) There are no easy marriages.
 - ii) We have to pay the price, but it is worth the price.
- g) In today’s message, we will look at communication as a highway, a road to romance or a road to ruin in a marriage.

2) COMMUNICATION AS A ONE-WAY ROAD TO MARRIED HAPPINESS (1 PETER 3:10-11)

- a) In this passage, Peter talked about communication.
- b) Communication is like a highway, and words are like vehicles.
 - i) Words transport thoughts.
 - ii) Words carry feeling.
- c) Communication is a way to joy, happiness, and victory.
 - i) Or, it can be a way to ruin in marriages.
- d) The deepest craving that any individual has is intimacy with God and with at least one other person.
 - i) Someone who will know us and love us.
 - ii) Someone who will understand our deepest thoughts.
 - iii) Someone with whom we can truly say that we are one.
- e) There are five levels of communication:
 - i) The frivolous level
 - (1) This is when people talk about the sports or the weather.
 - (a) It is just frivolity.
 - (2) We do this often.
 - (3) If we listen, we will hear a lot of people saying nothing.
 - ii) The factual level
 - (1) This level is a little deeper.
 - (2) We talk about facts and what has happened.
 - (a) For instance, we talk about what the government is doing or the price of gasoline.
 - (3) We report the facts like a newscaster giving the evening news.
 - iii) The fellowship level
 - (1) This level goes beyond the frivolous and the factual.
 - (2) We begin to talk about ideas, judgments, and so forth.

- (3) When we do this, we risk a little because someone else may not agree with our judgments.
 - (a) We may tend to withdraw and drop out.
- iv) The feeling level
 - (1) We begin to open up.
 - (2) We share our hearts.
 - (3) We let others know how we feel.
 - (4) We share our joys and sorrows.
 - (5) This is as far as most people get.
- v) The freedom level
 - (1) Husbands and wives should aim for this level.
 - (2) At this level, we are completely free.
 - (3) We open our hearts.
 - (a) We share our dreams, fears, ideas, joys, and failures.
 - (4) We are not afraid of rejection.
 - (5) Some of us do not get to this level because we are afraid.
 - (a) If others really know us, then they might not respect us.
 - (i) So, we wear camouflage or a mask.
 - 1. We feel like we can't completely open up to someone else.
 - (6) Communication in marriage should be at this level.
 - (7) If a husband and wife do not have the freedom level in their marriage and are not able to share with complete honesty, then they will find themselves drifting apart.
- f) The Lord Jesus is the model for communication.
 - i) Not only is Jesus the great Redeemer, but He is also the great communicator.
 - ii) 1 Peter 2:22
 - (1) This verse speaks of Jesus.
 - (2) It talks about the Lord Jesus Christ, His communication, and how pure His speech was.
 - iii) 1 Peter 3:1, 7
 - (1) These verses speak to husbands and wives.
 - iv) Notice that the passage in 1 Peter 2 talks about Jesus and His example with His speech.
 - (1) Then, 1 Peter 3 simply states for wives and husbands to do the same.
- g) The Lord Jesus had much to say about communication.
 - i) Matthew 12:34
 - (1) If you want to know what is in your heart or in anyone else's heart, then listen to their words.
 - (a) If they are harsh words, then they have an angry heart.
 - (b) If they are negative words, then they have a negative heart.
 - (c) If they are overactive words, then they have a restless heart.
 - (d) If they are boastful words, then they have an insecure heart.
 - (e) If they are filthy words, then they have an impure heart.

- (f) If they are critical words, then they have a bitter heart.
 - (g) If they are encouraging words, then they have a happy heart.
 - (h) If they are gentle words, then they have a loving heart.
 - (i) If they are truthful words, then they have an honest heart.
 - h) Solomon, the wisest man who ever lived other than the Lord Jesus Christ, had this to say about our words:
 - i) Proverbs 10:19
 - (1) Many things open by mistake, but none as frequently as the mouth.
 - ii) Proverbs 15:1
 - i) The Apostle James had a lot to say about words, also.
 - i) James said that it is the tongue that gives direction.
 - (1) Your tongue will direct your marriage.
 - (2) James 3:2-4
 - (a) Just as the horse is controlled by the bit and the ship is controlled by the rudder, your words are going to give direction to your home.
 - (3) If you don't like the way your marriage is headed, then you had better watch your words.
 - (a) Your words can bring your ship into a safe harbor, or it can put it upon the rocks.
 - ii) The tongue may bring destruction.
 - (1) James 3:6
 - (2) If you have a torch tongue, then you can burn down your marriage.
 - (a) Fire is a wonderful servant, but it is a poor master.
 - (3) Words can warm a heart, or they can burn down a home.
 - iii) The tongue may bring defilement.
 - (1) James 3:7-8
 - (2) You can poison your marriage with your tongue.
 - (3) A lot of marriages are defiled.
 - (a) Don't put your marriage on the rocks.
 - (b) Don't burn down your home.
 - (c) Don't poison your love.
 - j) Communication is a road, and words travel that road.
- 3) THE COMMUNICATION ROAD HAS ROADBLOCKS AND POTHOLES (1 PETER 3:1, 7-8, 11)
- a) There are many potholes, barriers, and blockades on the communication road in your marriage.
 - b) The difference between the sexes:
 - i) One of the greatest reasons that we have difficulty communicating as husband and wife is because we are male and female.
 - (1) 1 Peter 3:1
 - (a) "Likewise, you wives."
 - (2) 1 Peter 3:7
 - (a) "Likewise, you husbands."

- (3) God made us male and female.
 - (a) God made us different that He might make us one.
- ii) Men and women and boys and girls are wired differently.
 - (1) Once someone is married, they will find out that there are intrinsic differences.
 - (2) The brain is divided into two halves or hemispheres: the left and the right.
 - (3) It has been shown that the left brain in boys becomes the dominant brain.
 - (a) This is the side of the brain that deals with logic, the analytical, the factual, and the aggressive.
 - (b) That is the reason why men love to argue and think sequentially.
 - (i) Girls think with “spider web” thinking.
 - (4) In the Garden of Eden, Adam was to dress the garden and to keep it.
 - (a) Genesis 2:15
 - (b) To dress the garden was provision.
 - (c) To keep it was protection.
 - (d) God made Adam where he could work hard.
 - (i) God made Adam with muscles and an exterior (a hard shell) because he had to protect the home.
 - (5) Men and women see things differently.
 - (6) Little girls are more global.
 - (a) They have the ability to access both brain hemispheres at the same time.
 - (b) The right hemisphere is poetic, emotional, and sympathetic.
 - (c) Little girls can think emotionally and logically at the same time.
 - (7) Women are more verbal than men.
 - (a) While playing, little girls tend to say more words, whereas little boys make more noises.
 - (b) Women love to communicate.
- c) The temperamental difference:
 - i) 1 Peter 3:7
 - (1) Husbands are to dwell with their wives according to knowledge.
 - (a) You need to understand that your wife has a different background and a different temperament than what you have.
 - ii) We all have different temperaments.
 - (1) That is a part of our upbringing, a part of the things that we have learned, and a part of our nature.
 - iii) Men and women are opposites, and opposites attract.
 - (1) Incompatibility is grounds for a great marriage.
 - (2) God makes us different that He might make us one.
- d) Fear and insecurity:
 - i) Sometimes we don’t communicate because we are afraid to open our hearts up.

- ii) 1 Peter 3:8
 - (1) "Having compassion one of another."
- iii) We hold back.
 - (1) We want the other person to think that we are really better than we are.
 - (2) We are afraid that if the other person found out what we are really like, then they might not love and accept us.
- iv) This is why many men find it hard to pray with their wives.
 - (1) If it is an honest prayer, then you have to be transparent.
 - (a) To be transparent with God, you have to be transparent with the person who is listening to you and praying with you.
- v) Man by nature is not as trusting as a woman.
- e) Self-centeredness:
 - i) 1 Peter 3:8
 - (1) "Be of one mind."
 - ii) If we are self-centered, then ego will cause a lack of communication.
 - iii) By nature, we want to be king or queen in our own lives.
 - (1) That is why we have arguments.
 - iv) Most of the arguments in the home are ego against ego.
 - (1) We are not trying to solve a problem.
 - (2) We are trying to win an argument.
 - v) There are no problems too big to solve if we will attack the problem rather than one another.
- f) Unresolved hurts:
 - i) 1 Peter 3:8
 - (1) "Love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous."
 - ii) If you have hurt your wife or she has hurt you and you don't resolve that hurt, then it will turn to bitterness.
 - (1) Your partner will have a closed spirit.
 - (2) There will be no open communication because of the hurt.
 - iii) Ephesians 4:26
- g) The distractions of life:
 - i) We stay so busy that we fail to work at our marriage.
 - ii) 1 Peter 3:11
 - (1) We are to seek peace and ensue it.
 - iii) Don't let anything distract you from having a happy home of communication.
 - (1) You have to work at it.
- h) An overcrowded schedule:
 - i) We are so busy today.
 - ii) In most homes, both spouses work.
 - iii) We are going here and there.
 - iv) We are so busy that we don't have time to communicate.

- 4) ROAD REPAIR (1 PETER 3:8, 10-11)
 - a) It is time to do some road repair in our marriages.
 - b) Husbands and wives need to learn to be more sensitive.
 - i) 1 Peter 3:8
 - ii) Try to understand your mate.
 - iii) Is it really your wife or husband with whom you are upset, or is it because of what happened at work?
 - iv) Is the way she is acting toward you in the afternoon because of the way you acted toward her in the morning?
 - v) Understand the deepest needs of an individual.
 - c) Deal with self-centeredness.
 - i) Ask God to forgive you for your ego.
 - ii) Most marriages need two funerals (where husband and wife both die to self) and a wedding.
 - d) Resolve hurts.
 - i) If there is something you have done wrong, then ask for forgiveness.
 - (1) Confess it.
 - (2) Ask to be received back.
 - e) Create a spirit of oneness.
 - i) Find things that you can do together.
 - ii) Have a commonality.
 - f) Keep dating.
 - i) 1 Peter 3:10-11
 - ii) Be pro-active about your marriage.
 - iii) Never let anyone tell you to act your age.
 - (1) Go back and act like you did when you were teenagers.
 - iv) Plan some regular dates out of the house.
 - v) Husbands, treat your wife like you were courting her.
 - (1) Never cease to flirt with your wife.
 - g) Learn to laugh.
 - i) 1 Peter 3:10 speaks of loving life and seeing good days.
 - ii) Proverbs 17:22
 - iii) Your home should ring with laughter.
 - iv) See life as full of humor.
 - v) Rather than working at your marriage, play at your marriage.
 - vi) Don't feel guilty about having a good time.
 - h) Pray together.
 - i) 1 Peter 3:7
 - (1) Pray together that your prayers be not hindered.
- 5) CONCLUSION
 - a) Marriage anointed by the Holy Spirit is the sweetest thing on Earth.
 - i) It is the nearest, dearest, and closest thing to Heaven.
 - ii) It is the only part of the Garden of Eden that we have left.

- b) Work at your marriage.
- c) Determine that you will communicate one with the other.
- d) The Lord wants us to have three homes:
 - i) A family home
 - ii) A church home
 - iii) A Heavenly home(1) Jesus Christ is the key to all three.
- e) Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
- f) Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
 - i) Romans 3:23
 - ii) Romans 10:9-10
 - iii) Romans 10:13
 - iv) Acts 16:31
 - v) John 3:16