

## SMOKE SIGNAL: Communicating in a Texting World

Pastor Randy Harp · April 26, 2009

**REALITY:** One of the top two reasons couples get a divorce is \_\_\_\_\_ problems

### MARITAL COMMUNICATION BARRIERS

- Men are from \_\_\_\_\_ and women are from \_\_\_\_\_
- Family \_\_\_\_\_
- Being too \_\_\_\_\_
- Being too \_\_\_\_\_

**BIBLICAL TRUTH:** Communication is not \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_ is required to communicate effectively.

*The tongue of the wise makes knowledge appealing, but the mouth of a fool belches out foolishness. - Proverbs 15:2 (NLT)*

### HOW TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY

- Choose the right \_\_\_\_\_  
- Ecclesiastes 8:6
- Think through what you are going to \_\_\_\_\_  
- Proverbs 16:23
- Begin with your spouse's \_\_\_\_\_ - Ephesians 4:29
- \_\_\_\_\_ first  
- Proverbs 18:13; James 1:19
- Say it \_\_\_\_\_  
- Proverbs 16:21
- Clarify your \_\_\_\_\_  
- Philippians 4:2

**FINAL THOUGHT:** Do not simply communicate to be \_\_\_\_\_, you must communicate so you will not be \_\_\_\_\_.  
- General Douglas MacArthur



## NEXT STEP

Take today's message as starting point for further study. This week read the Scriptures below and answer the questions that go along with each.

### MONDAY

Read James 1:19. How would your marriage (and life) change if you would COMPLETELY live out this verse? What makes it so challenging?

### TUESDAY

Read Ephesians 4:29. If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all! Commit this day to say nothing negative and be creative in complementing.

### WEDNESDAY

Read I Cor. 8:1; Mark 3:14; Ephesians 5:25; I John 3:18; Mark 10:13-16. Visit [www.fivelovelanguages.com](http://www.fivelovelanguages.com) and take the quiz to discover your love language.

### THURSDAY

Read Proverbs 29:20. Ready, Fire, Aim. That is many people's communication style. Commit to think before you speak.

### FRIDAY

Read Proverbs 15:23. Sometimes you can say the right thing but at the wrong time. What process do you use to determine the right time for talking?

### SATURDAY

What was the most meaningful statement or Scripture you read this week?

What does God want you to do as a result of this week's study?

### THIS WEEK'S CHALLENGE

When was the last time you had a good sit-down, no distractions conversation with your spouse? What has really going on in their life recently? What are their greatest joys and greatest concerns? This week, make it a priority to spend at least 30 minutes of quality conversation time with your spouse. You might even consider making a phone call right in the middle of the day just to say "hi" and that you are thinking about them.

### THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 16-28

### THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

Proverbs 15:2