



COMMUNICATING GRACE

Romans 12:3-8

May 8, 2022
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Have you ever wondered what it takes to be a good communicator? Especially with all the communication gaps we tend to have in today's subcultures/groups of our own culture. Cross-cultural communications depends on understanding our own preferences as well as those of people from other cultures.

*"To become agents of transformation requires significant self-awareness with regard to one's cultural bias." **Lingenfelter, 1996***

Romans 12:3-8

"For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. **4** For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, **5** so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. **6** Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; **7** if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; **8** the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness."

1. God's Grace Produces Sincere HUMILITY. (v 3)

*"I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, **13** though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, **14** and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus." **1 Timothy 1:12-14***

- Jesus' way of communication demonstrates a servant spirit, self-giving love, and humility.

*"In the same way, you who are younger must accept the authority of the elders. And all of you, dress yourselves in humility as you relate to one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." **1 Peter 5:5***

2. God's Grace Helps Us COMMUNICATE and BEHAVE According to the Measure of FAITH. (v 3-5)

- A credible, God-honoring, Spirit-led life is a powerful part of communication.

3. Every Believer Receives the EXACT GIFT needed to FULFILL the BODY of Christ. (v 6-8)

"Gifts are given to be shared and not to be hoarded."

C. Gene Wilkes, Jesus on Leadership

- A Spiritual gift is ACTIVATED by faith and AIMS to produce stronger faith.
- A spiritual gift is an ability to express OUR faith in strengthening ANOTHER person's faith.

*"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." **Isaiah 55:8-9***

*"I the Lord search the heart and test the mind, to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his deeds." **Jeremiah 17:10***

Our God appealed to people's minds, hearts, and wills because he did very much want to see us who believe be transformed by the gospel of the kingdom. May we Communicate Grace before and after worship service, in our business or treat family.

Salvation through Jesus Christ

The single most important decision you could ever make is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, all have sinned and fall short of God's glory and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death. Yet through God's love, only Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead — YOU WILL BE SAVED. The Bible says to REPENT of your sins, BELIEVE in Jesus thereby receiving His forgiveness. And identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.