

Valuing Family
Part 4- Clear Communication
James 1: 19-22

A wise saying is something that paints the truth with clarity.

Today we come across one of those wise truths.

When it comes to valuing family this wise truth is essential.

Our Scripture gives good advice in three commands.

- **Be _____ to _____.**
- **Be _____ to _____.**
- **Be _____ to _____.**

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Message Application:

I was watching the old Dick Van Dyke Show recently, and he was at a party filled with pseudo intellectuals. Dick got trapped into a one-sided conversation with a self-absorbed philosophy professor. One of the other guests said, “Isn’t Dr. So and So brilliant?” Dick Van Dyke replied, “He has the ability to say things which are on the surface seemingly vague, but in reality are actually meaningless.” That sums up the way many people make conversation.

We have been given the great gift of listening. We often squander this great gift with our endless speaking. I don’t know if there are many things worth saying but I know there is plenty to start listening to.

This week’s application is simple. Start practicing the art of listening. When someone tries to convey a feeling or need. Stop and repeat back to them exactly what you heard them say. Then ask that person, “Is that what you meant?”

I think in the long run you will see that we as listeners fail to know what needs to be communicated.

Also as you pray, take time to listen. Psalms 46:10 is a message from our Heavenly Father. It says, *“Be still, and know that I am God;”*

What are we missing from God because we don't listen to his voice?

Grace & Peace, Wm. Lyons