WEEK 6: Communication.

1. **Careless comms can create _____!**
   Examples:
   - Speech without _____ is dangerous!

     KEY: _____ in your communication is both ignorant and potentially damaging.
     Speaking before understanding can get you into trouble. **Job 38:2**
     Compare **Proverbs 18:2; 10:19; 18:13; 15:1-2**

     KEY: Listening (for understanding!) shows that you _____.
     James 1:19
     KEY: When we are _____ _____, it is hard to think well.
     If you are not thinking well – guess what? **Ecclesiastes 7:9**
   - Foolish communication. **Proverbs 15:1–2; 12:15** example **1 Sam 25 – Nabal**.

     KEY: We need to be _____ over the things that come out of our mouths!
     Proverbs 15:28; 17:27–28; 29:11

2. **The characteristics of correct communication.**
   LADIES: 1 Peter 3:1-6 "**<u>Likewise</u>**"

   - Notice the characteristics of the proper posture of a godly wife before her husband.
     - Subjection.
     - Chaste. *innocent, modest, perfect*:- chaste, clean, pure
     - Fear.
     - Putting on Christ!
     - Meek (mild, humble) and quiet (tranquil, still, peaceable) spirit.

     How will the godly wife who has embodied those characteristics communicate?

   - **KEY**: Never treat your spouse _____ than you would a stranger.
     You are polite and kind to strangers; your spouse is worth the same consideration.

   - The danger of our words: they can _____.

     Words can _____ (**Ephesians 4:15–16)** or they can _____.

     NEVER DEGRADE, DEFAME or DENIGRATE your spouse!
     Ephesians 4:29; Romans 14:19; 1 Corinthians 14:26; 2 Corinthians 12:19;
     1 Thessalonians 5:11 compare **Revelation 12:10**

     Speaking in superlatives is not edifying.

     The blame game – don't shift blame; take responsibility for your wrongs / faults.

     The non-verbal comms are just as big an issue. Your facial expressions, body language can skew everything. You can say all the right things with the wrong body language and make a mess in your relationship.

MEN: 1 Peter 3:7 **"Likewise"**

- **Proper, effective communication:**

  - Requires your _____. *"according to knowledge"*
    Study the Word, study your wife!

  - Requires your _____**.**
    Men, we need to tune into how our wives communicate.
    To UNDERSTAND HOW she thinks.

  - Requires your _____**!**
    Don't expect that you're going to know you're wife's heart – by her doing all the work in your relationship. You'll both end up bitter. You are going to have to LABOR at it.