



May 9 and 10, 2009

“Communication”
A New Marriage – Part 4
Genesis 3
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1. Why is marriage so hard? Genesis 3, pg 2.

- :1 The serpent (Satan, see Revelation 12:9) wanted to destroy the relationships of Adam, Eve, and God and he led her to question God’s word.
- :4 He denied God’s word and promised her more advantage.
- :6 They believed they knew more than God and disobeyed Him.
- :7-8 They felt shame and tried to hide.
- :9 God, the One sinned against, took initiative to reconcile.
- :12-13 They tried to shift the blame from themselves.
- :14-19 They were punished. The serpent and the ground were cursed (Romans 8:19-22). ***This is the explanation of all pain and suffering on earth. **Sin affected everything!**
- :15 God promised a Savior.

2. Why is communication so hard?

- a) Some have never seen or learned how.
- b) Most are afraid of rejection.
- c) Some have lost hope and won’t try anymore.
- d) Some just don’t care or love enough to try.
- e) All of us are sinners.

3. What basic truths must we embrace to improve?

- a) Like it or not, *“The tongue has the power of life and death”* (Proverbs 18:21). Also see Proverbs 15:4; James 3:2-10.
- b) For a new marriage we need new communication, and for new communication we need a new heart.

“Out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks” (Matthew 12:34). Also see Romans 12:2; Colossians 3:16.
- c) We must always speak the **truth in love** (Ephesians 4:15, 29).
- d) Understanding others is as important as being understood.

“He who answers before listening – that is his folly and his shame” (Proverbs 18:13; 29:20).
- e) *“A gentle answer (shows respect and) turns away wrath, but a harsh word (tries to overpower and shows disrespect and always) stirs up anger”* (Proverbs 15:1).
- f) Many need to confess and ask forgiveness.
- g) We all have room to improve and need help.