

Communicating for a Change Part 3
Floodgates
May 7 2017

What stood out to you during this message?

James 1:19NIV

My dear Brothers and Sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry.

Have you had any opportunities during the last few weeks to put any of these three teachings into practice? If so, how did it go?

James 1:19-20a NIV

My dear Brothers and Sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

Why doesn't human anger produce the righteousness that God desires?
Is it wrong to be angry? How can it be helpful?
What causes anger?

Gabe said "You are more likely to regret what you say when you are angry, than when you are calm."

When have you seen this happen in your life?

What are the four ways Gabe said we can be slow to anger?

Treat people as innocent until proven guilty.

Remind yourself that you are imperfect.

Speak Gently.

Express Critiques as Desires.

Which one of these do you feel like you could benefit from the most?

Proverbs 18:17 NLT

The first to speak in court sounds right--until the cross-examination begins.

How does this verse relate to treating people as innocent until proven guilty?

What was the story Gabe shared about his youth pastor?

Can you think of a time when you treated someone as guilty before you had all of the information about the situation, and ended up feeling embarrassed afterwards?

Read 1 John 1:8 NIV

8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

How does claiming you are without sin make you quicker to anger?

Read Proverbs 15:1 NLT

A gentle answer deflects anger, but harsh words make tempers flare.

How can a gentle answer be deflective and how can it be preventative?

Which way do you hang the toilet paper?

Read Matthew 5:22b NIV

Anyone who says to a brother or sister, 'Raca,'^[d] is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.

Why is Jesus so serious about insulting others?

Can you think of any examples of expressing your critiques as desires? Do you think this would help you be slower to anger if someone expressed their critiques as desires instead of doing the opposite?

What can you do this week to communicate for a change?