



## Are We Talking To Each Other?

Dear Group Leader,

Communication is a key component to any relationship. This lesson will focus on our abilities as families to talk to each other (forgiving each other, encouraging each other, opening up to each other, etc...). Listening to each other will be touched on in a future lesson. Keep the focus on talking as opposed to listening.

Peace,  
Gilbert Kerrigan

### INTRODUCTION

1. Does anyone know what their first word was?
2. Has anyone ever had to wash their mouth out with soap?

### THE COMMAND    Read Ephesians 4:29-32

1. What kind of spouse, parent, or roommate would you be if you truly lived out verse 29?
2. Kept in context, what do you think would grieve the Holy Spirit (v. 30)?  
*J.A. Robinson wrote, "The Spirit claims to find expression in the utterances of Christians. The misuse of the organ of speech is accordingly a wrong done to, and felt by, the Spirit who claims to control it."*
3. What would happen in our families if we spoke more words of forgiveness?

### THE WARNING    Read James 3:1-12

1. Do you believe in the old saying, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me?" Why or why not?
2. What do you think James would say about that old saying? Also read Proverbs 18:21.
3. What can we do in our families to help each other use our tongues for good and not evil?

### GOD IN THE HOME    Read Deuteronomy 6:4-9

*This passage speaks of parents teaching their children, but it can just as easily be applied to all people in the family.*

1. How often do you take the time to sit down with your household to talk about spiritual issues?
2. Our lives are so hectic today. Talk about some practical times & places that families can talk about God together.