

## TWO DOORS

### Part VI

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**John 10:1-7 (NKJV)** <sup>1</sup> "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by **the door**, but climbs up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. <sup>2</sup> But he who enters **by the door** is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> To him the doorkeeper opens, and the sheep hear his voice; and he calls **his own sheep** by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> And when he brings out his own sheep, he goes before them; and **the sheep follow him**, for they know **his voice**. <sup>5</sup> Yet they will by no means follow a stranger, **but will flee from him**, for they do not know the voice of strangers." <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this illustration, but they did not understand the things which He spoke to them. <sup>7</sup> Then Jesus said to them again, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **I am the door of the sheep.**"

**This is our 6<sup>th</sup> lesson on "Two Doors."**

two weeks ago we studied a difficult passage Heb 6:1-6 concerning the Jew's who became apostates and by this we are reminded if you reject Jesus Christ as the sacrifice for our sins there remains no other sacrifice for our sins. He is the only sacrifice for our sins period.

**Lesson 6; let's talk about communication with love and total honesty.**

**The door of silence—the door of communication:**

**Why? Communication reflects the very nature and character of God himself.**

Silence

## Communication

### Communicating with love and total Honesty

Communication reflects the very nature and character of God himself. Consider this He is the source of all communication. He is the God who speaks and reveals Himself to mankind. In eternity past, the triune God (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) was in perfect communication with Himself

(Genesis 1:26 (NKJV) Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."). God is speaking not thinking.

God did not create man because He was lonely, but because He chose to do so. At first the world was a picture of the beauty of that harmony. God was in perfect communication with Himself, His world, and with man. Man was in perfect harmony with nature. He was in love with his wife, and they were in perfect communication with each other. Their fellowship was unbroken.

When you enter the door of Sin it Breaks Communication with whoever you sin against. Whether in the spiritual or natural, in heaven or on earth.

Adam and Eve were created in God's image and endowed with human intelligence. They had the gift of communicating instantly – with God and with each other. Image that. Theirs was a unique relationship of total communication based on total honesty until sin entered and shattered their world. With sin came lying, blaming, anger, hatred, murder, cheating, and so forth. Communication was broken! They hid from God who loved them

(Genesis 3:8 (NKJV) And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden.) We've done that since.

*They blamed each other for their sin. And the world has never been the same since.*

By our sinful nature, we inhibit communication. We start building walls to hide within, instead of building bridges to reach out to others. We lie, we hate, we steal, we criticize, we condemn. Yet, the very God that made us has taken infinite pains to communicate His love to us.

**In the Old Testament** He gave us *His law*, He sent *His prophets to announce His plan*, He raised up *armies to judge us* and *heroes to bless us*.

**In the New Testament**, He sent *His Son* from heaven *to communicate His love for us*. In His Son, God offers us *peace, forgiveness, and reconciliation*.

Are you Building Bridges or Barriers?

God has built a bridge of communication to us (**Jesus**) and we need to learn to build bridges to others. **Putting up barriers will leave you lonely and empty.** “Yes, there are risks involved in building bridges,” but the rewards are worth the risk! , **but clamming up will leave you alienated**, **isolated from the very people God may intend to be blessings in your life.**

**Misunderstanding always comes of poor communication.** We judge, condemn, and criticize those people and things that we least understand.

Out of our own ignorance, we make a situation worse, **when God wants us to correct it.** Don't be the cause of problems. Learn to become part of the solution!

## Five Key Principles

In **Ephesians 4**, the Apostle Paul gives five keys to effective communication:

1. **Stop lying. Start telling the truth.** “Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another”(Ephesians 4:25). **Why the truth? We are one body.**

### **Ephesians 4:16 (NIV)**

<sup>16</sup>From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

People lie to each other every day! “How are you doing?” someone asks. “Oh, I’m fine,” is the usual reply. Half the time, at least, that answer is a lie. When someone is upset, another will ask, “What’s the matter?” “Nothing!” **will come the explosive response.** What that answer really means is “Go away. I don’t want to talk about it.”

Honest communication depends on honest conversation.

**Telling the truth builds bridges. Lying builds barriers.** When people see you are not being honest with them, they will stop talking to you.

### **James 5:16 (NIV)**

<sup>16</sup>Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

We need to be cautious, some may use **v: 25** speaking every man truth with his neighbor. **To blast someone, to settle a score, or blatantly hurt someone. That’s unacceptable; God judges the attitude of the heart.**

Do not permit people to release their psychotic behavior on you.

You are not a door mat for satan to wipe his feet on.

**When someone is in error we are commanded to help them in love.**

**Galatians 6:1-2 (NIV)**

<sup>1</sup> Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you **who are spiritual** should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted.

<sup>2</sup> **Carry each other's burdens**, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

**Ephesians 4:15 (NKJV)** <sup>15</sup> but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head--Christ—

**Who should we permit to speak into our lives?** Two things to remember.

Those who are spiritually mature and who speak in love.

2. **Stop hating. Start loving.** “Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil”  
(**Ephesians 4:26, 27**).

In this passage we are warned not to stay angry, because anger destroys communication. **Anger will lead either to aggressive or depressive behavior;** it causes us to strike out at others or to put down ourselves.

Either way, its destructive force hurts us and those with whom we are angry. **When anger comes into your life, deal with it quickly and settle it. Don't let one day pass without eliminating your anger.**

**Otherwise, you are giving Satan a place to defeat you.** No one wants to be around an angry person. **It drives children away from their parents, and it drives husbands and wives away from each other.** It destroys communication and thereby destroys relationships.

**By contrast, love forgives, restores, and communicates.**