

The "Ten Commandments" of Godly Communication

The Bible gives many directives for the words we use in communicating with others. The following are Ten Commandments that reflect fundamental principles of godly communication.

#1 Your words are to be *truthful*.

"The LORD detests lying lips, but he delights in men who are truthful." ([Proverbs 12:22](#))

#2 Your words are to be *pleasing to God*.

"May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing in your sight." ([Psalm 19:14](#))

#3 Your words are to be *life-giving*.

"The tongue has the power of life and death." ([Proverbs 18:21](#))

#4 Your words are to be *encouraging*.

"Encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." ([1 Thessalonians 5:11](#))

#5 Your words are to be *gracious*.

"Words from a wise man's mouth are gracious, but a fool is consumed by his own lips." ([Ecclesiastes 10:12](#))

#6 Your words are to be *wise*.

"Wisdom is found on the lips of the discerning, but a rod is for the back of him who lacks judgment." ([Proverbs 10:13](#))

#7 Your words are to be *few*.

"When words are many, sin is not absent, but he who holds his tongue is wise." ([Proverbs 10:19](#))

#8 Your words are to be *timely*.

"A man finds joy in giving an apt reply—and how good is a timely word!" ([Proverbs 15:23](#))

#9 Your words are to be an *investment*.

"From the fruit of his lips a man is filled with good things as surely as the work of his hands rewards him." ([Proverbs 12:14](#))

#10 Your words are to be *loving*.

"If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal." ([1 Corinthians 13:1](#))

"You shall not give false testimony." ([Exodus 20:16](#))