Marriage Seminar – Part 4

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- I. Introduction.
 - A. Communication takes a lot of hard work.
 - B. Communication is the meeting of meaning.
- II. Good communication requires...
 - A. That we ask God for help.
 - B. A commitment to be a revealer.
 - C. A commitment to listen. Scripture memory helps with this. (Proverbs 18:2)
 - 1. Busyness is a road block to communication.
 - 2. We need to put time aside, continue to date, and save up for a marriage conference.
 - D. A commitment to work through conflict.
 - 1. The cardinal rule is to refuse to win.
 - 2. Define the conflict.
 - 3. Define how each of you contributes to the problem.
 - 4. Brainstorm all possible solutions.
 - 5. Agree on a solution to try.
 - 6. Assess the solution and try another if it is not working.
- III. The goal is to have soul to soul communication. (Ephesians 4:15)
- IV. Communication is difficult because meaning is in people and not in words.
- V. Things to avoid in communication.
 - A. Sarcasm.
 - B. Public criticism or correction.

Application questions:

1. What is an area of weakness you and your spouse have?
2. How can you and your spouse grow in that area of weakness?
3. What are the essentials of healthy communication in your view?