

# TALK 4: HOW TO HAVE GOOD CONVERSATIONS

## 1. Set a guard

**Psalm 141:3** *Set a guard over my mouth, Lord;*

*keep watch over the door of my lips. (ESV)*

## 2. Speak less

**James 1:19** *My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry (ESV)*

**Ecclesiastes 5:3** *Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few. (ESV)*

See also Proverbs 10:19 & 17:27

- In general
- In conflict particularly

**Proverbs 26:20** *Without wood a fire goes out; without a gossip a quarrel dies down. (ESV)*

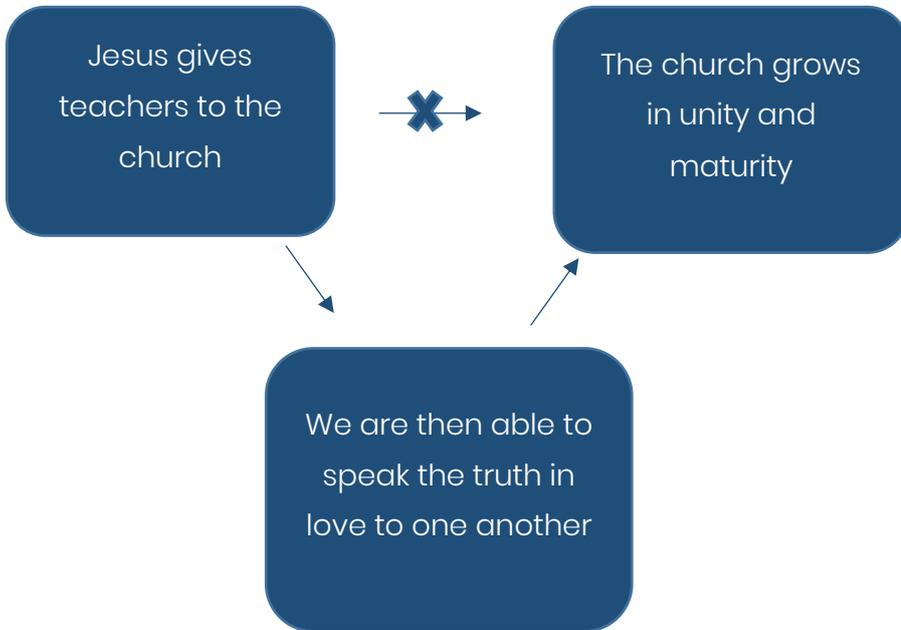
**1 Peter 2:21-23** *For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. <sup>22</sup>He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. <sup>23</sup>When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. (ESV)*

## 3. Speak better

The how and the what...

- *Be equipped by God's word*

### Ephesians 4:7-16



- *Sing and speak God's word*

**Colossians 3:16-17** *Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. (ESV)*

- *Be shaped by God's word*

Thankful

Truthful

Boastful

**Romans 5:1-4, 11.** *Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>2</sup> Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we boast in hope of the glory of God.<sup>3</sup> Not only that, but we boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,<sup>4</sup> and endurance produces character, and character produces hope.*

<sup>11</sup> *More than that, we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation. (ESV)*

Boasting in hope: What are we looking forward to?

Boasting in suffering: How do we react?

Boasting in God: who's the hero of our stories?

Psalm 141:3 *Set a guard over our mouths, Lord;  
keep watch over the door of our lips.*

Psalm 51:15 *Open our lips, Lord,  
and our mouth will declare your praise.*