

Harnessing the Power of Words

Close The Gap

August 21, 2022

Notes

Four ways to close the gap:

1. Listen for understanding.
2. Learn to clarify.
3. Watch body language.
4. Practice.

Questions for Personal Reflection and Group Discussion

1. Read John 13:34.

Why does Jesus call this a 'new' commandment? What was new about it?

Consider the people in your life. Are you loving them like Jesus loves you? In what way(s) do you need to make adjustments to how you're loving the people in your world?

2. Read 1 Peter 4:7-8 and Proverbs 10:12.

How should love covering a multitude of sins make it easier to close the gaps in our communication and move toward relationship?

In which relationship in your life is there a gap that needs closing? Allowing love to cover an offense doesn't mean not talking about the issue. How will you allow love to do it's work in your heart and move toward closing any gaps in your relationships this week?

3. Read Ephesians 4:2-3.

What qualities does Paul say should be evident in us as we relate to one another?

Which of these qualities is the most challenging for you to live out? What could you do this week to grow in that area? How do you think that growth might affect your relationships and help narrow any gaps?

4. Read Ephesians 4:14-15 and John 17:23.

What does it mean to speak the truth in love and how does this contribute to unity between believers?

Pastor Chris identified four ways we can learn to close the gaps that occur in our relationships. Which of these do you need to work on this week? How will you do that?