



April 27, 2008

Weird Families Only Work When W.W.O.N.D.A. Reigns

(Why there is never a winner in a war of words and high emotions)

(SERIES: **7 Ways Weird Families Work: 06 of 08**)
by Dr. David Foster

"It is better to live in a corner of an attic than in a beautiful home with a cranky, quarrelsome woman." (Prov 25:24)

3 Goals of Intelligent Talking

To gain **perspective**.

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." (Phil 2:4)

To gain **understanding**.

"But in public worship I would much **rather speak five words that people can understand** and be helped by than ten thousand words while "speaking in tongues" in an unknown language." (1 Cor 14:19)

To gain **W.W.O.N.D.A.**

"Don't think only of yourself. Try to think of the other fellow, too, and what is best for him." (1 Cor 10:24)

7 Intelligent Talker Insights

Intelligent talkers think **before they speak**.

"Let your conversation be gracious as well as sensible, for then you will have the right answer for everyone." (Col 4:6)

Intelligent talkers choose **their words wisely**.

"From a wise mind comes careful and persuasive speech." (Prov 16:23)

"And I tell you this, that you must give account on Judgment Day for every idle word you speak." (Mat 12:36)

Intelligent talkers slow their **responses**.

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

Intelligent talkers temper their **tone**.

"A **gentle answer turns away wrath**, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly." (Prov 15:1-2)

Intelligent talkers tame their **tongue**.

"So also the tongue is a small thing, but what enormous damage it can do. A great forest can be set on fire by one tiny spark." (James 3:5)

Intelligent talkers love their **listeners**.

"Instead, speaking the truth in love . . ." (Eph 4:15)

"Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen." (Eph 4:29)

Intelligent talkers say they're **sorry**.

"Admit your faults to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed. . ." (James 5:16)