

Glorifying God in Organizational Communication

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

John 1:1

From the first pages of the Bible, which tell the account of creation, we learn that God is a god who speaks. His word both brings life and order. In the New Testament the apostle John identifies Jesus as the Word. That is, He was God communicated to us; He is capable of giving life and establishing order. How astounding is it that a transcendent God would make Himself known through the prophets, the scriptures, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit – namely His Word!

As Christians, we are called to live lives that reflect God. We can do this in a myriad of ways, but not the least of which is through our speech. Yes, God's words are omnipotent – they can create out of nothing – but our words are certainly potent. But how is it that we can reflect God in our speech, particularly our communications at work? Here are three suggestions.

- 1) **Speak truth.** There is no distinction between God's words and reality- Genesis 1:3; "And God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light." – but there can be a difference between our words and reality. Therefore, we can reflect God by matching our words to reality to the best of our ability. In the office this means low earnings reports cannot be doctored. Unbiased job reviews must be given. And accurate expense reports filed.
- 2) **Speak life.** Ephesians 4:29 tells us to speak in a way that will bring life to others; "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." Hence, managers will focus on their staff's strengths. Suggestions will have solutions, not just the description of the problem. And gossip will be replaced by praise.
- 3) **Speak vision.** After creating man, God gave him the task of tending the garden. Likewise, Jesus commissioned believers in Matthew 28:19 to "make disciples of all nations." Just as God's words give direction and meaning to life, so too, our words should instill purpose in those who hear them. An organization can speak vision by clearly articulating their Vision. Goal-setting will be a part of the organizational culture. And project managers can inspire their staff to achieve great things.

This is just the beginning of an examination of how we can glorify God through our verbal interactions on the job. Take some time to contemplate others.

