

For example, a person might say, "I feel very strongly that beginning a building program at this time would be unadvisable!" However, it would be destructive to say, "It's stupid to spend all that money on a building when the money could be used for a better purpose." Or an even worse example would be, "You're stupid to think that we need a new building!" (To say "it's stupid" is a more subtle way of attacking a person, but it is such an attack.)

To allow for the free and open exchange of views and opinions is somewhat risky in that feelings can be stirred. It is much less risky, however, than having an atmosphere where no one but the leader is free to express themselves. The person who is allowed to express himself and who is voted down, is happier than the person who is never invited to share his ideas at all. Also, the likelihood of arriving at some good new idea is enhanced greatly when everyone is free to participate.

Destructive Conflict

Conflicts Related to Communication

The ability to communicate is a wonderful gift from a most gracious creator. The ability to communicate effectively takes discipline and understanding as well as an abundant supply of grace.

This is true because interpersonal communication may be used for good or evil purposes. Words can be used to encourage, soothe, edify, instruct, enlighten and to show love. They also can be used to discourage, irritate, destroy, deceive, and to convey hatred. The quality of interpersonal relations within a ministerial team will