





Culture Crunch

- Communicating with courage
- Dealing with control
- Responsible vs over-responsible
- Resolving conflict



Developing an Attentive Spirit





James 1:17-20

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God.



Developing an Attentive Spirit

- i) Listening to someone on the phone & internet at same time
- ii) Judging what the person is saying before they've finished saying it.



Developing an Attentive Spirit

- iii) Thinking of how you can demonstrate your knowledge
- iv) Conversation = 'taking turns at talking'
- v) Thinking of a 'happy place' whilst someone is speaking



Developing an Attentive Spirit

- vi) Finishing someone's sentence for them
- vii) Crowded room- listening to the 'more interesting conversation'
- viii) Correcting grammar/details



Developing an Attentive Spirit

ix) Drifting eye contact

x) Fiddling with coffee mug, glasses, etc.

xi) Listening to reply rather than understand.



James 1:17-19

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights . . . Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth . . . Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear . . .



“James seems to mix together the two ideas of getting on with people, and going on with God.”

Alec Motyer



Developing an Attentive Spirit

“let the word of God dwell in you richly”

Colossians 3:16



Attentive to God

18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth . . .
let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to
anger . . .



Psalm 1

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.



Attentive to Others

Once we 'hear God', we . . .

- Don't need more 'airtime' in the conversation
- Don't need to impress
- Don't have to respond defensively
- Don't have to manage our images
- Will slow down



Attentive to Others

Once we 'hear God' . . .

- We don't have to 'fix' everyone
- We become more aware of the person with the problem
- We are accountable to God



“be slow to speak, slow to anger”

If one gives an answer before he hears,
it is his folly and shame.

Proverbs 18:13



“The great talker is rarely a great listener, and never is the ear more firmly closed than when anger takes over.”



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