



COMMUNICATION INHIBITORS

There are many reasons why people choose not to communicate. Whatever the reason, to be non-communicative is to be unlike God. Consider the following reasons:

1. **Stubbornness** – This is self-centered unwillingness. This is what we hope God will never do to us. If God were to treat us with willful stubbornness the way we treat others we would be in a hopeless state... One of the ways this works out in relationships is a refusal to say “I’m sorry” or to confess obvious sin. If one is unwilling to ask their spouse or true friends to lovingly point out sin, one is probably stubborn.
2. **Apathy** – Apathy may not be a solid Biblical category. A more Biblically precise word would probably be *hatred*. Apathy is sometimes seen as a passive attitude. However, it is an active attitude. If you don’t love actively, then you actively hate whether you call it apathy or not. Not caring is the same as not loving.
3. **Anger** – This attitude of heart is not as dressed up as apathy. It is hate acted out. Anger is a spectrum behavior. On one end of the spectrum is murder. On the other end is the “silent treatment.” Anger that is expressed in “silent treatment” is just as much filled with pride and self-righteousness and self-justification for sinful behavior.
4. **Fear** – This is typically a motivator of a person mired in self-absorbed thinking. A fearful person is not a trusting person. God says “Trust me,” and the fearful person says, “No thanks!”
5. **Ignorance** – A person can be willfully ignorant of God and God’s ways and not be aware of the damage they are doing to themselves and to their

family. The power of words or the power of the lack of words never really registers to them. He/She is clueless. One day, when confronted by a rebellious teenager, he/she has no idea how this could have happened.

6. Arrogance – The code word here is self-righteousness. This person looks down his nose towards others. He withholds his affection and encouraging words from his family because he simply chooses not to.