

# 3 LIFE SKILLS THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING

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Discover some life-changing  
wisdom, straight out of God's Word

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Berni Dymet

LIFE APPLICATION BOOKLET

3 LIFE SKILLS  
THAT CHANGES  
EVERYTHING

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**by Berni Dymet**

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LIFE APPLICATION BOOKLET

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Our prayer is that you will truly be blessed as you  
receive God's Word.*



# CHAPTER 1

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## Listen Before You Speak

The development of essential life skills – some would call it emotional intelligence or “EQ” for short – is pretty much left to chance these days. Or, at best, it’s a bit haphazard.

Yes, schools play their role. Parents do their best, although that’s getting more and more difficult with kids drawing much of their “*knowledge*” through their 24/7 connectedness to peers and to a pretty scary, online world out there.

Some people are fortunate enough to have a mentor. Personally, I was blessed through a business partner who was twenty years my senior. We worked together for seventeen years, from my mid twenties to my early forties.

He taught me, for instance, to shut up and listen to other people while they were

speaking (something that I wasn't very good at, apparently!). But not everyone is fortunate enough to be "*adopted*" by a wise mentor.

So, it's easy miss out on developing the life skills we need in order to live a fruitful life that blesses other people. And yet, the Bible is cramp-packed full of practical wisdom to help build our essential life skills.

I think sometimes, we expect the Bible to be high on spirituality and low on practicality. But nothing could be further from the truth, because God wants to bless our lives with His wisdom ... so that we can be a blessing to others.

And when it comes to life skills that really make a difference, knowing how to listen, when to shut up and when to speak the truth – well, I think that they would have to be right up there in the category of absolute essentials. So why is it that so often, we get this so wrong?

Think about it. Isn't it just the most amazing thing, when somebody actually takes the time to stop and listen to what you have to say?

I don't mean that they stop talking just long enough to figure out the next thing that *they're* going to say. I mean, when somebody actually takes the time to listen to you and really to understand what it is that you're trying to get across.

As I said, I am not naturally a good listener. I'm born to talk (or to write) to do what I'm doing right now. As a brash, young IT consultant, I used to think that communication was all about me talking and showing other people how clever I was.

Fortunately, that mentor I mentioned earlier, Graham is his name, took the time to teach me the incredible power of listening.

It's something, by the way, that I'm still learning. And I suspect that many of us need to keep working on it. Because listening, stopping, taking the time to understand someone else – even if you don't agree with them – is one of the most important, one of the most powerful life skills that we will ever learn.

*You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak.*

(James 1:19a)

We live in a world where the exact opposite is true. Whether it's face-to-face or in social media, everybody, it seems, is talking ... but very few are actually listening. Very few are taking the time truly to understand what the other person is saying, where it's coming from, their perspective, what they're feeling right at the moment that's causing them to say what they're saying.

Recently a good friend of mine in his eighties passed away and his widow asked me to take his funeral service. I was sitting with her, her daughters and the funeral director in their home, planning the funeral ... and for the most part, I just listened. At this point I quietly gave thanks for my mentor who all those years before, had taught me the power of listening.

There were times in that two hours or so, where frankly, I thought they could have made up their minds much more quickly about this detail or that. But that wasn't the point. It wasn't about me, it was about them, their grieving



process and the way they wanted to say farewell to their husband and father.

I noticed too, that even though she had a job to do, the funeral director was an incredibly good listener. I walked away from that time feeling so privileged at having been able to be there and just listen to my friend's widow and children talk.

Come on, it's a privilege to hear what's in someone else's heart. And it so honours the other person, it shows them such respect, when we simply sit down, shut up, and take the time to listen.

Let everyone be quick to listen and slow to speak.

But of course, listening isn't something that comes naturally to many people. Most of us, I think, are uncomfortable with silence. We think that in order for conversation to flow, somebody needs to be talking. And if nobody else is, we'd better say something. Anything will do, just something to get rid of that uncomfortable silence.

How often have you stupidly blurted something out, just to break the silence, pretending you know about something that really, you have no idea about? We've all been there.

And the people around you don't know whether to laugh or just be embarrassed for you. The more we speak, our thinking goes, the more knowledgeable it makes us look, when in reality, the exact opposite is true.

Along with the skill of listening, the skill of simply being silent, is one of the most important life skills that we can ever learn.

*One who spares words is knowledgeable; one who is cool in spirit has understanding. Even fools who keep silent are considered wise; when they close their lips, they are deemed intelligent.* (Proverbs 17:27-28)

At this point, I'm reminded of a young man by the name of Ben, with whom I've been working recently. He's an expert in search engine optimisation (yep, it's a thing, and an important one these days!) and digital communications. And of all the people I've met in my life, he more than anybody else I know, embodies this Scripture.

I recall we were in a meeting with some web developers, planning something new. I'd jump in here and ask a question, there to share a thought. Meanwhile, the head developer asked Ben whether he had any questions. "No," he said. "I'll just wait." He sat there without saying anything for quite a while, observing, thinking, listening. But when he did open his mouth, his few words displayed a wisdom and insight well beyond his years.

Instead of being keen to impress, he was very much "*cool in spirit*". Calm, measured, and let me tell you, very, very impressive indeed.

At what point did we start thinking that talking was the most important part of communicating? At what point did we begin to imagine that babbling on about things we don't really understand, showing off with our many words, was the way to impress other people?

This proverb is spot on. The one who speaks fewer words, ultimately comes across as the more knowledgeable one. And even the fool, when he sits silent, appears to be wise.

In a world where everybody is trying to put their best foot forward, where so many people are trying to impress us with what they have to say, silence, knowing when not to speak, is more important than ever.

The Bible is full of life skills. Essential life skills. And these skills are very rarely taught explicitly in our upbringing. We're meant to pick them up, I think, by osmosis. But God doesn't leave these things to chance.

*One who spares words is knowledgeable; one who is cool in spirit has understanding.*

You've no doubt heard that old saying - we have two ears and one mouth, so we should use them in that same proportion. In other words, we should listen about twice as much as we speak. It's a good adage that remains every bit as true today, as it was back when the pace of life and the pace of communication were much slower.

But when we do finally speak, when we do open our mouths having listened and understood other people, what should we say?

Well, let's start with another question: what do people usually say? In my experience it's one of two things. They either tell me what *they* want me to hear, or what they think *I* want to hear.

All too often, people are pushing their own agenda. So they tell us what they want us to hear, trying to get us to agree with them.

That's why the shop attendant invariably tells you that you look fantastic in that item of clothing you've just tried on (whether you do or not) because what they want is the sale.

Other times, they'll tell you what they think you want to hear, to butter you up and gain favour that they can call upon at a later time. Because, frankly, telling someone something that they don't want to hear often doesn't get such good results. It's awkward, uncomfortable ... and often times leads to conflict.

So, when you open your mouth, what should you be telling people?

*We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.*

(Ephesians 4:14-15)

What should we be telling people? Answer: we should be speaking the truth in love. Not what we want them to hear, to get them to agree with us. Not what they want to hear, to curry favour with them. But the truth.

And not the truth in a rude, confrontational, disrespectful way. The truth delivered that way will rarely be accepted, even though it is the truth. No, we're called to speak the truth in love – with kindness, with gentleness, with the other person's interests at heart.

The older I get, the more I find myself looking for people who will tell me the truth; I want to know what they really think, what they

really feel. I want to be dealing in the facts that will help me to make the best decisions, even when the facts happen to point out one of my weaknesses, mistakes or faults. Even when those facts are not necessarily what I want to hear.

I respect that.

What should we be saying when we speak?  
The truth. In love.

## EXPLORE

*You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak.*

(James 1:19a)

*One who spares words is knowledgeable; one who is cool in spirit has understanding. Even fools who keep silent are considered wise; when they close their lips, they are deemed intelligent.* (Proverbs 17:27-28)

# LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS

## QUESTION 1

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Think about important life skills, like this one, learning to listen. How systematically, how well have you been taught them over the course of your life?

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## QUESTION 2

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On a scale of zero to ten, how good a listener are you? Do you naturally try to understand the other person, or do you talk over the top of other people?

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## QUESTION 3

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Have another read of James 1:19. What is God saying to you today?

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## QUESTION 4

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Think of three practical ways – perhaps in specific relationships – that you can start to live out the truth of this Scripture.

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## QUESTION 5

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**How comfortable (or not) are you with silence?**

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## QUESTION 6

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**Again, how could you get Proverbs 17:27-28 happening in your life, in your relationships?**

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# CHAPTER 2

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## Treat People as Individuals

I think we all agree that learning to be a much better listener is an incredibly important life skill.

In his book *How to Win Friends and Influence People* James Carnegie posits that the most important life skill is to make the other person feel important. I think that's a bit cynical – you can make someone feel important, without really, in your heart of hearts believing that they are.

I'd like to think of that another way. I think that the most important life skill (when it comes to relationships) is learning how to show the other person how much you value them.

After all, God values them enough that He sent His Son to suffer and die for them. Shouldn't we value them too?

Being a great listener, as we discussed in the last chapter, does exactly that. When you stop to listen, to understand, to empathise, what you're really doing is demonstrating to them how much you value them; how much you value their opinion and what they have to say.

That's what makes listening such an incredibly important life skill. And flowing on from that, is treating other people as individuals; as the unique individual that they are.

The more electronic, the more digital, the more transactional this world becomes, the greater is the temptation to treat everyone the same. IN a sense that's what many people do on Facebook. They just blast out their opinion, they just publish what they want to say and – I see a lot of this – they never really engage in a conversation with other people. You see that a lot in social media.

I had one well known, “successful” pastor of a large church say to me once: “I prefer Twitter over Facebook, because in Twitter, people don't expect you to have a conversation with them.” Sad, but true.

I'll treat everyone the same, is more and more, the maxim of this fast moving, over-connected, digital world in which we live.

But we're not all the same. We're all different. Very, very different.

And one of the things that's incredibly precious to each one of us, is our own name. It's an odd thing when you think about it. A name is just a label. It's a unique identifier. But if that's all there was to it, we could just give you a number.

Why don't we change your name to 7449018?

Hi 7449018, how are you?

No! It just doesn't have the same ring about it. There's a reason for that. Our name speaks something of our uniqueness into this world. And so we've each become incredibly attached to our names.

I love the fact that my name is "Berni" - B-e-r-n-i with no "e" on the end, because that's how my parent's spelled it and that's how it is. I often find myself telling people, when they're writing down my name "no 'e' on the end". Why? Does it really matter?

Well, actually, yes, to me it does matter. Just as your name matters to you. Think about this, God knows you by name.

*But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. (Isaiah 43:1)*

When God thinks of you, He thinks of you by name. When He looks at you, He sees you and knows your name. When you're in trouble, in distress and you cry out to Him, He knows your name. Jesus put it beautifully:

*The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out.*

(John 10:2-3)

Imagine then how it feels for someone else, when you forget their name. When you've met them once, and then you see them again, and you just don't remember their name.

That person's name is one of the single, most precious things that they own. Just as your name is one of the single, most precious things that you have. And when we remember other people's names, it so honours them. It speaks to them of the respect that we have for them.

Honestly, I sometimes struggle to remember other people's names. I travel a lot around the world and I meet many, many people in the course of those travels – so for me, it's really quite an occupational challenge. But as best I can, I try to remember their names. I even enlist help from our local staff to coach me and remind me of people's names.

God remembers us by name. That's incredible! *God Himself knows your name.* How does that make you feel?

So imagine the power of remembering and using the names of the people you meet. What a life skill!

*And imagine building on that, interacting with each person, building a relationship with each person, based on who they really are.*

It's tempting, when you're busy and preoccupied, to treat everyone as though they're the same. As though somehow, we are all the same. Let's face it, by and large, our default position is that everyone sees things the way we do. Everyone experiences things the way we do. And if they don't there must be something wrong with them, right?!

Of course, in theory, we know that's not true. But in practice that's pretty much how we behave. And when people don't see things the

way we want them to, when they don't react to things the way we expect them to, well, we respond with surprise, with annoyance and sometimes, even with anger.

Just as everybody has their own unique name, so everyone has their own specific God-given gifts. They tend to see things, just as, in fact, we do, through the lens of those gifts, and through the lens of their experience – the good things they've been through and the bad things as well.

That's why people (often incredibly frustratingly!) have different perspectives.

Come on, what makes us imagine, for one moment, that people all see things the way we do? And why is it that we're so surprised, when they don't?! God's Word is pretty clear on this:

*For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us.*

(Romans 4:4-6)

Take a look at any room full of people, thirty, forty ... a hundred, a thousand. And what you'll notice, is that other than the odd pair of identical twins, everyone looks completely different. Different hair colours, styles, eye colour, complexion ... the way they dress, the way they talk. And even the identical twins, when you get to know them, are really quite different.

So imagine, I mean just imagine, if we started working, living, interacting with people, building

relationships with people, on the basis that everyone is different, rather than everyone being the same. On the basis of getting to know them; their likes and dislikes; their strengths and weaknesses and therefore, beginning to understand where they're coming from.

Even in just the little things. Some people don't like to be rushed, so don't rush them. Some people like to be punctual, so when you're catching up with them, be on time. Imagine if you took the time to figure out what makes people tick. Your wife, your husband, your children, your brothers and sisters, your work colleagues.

Imagine how differently you'd be able to interact with them, if you knew just these two things about them: the thing that annoys them most and the thing that they find most pleasing. Do you think that would improve your relationships? Do you think it would bring more peace and joy to your life?

It's not rocket science. God made everyone to be different. It's time to start treating them that way.

It comes back to what is so often referred to as "*the golden rule*".

*In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets.* (Matthew 7:12)

It's an incredible sign of respect when we take the time, when we actually bother, to understand people's differences and respond to them based on their unique perspective. And so often, it's just the little things.

We have a friend at church who is, how shall I put it, incredibly dogmatic about certain issues. She feels very strongly about them, even though in some of those issues I disagree with her, just as strongly. She's the sort of person that can't let go; she has to win the argument 100% of the time.

Okay, none of us is perfect. I'm not and nor (just quietly) are you (shock!).

So, when we're out to lunch after church on Sundays, here's what I do. I simply avoid those subjects. If they come up, I try to steer the conversation in a different direction, because I know if we head down *that* path, it's not going to end well for the people around the table, let alone for her.

I wonder, in your closest relationships, with the people who matter most in your life, do you know what annoys them most and what pleases them most? Come on, if you had to rattle off those two facts about the five closest people in your life, would you be able to, in an instant?

And have you come up with strategies to avoid the things that annoy them, and bless them in the areas that please them?

As I said, this is not rocket science. It's actually pretty simple stuff when you think about it. So ... what are you waiting for. How about today, tomorrow, the next day, you spend just a bit of time thinking about that, and planning some specific strategies that you can implement in those relationships that are so important to you.

Pray about it, take it to God. And I think you'll be amazed at what He does as you honour



Him, and humble yourself to honour the people who are most important to you, in a way that really means something to them.

## EXPLORE

*But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. (Isaiah 43:1)*

*In everything do to others as you would have them do to you; for this is the law and the prophets. (Matthew 7:12)*

# LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS

## QUESTION 1

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**Under what circumstances do you struggle to remember people's names?**

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## QUESTION 2

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**What can you do, what practical strategy can you employ, to remember the names of the new people you meet?**

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## QUESTION 3

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Think of the three people closest to you. In what ways are they wired (gifted) differently from you?

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## QUESTION 4

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How do those differences impact their behaviour? In other words, how are their natural tendencies different to yours, because of the way they're wired?

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## QUESTION 5

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For each of those three people, take a moment to write down the one thing that annoys them most, and the one thing that pleases them most.

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## QUESTION 6

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Now, come up with just a handful of simple strategies to avoid doing the things that annoy them, and start doing the things that please them.

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# CHAPTER 3

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## The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Okay, we've talked about two incredibly important life skills to deploy in your relationships – learning to listen and treating other people as the unique individuals that they are.

Now we're going to move onto the third one – looking for, and rewarding, the good in other people.

The lines between right and wrong have become quite blurred these days. Black and white are being pushed out, and there seems to be a big area of grey there in the middle.

*Oh, well, you know, things have changed. The world has moved on. Sleeping around? Sure. Everybody does it. Cheating on your tax return? Go one, who's going to know? Denigrating politicians? Well, that's really the national pastime, right?*

Do you see how easy it is to compromise; to drop our standards down to the lowest common denominator? But right is still right. Wrong is still wrong. The question is, how do you live that truth out, in your relationships, in a world that prefers fifty shades of grey.

Well, let's get back to basics. Let's get back to the truth. God is a God who rewards the good in us. It's a really simple fact. Like any good father, He wants to see His children live a good life.

I know that's what I want for my children. Yes, I want to see them succeed in their chosen profession. But more than that, I want them to be good people. People with good morals - honest, decent, hardworking, loving, caring for others. Like any father, when they were growing up, I tried to teach them those things.

It didn't always go that well. Kids being kids, they didn't always get things right - and as you well know, as teenagers they often pushed the boundaries; as teenagers do. And, as an imperfect father, I didn't always get things right either, just quietly.

But what was in my heart for them, was to bring them up to be good people. I believed the best way as a parent to do that was to reward the good in them. To teach them that good behaviour, unselfish behaviour, honest and decent behaviour, has its rewards.

I think that approach is pretty much common to all fathers even if, as I said, we don't always get it right. And in fact, that's exactly the approach God takes with us:

*So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up.* (Galatians 6:9)

So, what God's saying to us there is that yes, sometimes the going does get tough. But hang in there, keep on doing good, because one day, at harvest time, you're going to reap the reward that He has ready and waiting for you. God blesses and rewards the good in us. Again, that's why Jesus said:

*Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.*  
(John 12:26)

In a world in which people prefer *"fifty shades of grey"* to simple black and white, you know, I think that's not such a bad model. It's so easy to take the good in people for granted. When all along, the good in other people is really a blessing from God that could and should be rewarded in a way that encourages more good in this world.

Just think, for a moment, how powerful an agent of change the rewarding of good could be in your life; through your life. Think of the missional impact that the rewarding of good could have through you, as you implement God's approach, God's model of reward.

And the rewards don't have to be all that big. A simple "Thank you, I so appreciate what you did," will often suffice.

So – who in your life is doing good? Who could you reward today, to encourage them to do more good?

Because that's the model that God has ordained.



Of course not everyone is good all the time. Sometimes people are downright evil. The question is – so then what?

By and large, the simplest thing to do when someone is doing something wrong, something that we know is bad, something that quite clearly is going to have terrible consequences, is, well, just to ignore it. It's not always the best thing, or the right thing, it's just the easiest option.

My wife and I were recently at a café having a quiet cup of coffee, or at least we were trying to. At the next table was a young mother, on her mobile phone chatting away. Opposite her was her one-year-old, with a cup in his hand, banging it hard and loud on the table.

I know what my mother would have done when I was that age, let me tell you. And back when I was parenting, I would have done the same as her. I would have taken the cup off the boy and taught him that that was the wrong thing to do, even though it probably would have resulted in a tantrum. They have to learn, right? And the sooner, the better because one day, that one-year-old is going to be a teenager, and then, watch out!

But not this mum. No. She simply ignored the child's bad behaviour and, apparently oblivious to it, just kept talking on her phone. How that cup didn't smash in his hand I'll never know.

This ignoring bad behaviour thing, starts quite early on. And because dealing with bad behaviour takes energy, because it will probably cause conflict along the way, we've all become quite adept at turning a blind eye. At ignoring it, hoping it'll go away.

But that's generally not what happens. When we ignore bad behaviour, whether it's in a one-year-old at the café, or a work colleague who's bullying someone, it almost always gets worse. So what's the answer? What do you do? How do you deal with it?

*My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted.* (Galatians 6:1)

In other words, God is calling us to deal with it. God's calling us, albeit in a spirit of gentleness, to confront the bad behaviour with the aim not of exacting revenge, but of restoring the person who's doing bad; with the aim of bringing them back to good behaviour.

Now that bit about doing it in a spirit of gentleness is important. If that young mother had put the phone down, and screamed at the child in frustration, well, that probably wouldn't have been the best approach, any more than you or I responding angrily, with revenge in our hearts, to someone who's doing us wrong.

Take care that you yourself aren't tempted into that.

But when we do it in love, when we do it with gentleness, when we point out the mistake quietly and offer a better alternative to the person who's behaving badly, something surprising happens. God shows up. God honours that. And more often than we might expect, that person who's been behaving badly is restored to good.

*But that doesn't always work. So, then what?*

People behaving badly in this world is simply a fact of life. We can try and do the right thing; we can try to talk about it to them, gently, quietly, privately, to restore them to good behaviour. But let's be honest. It doesn't always work.

It should. We wish it did. But it doesn't always. So then, what do you ordinarily do in that situation? Let's say you tried once or twice, to help someone deal with their bad behaviour, but they haven't responded well.

What comes next? Well, mostly, we just give up.

*Well, you know, I tried, but he's a hopeless case. He's never going to change!*

Sound familiar? Sure it does. We just write them off and move on, leaving the bad behaviour to fester and harm not just them, but the people around them. I'm not so sure that's the best approach either – what do you think? Have a listen to the Apostle Paul's advice to his young ministry protégé, Timothy:

*I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. (2 Timothy 4:1b-2)*

In a nutshell, the older, more experienced Paul, is saying to young Tim here, "Don't give up". Keep telling people about Jesus – the good news, the fantastic news about Jesus – whether the conditions are favourable or unfavourable.

Does that mean shoving religion down someone's throat? I don't think so. But what it does mean is not giving up.

I have a very good friend who knows that some of the things that he's doing are wrong. The lifestyle that he's chosen for himself is just wrong, plain and simple. Now, I care for him deeply and so, on the odd occasion, I've shared with him the good news of Jesus – and by the way deep in his heart he believes. But his lifestyle is pulling him away from the Lord. He can't have his cake and eat it too, as the saying goes.

As much as I care for him though, the one thing that I will not do, the one thing that I will never do, is endorse his bad choices; tell him that it's all okay. Because whether the time is favourable or not, my heart is to convince, rebuke and encourage him with as much patience as I can muster.

And of course, to pray for him. Because there is such incredible power in prayer:

*The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective.* (James 5:16b)

People are going to behave badly, but don't give up on them. Perhaps God has put you there in their lives for a time such as this, to be the one through whom His love, His grace and His mercy flow into their lives.

Don't give up!

## EXPLORE

*So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. (Galatians 6:9)*

*I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. (2 Timothy 4:1b-2)*

# LIFE APPLICATION QUESTIONS

## QUESTION 1

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In your experience, which is the more common – People punishing you for your bad behaviour, or rewarding you for your good behaviour?

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## QUESTION 2

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Again, have a think about someone close to you with whom, right now, you have a difficult relationship. What good do you see in them? Take a moment to jot down their good points.

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## QUESTION 3

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Now, stop, think, pray ... how could you go about rewarding that good, when it manifests itself in their lives? How could you encourage them, to draw more of the good out?

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## QUESTION 4

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Now let's turn to the most difficult person in your life. Think about they're bad behaviour. What is it about that behaviour that most annoys you; that most hurts you?

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## QUESTION 5

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Again, stop, think and pray. What opportunities is the Lord speaking into your heart, to help them deal with that bad behaviour, with gentleness, love and compassion?

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## QUESTION 6

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Start praying for that difficult person. Make them a regular feature in your prayer life.

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# A Final Prayer

*Dear Father God,*

*Your Word is so amazing! It is so crampacked full of powerful wisdom for our relationships and our lives. Thank You Lord that You are interested in developing our life skills. Thank You Lord that You are in the business of developing our character, and restoring us back into Your image.*

*Father, give us a passion for Your Word. Holy Spirit, fill our hearts with a desire to learn more, to know more, to experience more of Your power and Your grace. Grow our character so that more and more, we will be as Jesus to this lost and hurting world. In His mighty name we pray.*

*Amen!*



# ABOUT CHRISTIANITYWORKS

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Here at Christianityworks our passion is seeing countless lives transformed one by one, as we share the good news of Jesus through the media around the globe.

It's something that we've been doing since 1957. Of course back then we were known as Back to the Bible, changing our name to Christianityworks in 2001.

Today, the radio and television broadcasts that we produce with the support of friends like you, reach a weekly audience that we conservatively estimate to be over 20 million people in 160 countries.

We believe that as we make innovative use of mass media – radio, television, digital + online and print – God works mightily by His Spirit and His Word, transforming lives.

In fact, its not something that we just believe, it's something that we know.

We receive so many testimonies each month from around the globe, of lives that have been saved, touched and transformed as God works through the ministry of Christianityworks.

Thank you for remembering that Christianityworks is a faith based ministry. We rely on the support of friends like you to reach the lost with the saving love of Jesus.

Your secure, online gift today, will make a powerful difference in the lives of so many.

To give, just visit: [christianityworks.com/donate](http://christianityworks.com/donate).

Thank you with all my heart.

Your friend in Jesus,



Berni Dymet



Berni Dymet

## 3 LIFE SKILLS THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING

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**Discover some life-changing  
wisdom, straight out of God's Word**

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Good life skills are essential to living a good, effective and fulfilling life. And yet in most cultures, the learning of those life skills is left to chance – particularly in more affluent cultures where parenting is becoming less and less of a “*thing*”. But God ... His Word is full of wisdom when it comes to those essential life skills.

In this booklet, join Berni Dymet as he opens God's Word, to discover the essential life skills that God wants to grow, in your life.