

**July Devotional: KISS: Keep It Short & Simple** By Jerry Furniss

II Corinthians 3:12 Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech

Colossians 4:6 Everything you say should be kind and well thought out so that you know how to answer everyone.

Over the many months that I have been submitting the monthly devotionals, I have learned so very much about both scripture, as well as human nature. One of the things that I have found is that the KISS principle is still very much a strong guiding principle when explaining and presenting things to others. What I have found is that most people can only comfortably handle 3 main items in any verbal interchange. Also, if someone starts to go on and on and drag things out, others will just shut down their desire for listening and understanding. They will just tune you out. People will start daydreaming or thinking about other things that are more pressing in their lives.

It is our duty to help and inform people so that they grow and understand. [An example is preaching the good news.] Is this not the reason to speak to anyone? If someone is just speaking to be heard, or to sound important, or to gain attention, then they are speaking for self gain. This is for selfish reasons and is part of pride. This kind of speaking has nothing to do with your welfare. Therefore, why are you bothering to listen?

We are to discern the intent of any speech or presentation and decide if it is the truth, and also if it is meaningful for our lives. This should take only a short time to determine. And if those who speak cannot break it down in simple terms, then who are they really servicing with their words.

**Short & Simple: Love God first, and love your neighbor. KISS them both, not yourself.**