

## BEING MISUNDERSTOOD

PASTOR TIMOTHY GREEN

In spite of our best intentions, we have all been misunderstood. People question our motives. People question the validity of what we say. What we say sometimes is not what people hear.

You've probably heard this statement. "I know you think you understand what you thought I said but I'm not sure you realize that what you heard is not what I meant."

Being misunderstood can cause us to snap back or just clam up but the real solution is to learn how to communicate better.

God has given us a great promise for those times of misunderstanding. It was first given to the disciples as they were put on trial because of their faith in him.

You and I may not be on trial for our faith yet, (that day is coming) but we all have trying times in our relationships with others.

If we will go to God and ask Him to help us through our times of misunderstandings, He will help us and give us grace in our time of need.

Let me share with you five keys of communication.

1. People don't care how much we know until they know how much we care.
2. People will understand what we say only after they know that we have tried to understand them.
3. People will only listen to you after you have taken the time to listen to them.
4. People can hear five times faster than you can speak. Get to the point. ☺
5. People will not always respond to our best efforts of reconciliation.

Rom 12:18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

Unfortunately, it's not always possible. Some people don't want peace. But we must make sure that we have done our best to have peace.

Whenever there is a misunderstanding, do all that you can, whenever you can, however you can with whomever you can to overcome the misunderstanding and then leave the results in the hands of God.