

## Sticks and Stones How To Speak Words That Heal Others

### 1. Share God's \_\_\_\_\_ with others

**John 1:12** *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name ...*

To draw near without \_\_\_\_\_

**Romans 8:1-2** *So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus.*

**John 8:35** *Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever.*

**Romans 15:7** *Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.*

a) I reject the \_\_\_\_\_

**Luke 7:34** *The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and "sinners."'*

Key: My job is \_\_\_\_\_

b) I remember Jesus \_\_\_\_\_

**Hebrews 2:11** *Jesus and the people he makes holy all belong to the same family. That is why he isn't ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.*

c) \_\_\_\_\_ for me to love and accept you

d) I remember the \_\_\_\_\_

**Ephesians 1:5-7** *God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure. So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins.*

Key: Acceptance creates the environment \_\_\_\_\_

"To be accepted is to have all of your parts, good and bad, received by another without condemnation. Henry Cloud

### Parts of our soul that Acceptance can bring to light

\*Needs: Acceptance makes it acceptable to feel our incompleteness and spiritual poverty, without shame or guilt.

\*Sins: We hide our sins even from ourselves. The law makes us free that we will incur wrath if our sins are exposed. But when we experience acceptance, we not only tolerate looking at our transgressions, but look even deeper into ourselves for other dark places in which sin resides.

\*Judged parts: There are parts inside us we don't like or accept. For example, someone who has encountered a lot of criticism in life for being angry may beat himself up when he gets mad, whether or not the anger is legitimate.

\*Hiding style: We wear "fig leaves" over parts of ourselves to avoid experiencing negative things. For example, some people intellectualize to stay away from emotions that trouble or frighten them. They live in their heads to avoid their hearts.

\*Brokenness and weakness: All of us have weaknesses that need to be accepted by God and others to be restored. These are not just sins, but inabilities. For example, some people may be emotionally unable to trust and reach out; others may struggle with standing up to controlling people; still others may be easily wounded by criticism because of some unresolved need for approval. The healing begins when acceptance makes it safe enough to admit these realities to ourselves.

**Romans 14:1** *Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters.*