

depend largely on the nature of the communication between the team members. Communication is then at the very heart of the problem of interteam conflict.

Communication - A Matter of the Heart

A number of Scriptures show the relationship between the heart and the mouth. In Matt. 12:22-37 is the record of Jesus' confrontation with the Pharisees regarding the source of His power. Jesus demonstrated His power by healing a demon possessed man who was blind and mute. His opponents could not deny the reality of the miracle so they countered by saying that His power was from the Devil and not from God. After easily destroying their sophomoric argument, Jesus taught them and us a most valuable lesson on communication. Verses 33 and 34 read:

Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.

The following chart further illustrates the connection between the heart and the mouth in the Psalms.

COMMUNICATION

"...out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks"

bad fruit

good fruit

Psalm 10:7 - "His mouth is full of cursing and deceit and fraud; under his tongue is mischief and vanity."
see vs. 4 - The wicked is spoken of - "God is not in all his thoughts."

Psalm 17:3 - "Thou has proved mine heart...I purpose that my mouth will not transgress."