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# Developing Tomorrow's Missionaries

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## *Personal Skills: Communication Cues*

### OBJECTIVE:

To develop clear and effective communication skills.

### DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY:

1. With your mentor, choose a movie. As you watch the film, carefully observe how the characters communicate with each other. Watch for both verbal and non-verbal communication such as hand gestures or posture. Did anyone misunderstand someone else because of a lack of communication? What happens when someone didn't have all the necessary information to evaluate a situation?
2. Take notes while you're watching the movie to help you remember examples of good and poor communication.
3. Find quotes in various resources, such as textbooks and magazines emphasizing communication skills. This can help you learn basic communication skills. For example: many people jump to conclusions rather than listen to others; conversation can be confusing when a statement is made, or heard, out of context. For words with multiple definitions, it may be easy to interpret its meanings incorrectly.
4. Explain some of the communication techniques you found in the movie clips to your mentor. Discuss how the characters are communicating and how they are being understood. Have at least one good example and one bad example.
5. Think about how you communicate with your friends. How do they understand you? Tell your mentor about a time when you have been misunderstood? What were the circumstances? How could you have been a better communicator?

