

## CREATIVE COMMUNICATION WITHOUT BUSTING BUDGETS!

Colette Scharf

### COMMUNICATING IN TODAY'S WORLD

- Two out of three born again Christians (64%) accept Jesus Christ as their savior before their [18th birthday](#).<sup>1</sup>
- Two-thirds of households (67%) have Internet access at their home.<sup>2</sup>
- We've never had the opportunity to communicate around the world so inexpensively and so quickly. The claims of Christ can be spread quickly through the television, radio and the [Internet](#).<sup>3</sup>
- There is a need to keep current with today's web trends or risk getting [left behind](#) in communicating especially to our teens or pre-teens.
- My intention is to share with you fresh ideas on communicating in your ministry without busting your budget.

### PRAYER CHANGES EVERYTHING!

Luke 11:10 (NIV) "For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened."

Lucas 11:10 (Reina-Valera) "porque todo aquel que pide, recibe; y el que busca, halla; y al que llama, se le abrirá."

- With the changing culture, sometimes the needs of ministry can seem overwhelming. Prayer must be the power behind all we do in ministry. God will supply us what we need if we [depend on Him](#) and ask Him for what we need. Think big! He is able to use each of us in a mighty way!! Remember to take time to listen too ([story of my tech difficulties and how God spoke to me](#)).

### WORD OF GOD

Romans 10:17 (NKJV) "So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

Romanos 10:17 (Reina-Valera) "Así que la fe es por el oír, y el oír, por la palabra de Dios."

- Never underestimate the [power of speech](#). Our purpose is to share the Word of God. Faith will come by [hearing](#)!
- Take time in your lessons to discuss the Power of [Scripture](#).
- Make Scripture [memorization](#) a part of your regular routine and teach the children how to [apply Scripture](#) to everyday life.
- Teach them to know and to share the gospel by [reciting](#) Scripture.
- Supplement learning with making arts and crafts associated with Scripture.

### CHRISTIAN TEACHING RESOURCES

- The [internet](#) is a great way of finding resources for free or nearly free. Here are some sample websites that may be useful to your ministry. A word of caution: Check out new websites to verify its theology before downloading materials or sharing links. If you're not certain, ask a pastor in your church.

#### Christian Preschool Printables

[www.christianpreschoolprintables.com](http://www.christianpreschoolprintables.com)

- Bible Coloring Pages, Bible Verse Cards, Christian Lapbooks, Christian File Folder Games, Felt Board Sets, Finger Puppets, Sunday School Lessons and Homeschooling Curriculum, Bible ABC's and tons of fun Bible Activities and Bible Games.
- This site is added to daily!
- Mostly free - there are links in this website to product stores elsewhere (additional resources).
- Free newsletter!

#### Kids Explorers

[www.KidExplorers.com](http://www.KidExplorers.com)

- Offers biblical answers, stories, lessons, games, coloring, sounds and video in [your own language](#) with a variety of subjects from Genesis to Revelation.
- And it's free!!

#### Entre Niños

[www.entreninos.com](http://www.entreninos.com)

- Offers practical online teaching resources and products.
- Downloadable [electronic magazines](#) with helpful articles.
- Find news and information on upcoming Entre Niños Seminars and Conferences.
- Free resources are coming soon!

- Contact Entre Niños with your ministry needs and ideas.

## **BIBLE SEARCHES**

www.bible.com, www.biblos.com, www.biblegateway.com

- Save [time](#) by searching for passages or keywords and then copy and paste scriptures into your documents and presentations.
- [Accuracy](#) of punctuation.
- Simple to use.
- Multiple translations and languages.

## **AUDIO VISUAL PRESENTATIONS IN POWERPOINT**

- PowerPoint is a program that most people have that can offer a variety of effects with different [templates](#).
- Add image, video, animation and sound files into a PowerPoint document.

### **Quick pointers when designing in PowerPoint:**

- Keep your PowerPoint file [small](#) in size.
  - Import small jpg files (52 KB) and reuse the same images if possible. PowerPoint will have only one reference to any image (smaller data) for multiple use of the same image.
  - Compress larger images by right clicking and changing the resolution to screen.
  - Occasionally, do a "Save As" (new document name). This will discard unnecessary data.
- Eliminate font [replacement](#). Sometimes, you design a presentation on one computer and you present it on another. Then you notice that the fonts have changed and everything looks out of place. This is because the same font aren't available on the new computer, and PowerPoint replaces it with a font that the computer has available. Design with Tahoma, Arial, Verdana, Impact, Trebuchet, Lucinda or Comic Sans Serif fonts. These are universal fonts (they're installed on every computer), and they are easiest to read from a projector.
- For easy reading, place a maximum of 5 - 7 lines per slide.

### **Digital Photos and Clip Art Resources**

Microsoft Clip Art, www.designpics.com, www.istock.com

- Wonderful printable resources for free or reasonable rates.
- To access the Microsoft Clip Art Gallery, open a Word or PowerPoint document and click Insert>Picture>Clip Art>Online. There you can search for images and download images into a Favorite Gallery linked to Word and PowerPoint. There are two steps to using free Microsoft Clip Art:
  - One - Search and download your images into your Favorite Gallery.
  - Two - Once the images have been collected into your Favorites Gallery, you can use them by clicking on each image to import it into your document.
  - Same basic steps apply if using animation or sound files through Microsoft.
  - The benefit of using these images is that they are [formatted](#) for your specific document type and won't give [problems](#) during usage.
  - Some images from Microsoft Clip Art Gallery are linked to iStock. You can purchase them high resolution through iStock (for printing posters, brochure etc.), but can use them for free as low resolution images through Microsoft.
- Membership is required for Design Pics and iStock Photo.

### **CCLI - Christian Copyright Licensing International**

www.ccli.com/usa

- You must have a license to use song lyrics in any presentation, because [credit](#) must be given to the artist. Your ministry should be covered under your Church's license.
- When you have a license, companies which have Spanish albums are covered in their ENTIRETY by CCLI regardless of whether or not a particular song is findable using SongSelect. If a company is listed on CCLI's catalog list, the song is COVERED therefore you could translate the English song into Spanish and use it.
- Suggested Companies: Hillsong, Integrity! Hosanna, Vineyard, PDI Music, Marcos Witt and Songs4Worship.

## **AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE**

- ASL is a way to expand communication to the [hearing impaired](#). Families will seek your church ministry to have their children included in this powerful form of expression. It also gives a new way for children to worship through [movement](#).

I recommend that one person in every ministry is taught in ASL to [lead](#) and [equip](#) others.

## LifePrint - Sign Language Resources

www.lifeprint.com (images and instructions are taken from www.lifeprint.com)

- These samples of signs are given to you in hopes of implementing them into your ministry. Please check out this website and find additional signs to put together your [favorite](#) worship songs.



### Jesus:

Touch the tip of the middle finger of your dominant hand into the center of the palm of your non-dominant hand. Then touch the tip of the middle finger of your non-dominant hand into the palm of your dominant hand.

Memory aide: think of the nails through His palms while on the cross.

### God:



### Shine/Radiate/Sparkle:

In this sign you use your straight middle fingers (bent forward at the large knuckle) to represent rays of light reflecting off of something shiny.



### Thank You:

The sign for “thank you” is made by touching your lips with the front of the fingers of your right hand. Your hand should be an “open-b.” Move your hand away from your face, palms upward. Smile.



### Love/Good:

Made by crossing both hands over your heart. Your palms should face toward you.

## Harris Communications

www.harriscomm.com

- Offers a variety of books and DVDs including Sign Language [Praise Songs](#) for Children I & II (DVD)

## WORLD WIDE WEB

### Godtube

www.godtube.com

- Videos
- Ministries
- [Prayer Wall](#)
- Bible
- Español

### Google

www.google.com

- Google Groups
  - Find a discussion or a group about your kind of [ministry](#).
  - Make a group of your own - just pick a name and start inviting members.
  - Groups can be either [private](#) or [public](#).
- Google Calendar
  - Create a calendar and invite others in your ministry to have access to it.
  - Great for networking and event planning or [ministry schedules](#).

- Google Earth
  - A great way to increase [mission's](#) awareness.
- Google Videos
  - Hillsong - Spanish (soberano)
  - Jaci Velazquez (De Creer En Ti)
- Google Docs
  - Create and [share your work](#) online.
  - Upload from and save to your desktop.
  - Edit anytime, from anywhere.
  - Pick who can access your documents.
  - Share changes in real time.
  - Files are stored [securely](#) online.
  - And it's free!!
- Google Translate
  - A very [powerful](#) tool.
  - Take ANY [website](#) or document and translate it into ANY [language](#).
- Google Sites - makes creating and sharing a group website [easy](#).
  - Single-click page creation.
  - No HTML required, so you don't need to be a [programmer](#)!
  - Customizable look and feel.
  - Settings for accessing and sharing information.
  - And it's free!

## Skype

www.skype.com

- Make free phone calls over the internet to other people on Skype for as long as you like, to wherever you like.
- You will need a set of headphones with a speaker and mic.
- And it's [free](#)!!

## CONCLUSION

Hopefully you can use one or more suggestions that I've presented today. Please contact me with any ministry needs and I will see if I can help or find someone to help. I welcome your comments and questions and desire to edify the church for Christ's glory.

## CONTACT INFO

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## REFERENCES

1. The Barna Group - [www.barna.org](http://www.barna.org) (under 'Evangelism').
2. The Barna Group - [www.barna.org](http://www.barna.org) (under 'Media and Technology').
3. [Ignite Your Passion For God](#) by Tom Phillips with Lisa Marzano.



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Do not be afraid.”  
Matthew 14:27b

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