



EXTRA TARGETS

1

To grow in theological knowledge.

PROVERBS 2:3-5

"If you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding; if you search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God."

EXTRA TARGETS

2

To grow in practical faith.

JAMES 2:26

"Faith without works is dead."

EGR TARGETS

3

To grow in self-mastery.

MATTHEW 7:5 (MSG)

"Take care of your own issues before you worry about dealing with someone else's."

"God uses ... afflictions as his chisel for sculpting our lives. Felt weakness deepens dependence on Christ for strength each day ... To live with your 'thorn' uncomplainingly is true sanctification."

J. I. PACKER

THE COLD SHOULDER

They become "busy" and can never connect

They avoid you like the plague

They punish with you silence, withdrawal and isolation

WEATHER PATTERNS OF
**THE COLD
SHOULDER**

*The Sudden Cold Snap:
inexplicably frosty*

*The Polar Ice Cap:
consistently cold*

God's Design for Humanity:
Community

Plurals are basic to everything God created; relational isolation was the first thing God didn't like:

GENESIS 2:18

"It's not good for man to be alone!"

Satan's Strategy: Separation

The devil distances people from God and from each another.

*Isolation is humanity's
Level 10 pain.*



"Always be humble, gentle, patient and make allowance for one another's faults because of your love. Make every effort to stay united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace."

EPHESIANS 4:2-3



UNDERSTANDING

THE COLD SHOULDER

They push you away in order to pull you in.

Their actions may exclude you yet their heart hopes you embrace them.



UNDERSTANDING

THE COLD SHOULDER

Behind their rejection exists a sense of remorse

In punishing you, they subconsciously punish themselves.

UNDERSTANDING
**THE COLD
SHOULDER**

Their pretense of
detachment masks the
pain of disappointment.

Hurt people hurt people.

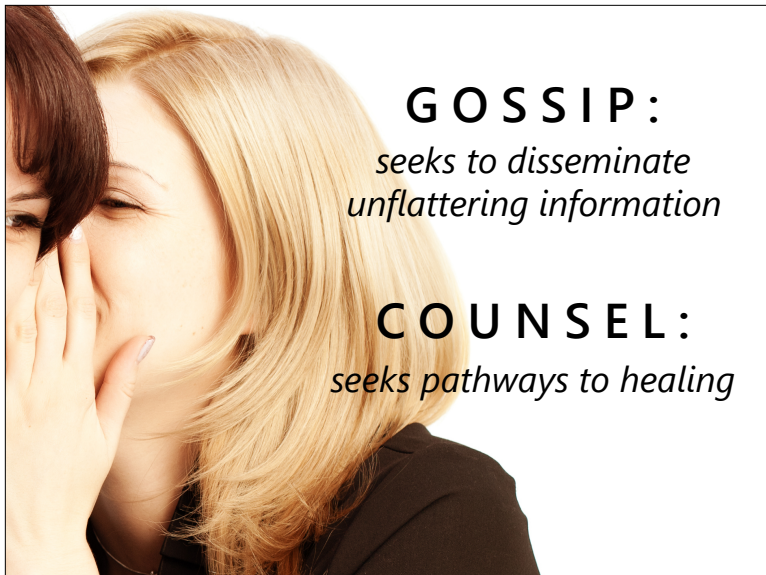


RELATING
DEEMPTIVELY WITH
A **COLD
SHOULDER**

- 1 Gain a third party
perspective.

*Get insight from a mutual friend—
but be careful not to gossip.*





GOSSIP:
*seeks to disseminate
unflattering information*

COUNSEL:
seeks pathways to healing

RELATING
DEEMPTIVELY WITH
A **COLD
SHOULDER**

2 **Reject isolation as
indictment.**

*If you mistake the "big chill" for a
personal vendetta, restoration
will be even harder.*

RELATING
DEEMPTIVELY WITH
A **COLD
SHOULDER**

3 **Honor their silence.**

*"If a place won't welcome you,
shake the dust of your feet when
you leave."*

MATTHEW 10:14

RELATING
DEEMPTIVELY WITH
A **COLD
SHOULDER**

4 **Extend incarnational
love.**

*"Make allowance for one another's
faults because of your love."*

EPHESIANS 4:2

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich."

2 CORINTHIANS 8:9

"When we were utterly helpless, Christ came at just the right time and died for us sinners...God showed his great love by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners."

ROMANS 5:6,8