



# PastorCare

West Michigan  
Helping Pastors Soar

May 2015

## We Praise God for Pastor / Elder / Entrepreneur Loren Nofsinger!

The Christian faith is all about relationships. Our relationship with God is at the center of our redeemed lives. Our relationship with other believers is at the center of the Body of Christ. Our relationship with people in the community and around the world is at the center of our effectiveness in sharing the Good News of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Each of those relationships will flourish or flounder in direct correlation to the effectiveness of our communication. It didn't take me long to discover the art of communication is far more complicated and difficult than I ever thought it would be. I have messed up the communication in everyone of my relationships, numerous times. Being connected and staying connected is vital to our physical, emotional, and spiritual health.



**Connecting people through better communication**

Loren Nofsinger has been trained with a communication assessment tool that has been very useful in bringing healthier communication into the staff and the congregation of The Point Church where he served as a staff pastor for several years, and he continues to serve there as an Elder. I am following a prompt from the Holy Spirit to feature Loren Nofsinger and Amica Communication in this Newsletter to bring awareness of this communication tool to pastors, church leaders, non-profit leaders, business leaders, and couples who want to strengthen their marriage.



*My first experience with the Kendal LIFE Languages™ was over five years ago as my wife and I attended a training session at a church in Indiana. We were going on a solicitation received via the mail that asserted this seminar would enhance our ability to communicate within our marriage. Since one of my tasks as a full time pastor at The Point church was to oversee marriage development and premarital instruction, I thought this could be worth our time. We went online and answered a series of obscure questions. We were armed with the results of these questions but had no clue as to their meaning. Over the course of the day, the instructor proceeded to tell us about ourselves with a surprising amount of accuracy. It was our first exposure to the LIFE Languages™ and we were intrigued. As a church we are committed to discipling, growing, and maturing our people in every way possible. We are always looking for ways to improve our individual walks with the Lord and our walk together.*

As we looked at options for improving our staff's cohesiveness and productivity I remembered our experience with LIFE Languages™. We found a trainer to come and teach an introductory seminar for our staff and do a group report on us. It, again, proved very helpful to us personally and we began to see its insights into us as a team. A few months later we called the trainer back in to do some reinforcing to the Languages. It was at this second exposure that the principles, techniques, and insights began to have real traction with us. We began to focus our communication to each other in a manner that suited the target of our communication. We began to realize the filters and communication needs of those with whom we were speaking.

Due to the success and excitement we were having with this communication tool we knew we needed share it beyond just the staff. We began to offer Introductory Seminars to the entire church. We have found that in the three years since we have begun that close to 80% of the church has completed at least one seminar. We require that certain teams take the Kendall LIFE Language Profile™, or KLLP, and attend an Introductory Seminar. These teams are our discipleship teams, mission trip teams, and serving teams. Myself and others use the Cross Ties/Cross Talks feature of the LIFE Languages™ in our premarital and marital counseling sessions. We put the couples' profiles next to each other and compare communication styles, side by side. It is a very visual and graphic display of the avenues of easy communication and the possible difficulties in other areas.

LIFE Languages™ has become engrained in our church culture. We like to say that it is a part of our DNA. A day doesn't go by that someone doesn't verbally acknowledge their awareness of the LIFE Languages™. I have seen the impact it has had on our staff, our teams, our marriages, and the development of our young people as they discover more about themselves. Three years ago I became a Certified Trainer for the LIFE Languages™ and have used that training primarily for the church at The Point. The success of this communication tool within the borders of my church has brought me to a place where I have started Amica Communication. My desire would be to see others enjoy this Bible based tool to enhance their gift of communication.



Since taking the Life Languages test, we have learned so much about how we communicate. The test didn't just teach us a lot about ourselves, but it actually confirmed things we knew, but weren't able to articulate. We really appreciated how our results didn't box us into a particular archetype like other personality tests, but it gave us a range of fluency in the various languages.

At The Point Church, it also helped us interact as a leadership team. Now we have many teams taking the test, and we've seen them grow in their communication skills as well.

Loren Nofsinger helped us to understand our results and how the different languages interact with each other.

We would suggest that everyone take the test, and have some training on what the results mean for your team. It's valuable for business, life, church—if you work with people, this will help you!

Josh & April Best

God has called us to live in communion with others. However, when there is a communication barrier, we often find ourselves challenged in how we relate with one another. In 2012, my husband and I took the **Life Languages** profile to help us better understand our personal communication style and how to improve our communication with one another.



Through further training with Loren Nofsinger, we grew to have a deeper understanding of our own life languages and how to improve our communication with others in Church life, our family as well as our places of employment. Along with a master's degree in education and over 20 years experience in working with children, **Life Languages** training helps me to facilitate stronger communication amongst my students, by understanding characteristics of various life languages.

As a husband, father, former teacher, business owner and pastor Loren has a wealth of experience in helping others relate with one another. He is committed to "connecting people through better communication". If you desire to strengthen relationships through more effective communication, contact Loren Nofsinger at Amica Communication ([www.amicacommunication.com](http://www.amicacommunication.com)).

Anita Flynn, M.Ed.



Jeff & Danette Johnson

*We have sat under the teachings of Loren and served alongside him in ministry for over 2 years. Loren has an amazing understanding of the Scriptures and possesses a great ability to integrate the Life Languages seminar into this broader biblical context. We have gained so much understanding through Loren's ability to communicate both the basics and nuances of the Life Languages tool. He has made his seminars informative but also practical and fun. We came away from his training not only with a deep understanding of the tool personally but also with practical ideas on how to implement it within the context of our own ministry. We have implemented the Life Language tool and many of Loren training techniques with our mission staff in Africa and have seen tremendous benefit to our work there. Thanks Loren!!*

*Several years ago we took our first LIFE Language test, what an eye-opening experience that was! Finding out how to communicate to each other better and what our stress points were was so helpful in our marriage. Then after taking the class with Loren to learn how all the different languages work together, how to better communicate to the students we house and people we have in our marriage classes was such an amazing thing to experience. We never understood why it was more difficult to communicate with some and easier with others and this class helped put that all into perspective!*

*We love Loren and appreciate his pastoral heart towards all people. He is easy to understand, so very willing to answer all our questions and has such a big heart towards people being able to communicate their "very best them". Loren has been a great friend for many years and we are so excited to see this journey God has called him on. Can't wait to see how many people will be blessed through LIFE Languages and getting to know Loren!*

Jeff and Gayle Kraft



*My name is Dr. Nathan A. Dixon, and I am a MOVER. Mover character qualities are courage, truthfulness, integrity, boldness, discernment, justice, and alertness. Because of this, when communicating with a Mover you need to get right down to business. Don't spend too much time on rapport. A Mover will get bored and disinterested quickly. Provide the bottom line benefits or consequences. Movers appreciate truthfulness so they can take the truth when you are talking to them. Be honest. Don't promise what you can't deliver. Your yes must be yes and your no must be no. Movers appreciate innovativeness and get excited at the thought of being involved in something new and cutting edge. Only 7% of the population speaks Mover as their primary language. Mover's passion is to innovate. Movers need from others action and congruency.*

*I first learned about LIFE Languages after joining The Point Church in November 2012.*

*Loren Nofsinger, an Elder at The Point Church and Communication consultant at Amica Communication, Caledonia, Michigan; does an excellent job teaching about LIFE Languages. LIFE Languages is a communicational tool that is diagnostic and prescriptive. It is diagnostic in that you learn about your own communication preferences, and it is prescriptive because it doesn't leave you there. It teaches you to reach to others who may have different communication preferences. My second language is Contemplator, which is very rare. You rarely see someone who is a Mover/Contemplator. I learned that although Mover is my first language, that more than likely I tend to communicate from my second language, contemplator, which for me, helped me to understand more fully, why I do many of the things that I do. It was like having an "ah-ha" moment.*

*Effective communication skills will improve your relationships, increase your income potential, and reduce your stress. In less than 20 minutes you will have the most comprehensive communication style analysis tool on the market today! While there are many assessments on the market, such as personality tests, skills analysis, temperament behavioral profiles, and interest profiles, as well as aptitude, EQ and IQ tests. Setting us apart from all other tests and profiles, the KLLP measures your communication style. You will not find a more comprehensive, accurate, and definitive communication style analysis tool as the Kendall Life Languages Profile (KLLP™)!*

*Loren Nofsinger does an excellent job, breaking LIFE Languages down for those who take The KLLP. The KLLP is easy to take and easy to use. You will have instant access to the results; a downloadable, printable PDF report jam-*

packed with over twenty pages of incredible, personal, and valuable information pertaining to your personal communication style! The KLLP is not a psychological profile! Unlike a psychological profile (Myers-Briggs, DISC, Strengths Finder, etc.), you will want to share your LIFE Languages profile with everyone you know! LIFE Languages are not labels. The KLLP offers an in-depth communication analysis and includes many other insightful tools that empower you to communicate most effectively from your personal profile and with the unique profiles of others.

The LIFE Languages have three categories, which are: Kinetic, Emotive, and Cognitive. Within the three categories are the 7 LIFE Languages - Mover, Doer, Influencer, Responder, Shaper, Producer, and Contemplator. People who speak kinetic languages, Mover and Doer, generally respond to life, people, stress, and values with actions, then with their heads or hearts. People who speak emotive languages, Influencer and Responder, generally respond to life, people, stress, and values first with their hearts, then with their heads and actions. Those who speak cognitive languages, Shaper, Producer, and Contemplator generally respond to life, people, stress, and values first with their heads, then with their hearts and actions. While it is often tempting to try and guess what your LIFE Languages profile may be, it is virtually impossible to accurately assess your LIFE Languages profile or that of anyone you may know. I strongly encourage you to contact Loren Nofsinger, and take the profile as soon as you can! Learn more by visiting Loren's website at <http://www.amicacommunication.com> or by contacting Loren personally at (616) 633-4954 or by email at [LOREN@AMICACOMMUNICATION.COM](mailto:LOREN@AMICACOMMUNICATION.COM). I guarantee you will not be sorry about it. Through LIFE Languages, Loren has taught me so much about who I am as a person, ministry leader, husband, and father. Give him a call... your LIFE depends on it! Shalom!



Andrew Smith & Elise LaPorte  
Wedding Date: June 7, 2015

*It was a real pleasure working with Loren, and with the Kendall LIFE Language Profile. My fiancée Elise and I really enjoyed the profile's accuracy and found it very insightful as to why we are the way we are. Over the ten years Elise and I have known each other, we have learned a lot about each other's communication and personality styles, but seeing it quantified, categorized and then explained, gave us sense of peace. Being able to give something a name is always reassuring because it means that we are not the only people who are like this, and it made us more confident that we can make our marriage strong and prosperous.*

*Our experience working with Loren was great too.*

*While we experienced the abridged version of the seminar, it was enough to help us identify what our strong points are as a couple and the areas where we will have challenges. He also helped us talk through some ways to meet in the middle on our differences in personality and communication. It was fun to go through all the different LIFE Languages and identify what to look for in their positive tendencies as well as how to identify and deal with negative tendencies of each LIFE Language. It was particularly fun for me because Loren and I shared our most common LIFE Language and could definitely see the similarities in our personalities. He is a very kind and understanding man and it was a pleasure to get to know him more, and for him to help us get to know ourselves better as well.*



If you have a heart for blessing and encouraging Pastors throughout West Michigan and beyond, we ask for your prayer support and your financial support. PastorCare is funded by gifts from people like you. Every contribution makes a difference! We are humbled by the way God chooses to work through our confidential coaching, encouragement, and words of affirmation to help pastors soar! I could never do it without the wisdom and encouragement I receive from my wife Sue.

Please make checks payable to: **PastorCare West Michigan**  
**1632 Waterbury Dr. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49508.**

**Online contributions** are made through **PayPal** on our website.

Dr. John and Sue Smith, Executive Director, PastorCare West Michigan

Mobile: 616-304-8543

Email: [jsmith@pastorcare.org](mailto:jsmith@pastorcare.org)

[www.pastorcarewm.org](http://www.pastorcarewm.org)