We live in a complicated world, full of complex relationships. It’s really, really easy to say or do the wrong thing. Happily God gives us quite detailed advice! Verse 19 points out that a servant might understand directions without actually following them. (Kids—and pets—have the same problem at times.) Words don’t always work. Sometimes messages must take on other forms! We have to frame our messages in a meaningful way so that we can have meaningful communication and good relationships with others. But there’s no doubt that most of our messages involve words. And the very next verse reminds us that we must choose them with great care. Hasty words indicate a lack of consideration and self control. God expects better! With His help, we can choose the right message, frame the correct words, and build wonderful relationships, as in verse 21. In Bible times people had family servants or slaves. But in some cases, affection and trust developed between master and servant, and the servant became heir. That’s real trust, coming from clear, consistent communication and self-control. Because as verse 22 imples, no one trusts an angry man. Anger and pride, as the thought continues in verse 23, do not help us develop good communication, trusting relationships, or any other positive things. Instead we see that humility, self control, and careful communication are necessary if we are going to properly connect with others. And if we’re to serve our purpose as God’s messengers, we’d better heed His advice on communication!

**Proverbs 29:19-23**

**A servant will not be corrected by words: for though he understand he will not answer.**

**Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? there is more hope of a fool than of him.**

**He that delicately bringeth up his servant from a child shall have him become his son at the length.**

**An angry man stirreth up strife, and a furious man aboundeth in transgression.**

**A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.**

**Glasswing Butterflies**

The fabulous glasswing butterfly lives in the tropical rainforests of Central and South America. In their adult form, glasswing butterflies are a little over an inch long with a wingspan of 2.2 to 2.4 inches. The glasswing is a migratory butterfly, traveling up to 12 miles per day at speeds of up to 8 miles per hour. Like other butterflies, glasswing butterflies feed mainly on flower nectar. But glasswing butterflies are partial to flower nectars containing various toxins. As a result, the butterflies are themselves distasteful to predators. In the highly competitive rainforest, however, it seems that this isn’t quite sufficient. So God gave the glasswings a unique ability to avoid attracting notice: transparent wings. It’s clear that the glasswing isn’t trying to draw attention! But the male of the species still needs to attract a mate. In order to do this, male glasswing butterflies send out specially coded chemical messages, using pheromones and tiny tufts of hair on their wings. These messages drift through the rainforest, generally ignored by all except the female glasswing butterflies. The chemical messages tell the females exactly how toxic their suitor might be. And the worse-tasting they are, the better mates they make! These butterflies are master communicators. Their humble, scented messages are precisely calculated to reach only their intended recipient. We need this precision in our own communication! Fortunately, we have the very best advice!

Amazon Prime

SuperNature: Wild Flyers

Season 1

Episode 3: “Crowded Skies”

Start: 17:16 (36:29 from End)

End: 19:35 (34:10 from End)