

Identifying Sources and Receptors

Guide: Jim Myers

This is the first exploration in a series we call *Acquiring Lives 1st Standards and Values*. It has taken over 30 years to acquire the information required to guide you on this exploration. Over those years, I was blessed to have **Dr. Ike Tennison** and **Rabbi Jeffrey Leynor** as members of **my Exploring Team**. Their knowledge and life experiences were invaluable.

A key factor in their decisions to Explore with me was a guideline I asked everyone I “studied the Bible with” to follow. Today, I call it the **BHC Primary Guideline**:

BHC Primary Guideline

***My Belief System will be
large enough to include all facts,
open enough to be
examined and questioned,
and flexible enough to change if
errors or new facts are discovered.***

I will refer to this guideline many times in our Explorations, so I am now asking you to agree to follow it in all BHC Explorations. If someone’s belief system is not large enough to include all facts, or not open enough to allow other explorers to examine or ask questions about it, or will not change when errors or new facts are discovered: (1) Why would they want to explore? (2) *They would disrupt the harmony of the team*

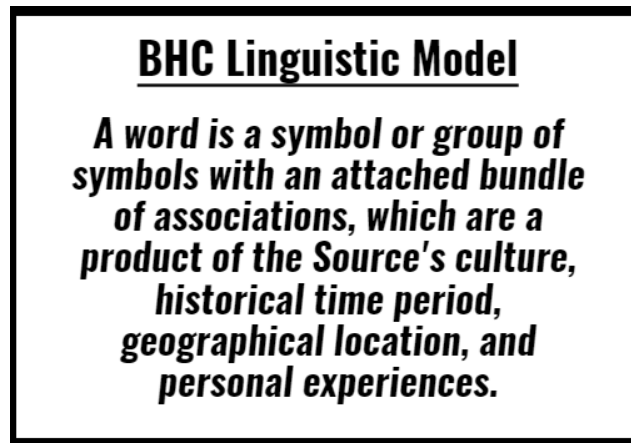
*The agreement to follow the BHC Primary Guideline
creates the safe and open environment required for Explorations.*

One of the most valuable benefits of participating in *Lives 1st Educational Network Opportunities* will be the **Lives 1st Values-Based Relationships** you will create with other Explorers. However, our research indicates that one of greatest threats to American families today are **“individuals who cannot clearly communicate standards and values they share with others.”** *The words we will explore have **polarized and divided people** for thousands of years. Without the safe open environment, our explorations would polarize and divide us!*

*“In the beginning **God**”*

BHC Exploration #1

The words above are from Genesis 1:1a. It contains one of the most powerful words in the English language – “**God**.” So, let’s Explore these words first! Below is the first **BHC Linguistic Model**. It explains “**how words work**.”



1. The word “**God**” is a group of **symbols** – **G** + **o** + **d**. The **symbols** are **letters of the English alphabet**.
2. A **Source**’s **bundle of associations** “**attach meanings**” to the **symbols**.

The next BHC Model is for understanding **Communication Experiences**.



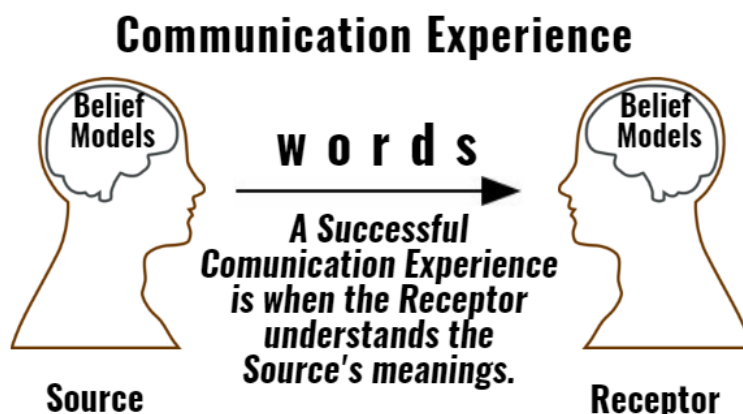
3. The **Source** is the **person writing or speaking** the words.
4. The **Receptor** is the **person reading or hearing** the words.
5. A “**Successful Communication Experience**” is achieved if the **Receptor** knows the **Source's meanings** of the words.

BHC Exploration #1

When the Source is The Bible

If the Source and the Receptor are in the same place at the same time, either one can ask the other what a word means. But the words of Genesis were written by a **Source** who lived around **450 BCE -- 2,474 years ago**. How do we discover the “meanings” of those words? This is the first question new Explorers always ask. But it is not the first question we will explore.

The **Source** of the words in Genesis isn't sitting at the table exploring with us, but all of us are **Receptors**. The **BHC Primary Guideline** gives everyone around the table permission to ask questions about belief systems.



Look at the **Communication Model** again. Each **Receptor** has his or her own “**bundles of associations**” (meanings) attached to the word “**God**” in Genesis 1:1a. The problem is that all “**bundles of associations**” are “**belief models**” that exist in “**neural networks of brains**” – *but we cannot see them!* **How can we examine belief models?** We **increase the transparency of belief models** by asking questions and anchoring answers to another very important **Exploring Model** called a timeline. At this moment, we have some dates to put on this timeline.

- 450 BCE date of the Source of Genesis.
- <Gap of 2,474 years>
- 2024 CE

Each Explorer creates his or her personal timeline. **The following information is understood to be confidential and not to be shared with the group,** unless an individual chooses to share it. Some questions will ask for **dates**, which can be added to an individual's timeline. Write down the answers and keep that page because you will need it to create your “**Personal Journey of Life.**”

BHC Exploration #1

1. What does the word "God" mean to you?

2. What is your date and place of birth?

3. Between birth and age 12 (puberty), the brain goes through automatic learning periods where specific systems in the brain literally absorb information. During this critical time period, who were the people they you spent a lot of time with (family members, family friends, teachers, fellow students, etc.) that may have been Sources of information about "God," and what did you learn from them"

4. Names of institutional Sources for information about God. What information did you acquire from them about God?

Concluding Remarks

You now have the basic skills to understand the mechanics of Communications Experiences. You have added new terms to your Explorers' Vocabulary. Share BHC Exploration #1 with others and find someone to Explore with.