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# Introduction

The best conversations are built on more than words. They rest on honesty, empathy, awareness, respect, and trust. The HEART ™ Communication Method is a simple tool to help you express yourself clearly while staying connected to others. Whether you're navigating a tough discussion or simply wanting to build stronger relationships, this framework can guide you through.



## The Heart <sup>TM</sup> Method



#### **HONESTY**

Speak your truth clearly and openly. Honesty creates a foundation for genuine connection.

Example: "I feel stretched thin right now, and I want to be upfront about what I can commit to."



#### **EMPATHY**

Seek to understand how the other person feels. Empathy softens tension and builds bridges.

Example: "I can see this deadline is weighing on you too, I get why it feels urgent."



#### **AWARENESS**

Stay present to your own emotions, body language, and triggers. Awareness helps you respond, not react.

Example: "I notice I'm getting defensive, so I'm taking a breath before I continue."



#### RESPECT

Honour both yourself and the other person. Respect means setting boundaries while valuing their perspective.

Example: "I hear your point, and I respect it. Here's where my boundary is..."



#### **TRUST**

Build reliability through consistency. Trust grows when words and actions align.

Example: "I'll follow up with you on Friday, as I promised."



### **WITH HEART**

Take a current or upcoming conversation and run it through the five steps:

1.	What do I need to be honest about?
2.	How can I show empathy here?
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3.	What am I aware of in myself right now?
<b>4.</b>	. How will I express respect in this conversation?
<b>5.</b>	What step can I take to build trust?

### Closing Note

The HEART Method is a tool to keep communication grounded, compassionate, and clear. Like any practice, it gets easier the more you use it. Start small—try it in everyday conversations—and notice how it shifts the way you connect.

#### Want to go deeper?

Explore The Inner Compass (group coaching) or The Inner Alignment (1:1 coaching) to build more tools like this into your everyday life.

