

## My Talking Computer!

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*by Wayne Goff*

For those who don't know, I own and use an iMac computer with a wireless keyboard and mouse. Well, this past week my computer let me know that I needed a software upgrade particular to the wireless keyboard. This software upgrade was needed to improve the relationship of my keyboard and mouse to the computer. "Fine!" I thought, and pressed the appropriate keys to initiate the upgrade. Of course, it needed to download the upgrade, restart my computer, and properly install the software and restart it again. "Fine" I thought to myself. As the computer went through the process, it solemnly warned me not to interfere with the computer in any way until it was done. So I sat there and watched my computer. As it neared the end, a statement appeared on my screen: "Communicating with device." It was then I realized my computer was talking with my wireless keyboard -- and I wasn't invited into the conversation! Here I sat, insulted by my own computer! Oh well, I am rather certain I wouldn't have understood the conversation anyway -- the realization of which didn't help my ego in the least.

But have you ever been left out of a conversation? You might be in a group and a couple starts discussing in detail some important matter between them, and there you sit, listening to the conversation, without being allowed in! Now there are numerous conversations that I have not wanted in on, but I've experienced a few like the one between my computer and the keyboard.

Just remember, brethren, when we are finished with worship on Sunday morning and you can't wait to get to your best friend to begin discussing something you need to tell them, that you should first stop and think: "Are there any visitors that I need to welcome first?" Because if everyone does what you are doing, then our visitors are going to feel left out, and they may not feel welcomed and wanted. It's not fun being left out. If you've ever visited a congregation elsewhere, then there is a very good chance that you were left out of some of their conversations. It didn't feel very well, did it? So take the lesson to heart and be sure to always show yourself to be as friendly as I know you are! (This lesson was brought to you by Apple Computers)

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