

An old saying reflects: "God gave us 2 ears and 1 mouth. Therefore, God must have intended us to listen twice as much as we talk."

In our 1st Reading from Sirach, we are informed that "An attentive ear is the joy of the wise." If we seek to be wise in living and in our relationships, having a ready ear to listen will serve us and others well.

There once appeared in the Bay City Times a column headlined "Really Listening to your Children Builds Strong Relationships." Wise parents know the secret skill of being attentive to what their kids say. The wise parent wants to listen.....is eager to listen to their precious gift from God---- their child or children.

In all of my years as a priest doing counseling I have often heard complaints about one or the other in a relationship talking too much. Never, ever, ever have I heard a word of complaint or criticism about an other listening too much.

Spouses, brothers and sisters, teachers and students, friends ---- all of us benefit from listening more than we speak.

This week call to mind people who have made a difference by listening to us. Thank God for them. Thank the person if possible.

Also, see how often this week we have an opportunity to listen to an other. Keep in mind the GOOD NEWS from Sirach: "An attentive ear is the joy of the wise."