WEEK 1

Slow to Speak

LISTENING



Have you ever been talking to someone who keeps **interrupting** you before you can finish a sentence?

Well, according to my wife, Donna, I'm **that guy**!

She tells me I'm constantly talking **over** her, interrupting her, and jumping into the conversation before she's finished what she's trying to say.

And you know what? **She's right!**

It's a habit I've struggled to break. Sometimes I'm so anxious to share what **I'm** thinking that I forget to listen to what **she's** saying!

Apparently, I've mastered the art of **answering** questions nobody has **finished asking**!

Unfortunately, I'm probably not the only one who struggles with this!

James 1:19 says, "So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath."

Notice the **order**!

Be **quick** to **listen** and **slow** to **speak**!

God gave us **two** ears and **one** mouth. Maybe there's a reason for that!

Listening isn't simply being **quiet** while someone else talks. It's genuinely paying attention and trying to **understand** what they're saying.

Sometimes people don't need our advice, opinions, or brilliant solutions.

They just need someone who **cares** enough to **listen**!

Here's your challenge this week: Make it your goal to become a **better listener**. When someone speaks, put down your phone, make eye contact, and let them **finish** before responding. Ask questions instead of assuming you already know what they're going to say.

And if you're like **me**, resist the urge to jump in with your next brilliant thought!

Remember, good communication isn't measured by how much you **talk**, but by how well you **listen**!

Sometimes the **wisest** thing you can **say** is **nothing at all**!