MLDP VALUE

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WEALTH INSIGHT #024

Listen Before You Reply

25 August 2026 | Leadership | 3 minutes

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Listen until the other person finishes. Reply only after you understand what they mean.

Ptahhotep | traditionally attributed

What does it mean?

The Teaching of Ptahhotep is an ancient Egyptian wisdom text. It presents careful listening as a basis for understanding and speaking wisely. Today's thought is a clear paraphrase of that idea.

When you reply too soon, you can miss important information. Listening fully shows respect and helps prevent misunderstandings. This makes conversations calmer and decisions better.

Put it into practice

01 Let one person finish speaking without interrupting.

02 Summarise their message in one sentence.

03 Ask whether you understood them correctly.

YOUR TASK FOR TODAY

Choose one conversation today. Listen for one minute, then summarise what you heard in one sentence.

YOUR QUESTION

Whom would you like to listen to more carefully today?

Idea based on Ptahhotep | traditionally attributed | Teaching of Ptahhotep, especially the passages on listening and interruption