How to Listen on the Right Wave Length
(The Listening Test)

He who answers before listening- that is his folly and his shame (Prov. 18:13)

I have no one else like him (Timothy), who takes a genuine interest in your welfare. For everyone looks out for his own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 2:20, 21)

1. __________________ - Speaking the truth in ________________ (Ephesians 4:15)
   1) Doesn't have to be Negative---- "It would ______________ me so much if.."
   2) In many marriages, At least ONE mate has NEVER BEEN honest.

2. Listening Test:

If I hear your ______________, (Mate’s name)
   1) What you are __________________ is ....
   2) The _______________ WHY you WANT TO DO this is ....
   3) Your _______________ are .... (Why you feel this way)

One of your TOP Passions may well be:
   " _______________."
   " _______________."
   “ _______________” or
   “ _______________”

• For all three the Listener needs to say “Is there ____________?”
• They may very often need to also say “Please ______________ me.”

3. LISTENING immediately ________ all arguments!
1. *The purposes of a man's heart are deep waters, but a man of understanding draws them out.* (Prov. 20:5)

2. *Gold there is, and rubies in abundance, but lips that speak knowledge are a rare jewel.* (Prov. 20:15)

3. *Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones.* (Prov. 16:24)

4. *The heart of the righteous weighs its answers, but the mouth of the wicked gushes evil.* (Prov. 15:28)

5. *A fool finds no pleasure in understanding but delights in airing his own opinions.* (Prov. 18:2)

6. *Every prudent man acts out of knowledge, but a fool exposes his folly.* (Prov. 13:16)

7. *The wisdom of the prudent is to give thought to their ways, but the folly of fools is deception.* (Prov. 14:8)

8. *Wisdom reposes in the heart of the discerning* (Prov. 14:33)

9. *The discerning heart seeks knowledge, but the mouth of a fool feeds on folly.* (Prov. 15:14)

10. *A man finds joy in giving an apt reply— and how good is a timely word!* (Prov. 15:23)

11. *The fear of the LORD teaches a man wisdom, and humility comes before honor.* (Prov. 15:33)

12. *Understanding is a fountain of life to those who have it, but folly brings punishment to fools.* (Prov. 16:22)

13. *By wisdom a house is built, and through understanding it is established; through knowledge its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures.* (Prov. 24:3,4)

14. *The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but a perverse tongue will be cut out.* (Prov. 10:31)

**Conclusion:**

Are you going to be a “________ of _________________” and draw out the deep waters of your mate’s heart?

**Couple Sharing**

1. Choose a troublesome area in your relationship where you feel that you are not completely understood or that causes friction over and over. Do the Listening Test on it THIS WEEK – set a time!

2. Read and discuss together how the 14 Proverbs relate to the Listening Test.