**Speech - Ponderings**

**For the Lord gives wisdom;**

**from his mouth come knowledge and understanding.**

***(Proverbs 2:6)***

**Pleasant words are as a honeycomb,**

**sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.**

***(Proverbs 16:24)***

**Let no evil talk come out of your mouths,**

**but only what is useful.**

***(Ephesians 4:29)***

**After all is said and done, more is said than done. *(The PassTime Paper)***

**Speak when you're angry, and you'll make the best speech you'll ever regret. *(Lawrence J. Peter)***

**Having been brought up by proper parents, I was told not to use bad words. But having gone through all I've been through, I realize that on occasion you can make a point by being earthy . . . Now and again, you need to say "stuff you" to indicate that you're not going to take any rubbish. *(Christine LaGarde, managing director of the International Monetary Fund, in Harvard Business Review)***

**Be a voice not an echo. *(The PassTime Paper)***

**Be careful of the words you say. And keep them soft and sweet. For you never know from 'day to day. Which ones you’ll have to eat. (Tidbits)**

**Speech is conveniently located midway between thought and action, where it often substitutes for both. (John Andrew Holmes, author)**

**Have you noticed the easiest way to stay awake during a speech is to deliver it? *(Thomas LaMance, in The Saturday Evening Post)***

**Everything becomes a little different as soon as it is spoken out loud. *(Hermann Hesse)***

**Examine what is said, not him who speaks. *(Arab proverb)***

**Speech, after all, is in some measure an expression of character, and flexibility in its use is a good way to tell your friends from the robots. *(Jacques Barzun)***

**No man ever made a great speech on a mean subject. *(Eugene V. Debs, American socialist leader)***

**My father gave me these hints on speech-making: "Be sincere . . . be brief . . . be seated." *(James Roosevelt)***

**If you have anything to tell me of importance, for God's sake begin at the end. (*Sara Jeannette Duncan, in The Imperialist)***

**To know how to say what others only know how to think is what makes men poets or sages; and to dare to say what others only dare to think makes men martyrs or reformers -- or both. *(Elizabeth Charles, British writer)***

**No one means all he says and yet very few say all they mean. *(Henry Adams)***

**Mincing your words makes it easier if you have to eat them later. *(Franklin P. Jones, in The Wall Street Journal)***

**One way of looking at speech is to say that it is a constant stratagem to cover nakedness. *(Harold Pinter)***

**Some people talk because they think sound is more manageable than silence. *(Margaret Halsey)***

**The trouble with people who don’t have much to say is that you have to listen so long to find out. *(Quoted by Ann Landers, Creators Syndicate)***

**The trouble with people who talk too fast is that they often say something they haven’t thought of yet. (Bits & Pieces)**

**The person who says "I won't say another word" always does. (Suzan L. Wiener)**

**Never say anything on the phone that you wouldn’t want your mother to hear at your trial. *(Sydney Biddle Barrows)***

**Public speaking is the art of diluting a two-minute idea with a two-hour vocabulary*. (Evan Esar)***

**Anyone who’s always raising the roof usually doesn’t have much in the attic. *(Mary Waldrip, in Dawson County, Georgia, Advertiser)***

**The recipe for a good speech includes some shortening. *(Gene Yasenak)***

**A sharp tongue sometimes cuts its own throat. *(Jim Scancarelli, Tribune Media Services)***

**The way this world works, people are very apt to use the words they speak not so much as a way of revealing but, rather, as a way of concealing who they really are and what they really think. That is why more than a few moments of silence with people we do not know well are apt to make us so tense and uneasy. Stripped of our verbal camouflage, we feel unarmed against the world and vulnerable, so we start babbling about anything just to keep the silence at bay. But if we can bear to let it be, silence, of course, can be communion at a very deep level indeed, and that half-hour of silence was precisely that, and perhaps that was the greatest part of it all. *(Frederick Buechner, in Contact magazine)***

**Speakers are like sunsets, more brilliant when they get down to earth. *(Moe Goldman, in Reader's Digest)***

**If anyone in your life talked to you the way you talk to yourself, you would have gotten rid of them a long time ago.  *(Mary, in Heartlines)***

**Think before you speak, but don’t speak all you think. (Submitted by Maida Villasenor, n Guideposts magazine)**

**The time to stop talking is when the other person nods his head affirmatively but says nothing. (Henry S. Haskins, in Meditations in Wall Street)  
  
 Don’t make use of another’s mouth unless it has been lent to you. *(Belgian proverb)***

**People have to talk about something just to keep their voice boxes in working order, so they'll have good voice boxes in case there's ever anything really meaningful to say. *(Kurt Vonnegut)***

**If I wasn’t talking, I wouldn’t know what to say. *(Chico Resch, New York Islander goaltender)***

**What use are words, when you want to say something really important? *(Ashleigh Brilliant, in Pot-Shots)***

**A speech is like a wheel -- the longer the spoke, the bigger the tire. *(Eunice Laughery)***

**Why is it that those who have something to say can’t say it, while those who have nothing to say keep saying it? *(Dr. Delia Sellers, in Abundant Living magazine)***

**It’s a wise person who knows the difference between free speech and cheap talk. *(Doug Larson, United Features Syndicate)***

**The world does not require so much to be informed as to be reminded. *(Hannah More)***

**You can tell more about a person by what he says about others than you can by what others say about him. *(Leo Aikman, newspaper columnist)***

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