

If you are wise

you will show yourself as a reservoir rather than as a canal. For a canal spreads abroad water as it receives it, but a reservoir waits until it is full before overflowing and so gives, without loss to itself, its superabundant water. Many are those who pour all forth before they are themselves filled; they are more prepared to speak than to hear, are quick to teach what they have not yet learned, and long to preside over others while they do not yet know how to govern themselves.

SAINT BERNARD OF CLAIRVAUX