

Silence And Speech

We live in a world of constant noise, constant speech. Sometimes we are called to speak. Sometimes we do not have the confidence to speak or have been silenced. Sometimes people cannot physically hear or speak but can communicate in a whole variety of other ways. Sometimes we are called to be silent or to listen to the silence of God or those around us. Sometimes we are called to make the space for God and others to speak.

We live in a world of constant noise

Constant speech

Constant demands to listen

Fighting to make ourselves heard

24/7 communications

e-mails

mobile phones

instant messenger

facebook

words

words

words

words

silence

[silence]

listen to God

listen to God's silence

listen to God's voice

silence

[silence]

What is it we really want to say?

Do we have the confidence to say what we really want to say?

Do we have the space to say what we really want to say?

Do we have the wisdom to be quiet and think what we really want to say?

Listening God

Forgive us when our voices have drowned out the voices of others

Forgive us when we have kept silent for fear of speaking out

Forgive us when our cultures and traditions have silenced those who most need to speak.

Listening God

Help us to find our voices and speak the wisdom that is in our hearts

Help us to raise our voices on behalf of those who cannot speak

Help us to make space so those who have been silenced may speak for themselves

In the name of the One who is called the Living Word.

