

Friends of Silence

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“Is there enough Silence for the Word to be heard?”

Warm Greetings, Dear Friends! The long, lazy, days of summer will soon be a bit shorter as the season turns and cooler weather arrives. As we return from vacation trips and arrive at these waning days of summer, our thoughts naturally turn again to our work in the world. “Work is love made visible,” according to Kahlil Gibran. Thinking of it in such a way changes everything! No matter what work we may do, whether it be lowly and menial or vitally important in the eyes of the world, how blessed and fulfilling it becomes when we are ever conscious that in the doing of it we are shining our love-light into the world. As we sit in the Silence, remembering that whatever we do is of God and God is always present in it, may we be blessed and in turn, bless the world with our contributions to the well-being of all.



To seek out beauty in our work is to make a pilgrimage of our labors, to understand that the consummation of work lies not only in what we have done, but who we have become while accomplishing the task.

~ David Whyte

Spirit and work are linked among indigenous people because human work is viewed as an intensification of the work that Spirit does in nature. . . . Individuals, as extensions of Spirit, come into the world with a purpose. At its core, the purpose of an individual is to bring beauty, harmony, and communion to earth.

~ from THE HEALING WISDOM OF AFRICA by Malidoma Some



Work offered with love
by a soul at peace
breaks through the darkness
so the light shines through:
One heart blessing all hearts.

~ from PEACE PLANET by Nan
Merrill and Barbara Taylor

I finally came to know that my work is God’s
work, unfinished by God because God meant it to
be finished by me.

~ from THERE IS A SEASON by Joan Chittister

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Our main task in life is to give
birth to ourselves, to become
what we potentially are.
~ Erich Fromm



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Visit our web site to find a place or event to visit: www.findthedevine.com

Locate events in your area: www.seekaretreat.com

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Time spent in holy solitude can silence the noisy world ever at work in our minds.

~ from LUMEN CHRISTI... HOLY WISDOM by Nan Merrill

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Friends of Silence

The environment which I feel to be the natural one, the situation which has been assigned to me as my fate, the things that happen to me day after day, the things that claim me day after day—these contain my essential task and such fulfillment of existence as is open to me . . . The Baal Shem teaches that no encounter with a being or a thing in the course of our life lacks a hidden significance. The people we live with or meet with, the animals that help us with our farm work, the soil we till, the materials we shape, the tools we use, they all contain a mysterious spiritual substance which depends on us for helping it towards its pure form, its perfection. If we neglect this spiritual substance sent across our path, if we think only in terms of momentary purposes, without developing a genuine relationship to the beings and things in whose life we ought to take part, as they in ours, then we shall ourselves be debarred from true fulfilled existence.

~ from THE WAY OF MAN by Martin Buber, as reprinted in AN ALMANAC FOR THE SOUL by Marv and Nancy Hiles

Leonardo da Vinci knew that God helps those who help themselves and that this could be hard work. The labor that brings us all good things is more than just our effort in the outer world—it is a reflection of our inner work and ethical awareness. Leonardo’s prayer illustrated this: “Thou, O God, dost sell unto us all good things at the price of labor.”

~ from DA VINCI DECODED by Michael J. Gelb

The great work of life is not to save the world but to attain God Realization which, by being in the process of doing so, you have a tremendously powerful and positive effect on the world condition and consciousness.

~ from BODY OF TIME, SOUL OF ETERNITY by Jerry Thomas



Selflessness gives one center.
Center creates order.
When there is order, there is little to do.

~ “37. Doing Little” in THE TAO OF LEADERSHIP by John Heider

Work of sight is done.
Now do heart work
on the pictures within you.
~ Rainer Maria Rilke

At the heart of silence is prayer.

At the heart of prayer is faith.

At the heart of faith is life.

At the heart of life is service.

~Mother Teresa



The goal of singing a song is not to reach the end as quickly as possible. It is a state of creating harmony, beauty, growth and understanding. The goal of work, as a sacred art, is to use the need for a product or service to develop the greatest possible power on the object, and the users. Sacred work puts the mind on service to the heart as well.

~ from SILENCE, SONG AND SHADOWS by Tom Bender

When we are willing to commit to 51% service to self and 48% to others, we have achieved a balance that allows us to be effective in life. Whether we have service-related jobs or volunteer makes no difference. The commitment to making our world a better place for everyone is the key to any job. On one level, we agree to be role models, and because of that devotion to being our personal best, we are forced to examine our personal integrity, our willingness to change and grow, and our commitment to doing what is needed when it is needed, serving with a peace-filled heart.

~ from DANCING THE DREAM by Jamie Sams

Dr. Torres had never seen teeth as bad as those he saw at La Mesa. “This stuff wasn’t in any of my books.” He noticed that the worst problems often belonged to the toughest men and women in the prison, and even the hardest cases cried when he showed them their new teeth in the mirror.

Some of the inmates he worked on still stay in touch with him. “They call me all the time and tell me, ‘Hey, I’m working over here, I’m working over there,’ ” he says. “The jobs are no big deal, but they’re working, which they couldn’t do before, because people didn’t accept them. Nobody except Mother Antonia cared for them.”

~ from PRISON ANGEL by Mary Jordan and Kevin Sullivan