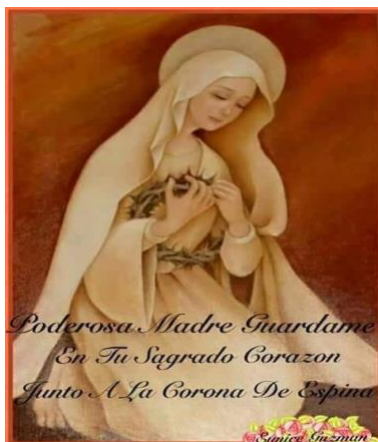


## FAITH, DO I BELIEVE? PART III

*Through the interior work of the heart in **silence**, our painful relationships enter into the embrace of God and become redemptive.*



### BE QUIET – SILENCE

And the LORD said to Isaiah, "Go forth to meet Ahaz... and say to him, **Take heed, be quiet, do not fear, and do not let your heart be faint.**

- From *Simple Path* – Silence 5-B, pp. 281-288
- #102 The Arms of Silence Embrace My Crucified Body, p.285
  1. *Silence allows you to embrace fully the sorrow of your heart. Silence allows you to enter fully the sorrow I am permitting in your heart. As you embrace this pain and suffering, you are embracing Me. (Our pain becomes the personal encounter with Christ) You are embracing My pain and suffering and thus entering My Heart, for My Heart is all pain and love. This is My Mercy.*
  2. *To come to know the love of your Beloved is to come to experience My sorrow. This is why My Mother is the Queen of Sorrows, for it is she who lived most perfectly consumed in My Heart. My little one, this union of sorrow, must move your heart to love all, by suffering with silence, peace, and abandonment for all your brothers and sisters.*
  3. *My sons and daughters, exteriorly smile and tend to the duties of your vocation with detail and love; but interiorly, through the arms of silence, live embracing your sorrows. In this way, you are embracing My crucified Body and soothing My*

*wounds. This is the life of love.*

Think of the top 3 paragraphs of #102 as **Three Works of Silence**:

1. *Silence allows you to embrace fully the sorrow of your heart. Silence allows you to enter fully the sorrow I am permitting in your heart.*

Silence and stillness of heart is needed to be attentive to what is in our hearts. This type of silence moves us into our hearts to be ATTENTIVE to what is taking place in our hearts during any trial, challenge or storm. The “work” of processing what is in our hearts with Christ in the light of the Holy Spirit is “hard work”, a work, that at times, can be emotionally draining; a work that requires grace to persevere, and also discipline to mortify ourselves in silence and stay focused to REMAIN in the embrace of the pure pain.

- #103, p.287  
***Mortify yourself in SILENCE... Allow SILENCE to become your most treasured companion...***

When we are shaken and enter a storm in our life we feel chaos. The chaos brings us into unsettled speech, reactions, and unsettled thoughts, therefore, we must tell ourselves, “BE QUIET!”

Usually the first and easiest emotion to get in touch with in our hearts is anger. For men, many times they remain in the anger because it is actually safer. To go deeper and become vulnerable and get in touch with the pain of an intense sorrow is very scary. The anger, resentment, revenge, hatred that each of us might be feeling is not from God, so if we remain in the anger, we are embracing Satan. We are embracing to remain in his oppression and darkness. This is why we must work through the anger and give it to the Lord especially with the help of spiritual accompaniment.

When we enter the pure pain of our deepest sorrows and embrace that pure pain, we are embracing the crucified Body of Christ because He is fully present in that pain.

2. *this union of sorrow, **must move your heart to love** all, by suffering with silence, peace, and abandonment for all your brothers and sisters.*

The silence our Lord teaches us is an interior action of our will that refocuses our pain and sorrow in Jesus. This state of silence is actually a verb. It is not a silence of nothingness, it is the **silence of intense love**—a love that participates in the love of God through the pearl of suffering. **This Divine Silence is profound work, interior work, hidden work, demanding work, selfless work, courageous work.** This state of silence is the “hidden force.” It is this type of silence that every MOC and MC must live and help one another enter and live, for it is here that we live our call to be God’s victims of love.

*this union of sorrow, must move your heart to love all*

Let us consider the parable of the good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-35). Fr Michael Gaitley in *33 Days to Merciful Love* explains it this way:

Mercy is when God doesn’t pass us as the priest and Levite but, rather, like the Samaritan, comes to us where we are, sees our weakness, brokenness, and misery and

then acts to heal us and bring us to a place of comfort and rest. In other words, mercy involves two things: the heart and the arms.

Jesus is the good Samaritan that is moved, because of His compassion, to come to me and pick me up and carry me in His arms even though I am filthy, broken, wounded. Jesus' pain and sorrow for the broken and wounded man lying on the side of the road, which represents each of us, brings Him to passionate love. A love that is able to move through the stench of our brokenness, through any repulsion to our distorted humanity to embrace us through His tenderness in mercy.

Many times, the person wounded on the side of the street is the person that hurts us the most; the person in our lives that is the most difficult to love. What I personally have had to deal with is that I am the Levite and priest that walks on the other side of the street and wants to separate myself from this broken soul. Here is where the Lord shows us that because He has picked us up and embraced us in His arms, we must do the same.

#88 p. 243

*The light of Jesus Christ is love that suffers for all and with all: Love in pain and sorrow, Love that enters into the brokenness of humanity and receives her brokenness into Himself to heal and restore her in God. Love receives her wounds and bears them upon His Body to heal her with the balm of His tenderness in mercy. This is the Light of the world. This is Love, the Word Incarnate.*

First, we must come to know and receive our own brokenness in Christ. Ann Voskamp said, "NEVER BE AFRAID OF BEING A BROKEN THING." Many of us suffer the disorder of perfectionism. At the root of this disorder is the lie that we have to do everything right and be successful in order to be loved. We do not permit ourselves to be broken and cannot accept ourselves in Christ as the broken human beings we are. The Simple Path begins by revealing to each of us our brokenness and woundedness.

**Humility is knowing that we are broken and living with our brokenness fully exposed to ourselves and Christ with perfect faith that God mends our broken hearts. Humility never hides our brokenness, but lives unveiled in the merciful love of God.**

It is only by living in peace and in the **embrace of our own brokenness in Christ**, that we can have the tenderness, patience and mercy of God to embrace the broken souls in our lives as our "Cristos Rotos" (broken Christs)

We can never separate our brokenness from the brokenness of humanity—our spouses, children, daughters-in-laws, sons-in-laws, grandchildren, mothers, fathers, superiors, friends, priests.... We must live in gratitude and the constant awareness of how our God loves us. (Mathew 18:21-19:1; forgive seventy-seven times) He is the "hidden force" for us to the Father. He sees and knows our brokenness, and in silence, in His hidden life in the Eucharist, He embraces our brokenness in His pierced Heart and cries for us to the Father, but to each of us, He reveals His tenderness in mercy. **It is in this knowledge of how our Lord loves us that we must love others. What heals a broken humanity is the embrace of God and the embrace of our Blessed Mother.**

This is how we are going to raise up a holy transformed priesthood:

Each of us know personally and encounter daily a man, woman or child that is deeply broken. These souls live in the pit of their wounds, but their pit is so deep that they are not able to get out. These souls are not able to do the work of the Path, and sometimes, even the best of psychology cannot heal them. Their personality disorders have created in them a totally false identity that they cannot remove. Most of us have someone in our lives that lives this level of brokenness, and sometimes can even be the “thorn in our flesh.” This level of brokenness is the brokenness that exists in the Church and it is only by embracing these broken souls, through the silence of the hidden martyrdom of the heart with Christ, that God WILL penetrate their darkness and raise a multitude of souls to new life.

For example, our mother, father, spouse, etc. are in a serious broken condition. If these broken souls are close to us, we are constantly being hurt by them, but we MUST move through the anger and resentment and get to the core of our pain, which is, these souls cannot love us the way we would like to be loved; these souls cannot love their families the way their families need to be loved. These are the bishops, cardinals, priests in the Church that cannot love as Christ loves. These are the souls the Lord is telling us to “embrace” through the pain they cause us.

The Lord tells us, “I need you.” Why does the Lord need us? Because in our hearts we carry the wound and the sin of these broken souls. Therefore, we have the power to bring, through the pain, their wound that is in us to Christ, and unite in the EMBRACE of suffering with Christ supplicating, “Father, save, deliver and heal them!”

We must let go of our control and expectations. Many times, what keeps us embracing our anger is that they are not performing or doing what we expect of them. But THEY CAN’T because these souls in our lives are broken. We must TRUST IN GOD!

**“Great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you desire.” (Mathew 15:28)**

**We must BELIEVE with perfect faith that our hidden lives of living in the silence of God’s embrace suffering with Christ the brokenness of souls in our lives, WILL bring to new life the dead souls; WILL raise up the “new Adams”; WILL usher in the new Pentecost; Will restore the broken souls.**

3. *through the arms of silence, live embracing your sorrows. In this way, you are embracing My crucified Body and soothing My wounds. This is the life of love.*

84. I Desire for You to Be My Companion, p. 236

*I desire for you to be My companion in this time of great suffering; to remain with Me... To collect My tears shed for all of humanity. You have been chosen to be ONE with Me, My consolation during these end times. This is your identity as a Mother of the Cross.*

I asked Jesus how to live as His companion of love.

*Be attentive to each person you encounter in your life. I live in them. I suffer for them and with them. “This is My Body” (Mt 35:31-41). My little one, have the docility of heart to*

*receive the brokenness of all people into your heart as ONE with Me. This is participation in the love of the Trinity: to receive the wounds of your brothers and sisters and to give the sacrifice of your life, as ONE with Me, for their salvation and sanctification. This is Love.*

The Church is going through its passion again and our Lord is suffering greatly. Just as He asked His three closest friends, Peter, James and John, to remain with Him, to suffer with Him, to participate with Him in His agony, He is asking us. Is it hard to remain in the embrace of our daily sorrows? Of course it is, our humanity wants to forget and get distracted, but we have been chosen by the Lord to be His companions and to REMAIN. Are we willing to receive the most broken souls in our lives, the ones that bring us to anger and even hatred, the ones that hurt us, and embrace them and tell the Lord, "I sacrifice my life as a victim soul for them"? This is love! This act of love, that most people will never see, is going to change the world!

#### Wrong Kind of Silence

- Silence of hiding/shame
- Silence of judging & condemning
- Silence as a reaction to fear

#### DO NOT FEAR

"There is no fear in love. But **perfect love drives out fear**, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love." 1 John 4:18

- **Be attentive to the fear in your heart.**
- **What am I scared of? Why am I scared?**
  - Path p450 Litany of Humility
  - Deliver me, Jesus.
  - From the fear of being humiliated...
  - From the fear of being despised...
  - From the fear of suffering rebukes...
  - From the fear of being calumniated...
  - From the fear of being forgotten...
  - From the fear of being ridiculed...
  - From the fear of being wrong...
  - From the fear of being suspected...
- **What are the lies Satan is speaking in my heart?**
- We need to **move through the fear with trust**. If not, the fear than controls us and paralyzes us.

*You must not fear and believe with the innocence and zeal of David. #148, p.437*

*Do not fear to speak the truth of the sin in the hearts of My people with courage and love and call them to repentance at My crucified feet. #155,p.442*

In Love Crucified the Missionaries of the Cross are called to be the embrace of the Father and the Mothers of the Cross the embrace of the Blessed Mother. It is in this profound work of

silence, embracing souls in our hearts as one with Jesus and Mary, that love will triumph. The EMBRACE OF LOVE is what heals humanity and has healed all of us.