

Chapter 1 : Silence | Definition of Silence by Merriam-Webster

In silence, you become aware that you have the freedom and power to choose the types of thoughts you wish to entertain and empower, and the thoughts you wish to ignore and diffuse. There will also come a day when there is only silence and stillness, and that is all.

Blog home Expert View The meaning of silence in different cultures The meaning of silence in different cultures By Sue Bryant 8th August Silence is golden, as the saying goes. But silence has many meanings in intercultural communication. Silence can be used to intimidate; or to save face; to show respect; or it can simply suggest that the other person is relaxed enough in your company to enjoy a quiet moment. Misinterpreting the meaning of silence in different cultures, though, and you could be on your way to losing an important business deal. The usual preparations were generally in place, updates and agendas circulated ahead of time. Towards the end of the call, my American colleague, keen to chalk up some action points, would then pose direct questions around timing and commitment to his Japanese colleagues. They were completely silent. What followed after that point always made me feel uncomfortable, not just because of the general awkwardness, but because I knew that my colleague was taking this silence as acceptance to our proposal. Because of this misunderstanding, the project took six months longer than anticipated and the compromises were significant. The key to successful communication, though, is to understand what it means to others. If a person asks a question, it is polite to consider your answer rather than simply blurting something out. Silence can also be a last resort, as in the case above, exacerbated when the parties are not face-to-face and nobody can read body language. Saying nothing is better than offending the other side, which would cause both parties to lose face. Silence as a weapon Keeping quiet may also be used as a weapon by canny negotiators, who know that certain cultures, North Americans in particular, are used to filling every gap in conversation with talk and will be unnerved by the other side falling quiet. Respecting silence is a sign of respect Silence could be a hierarchical issue in a cross cultural meeting. In countries where the highest-ranking member of the team is the spokesperson and the others are there simply to provide context again, Asian cultures, and some Latin and Arab countries , relatively senior executives could sit quietly as a sign of respect for their leader. Or silence could be a simple case of the person having to speak in another language, and taking their time to formulate a reply. The worst thing you can do is jump in with another question to fill the void. As such, silence implies thought, or thinking up an answer to a question with suitable gravitas. Silence in a meeting would be uncomfortable and awkward. Rounding up There is no right or wrong way to use silence. The key to successful communication, is to understand what it means to others. Do cultural differences impact productivity within your organisation? Get all of our articles and blogs delivered straight to your inbox by subscribing to our weekly newsletter series. You can look forward to receiving:

Chapter 2 : Silence - Wikipedia

This 'significance of silence' reflected our strong concern for Evangelical unity in the gospel." 1 Because many today misunderstand the expression "significance of silence," another way to refer to this commitment is "unity in essentials, dialogue in differences."

Having performed together previously under the name Tom and Jerry in the late s, their partnership had since dissolved when they began attending college. Many believe that the song commented on the John F. Kennedy assassination , as the song was released three months after the assassination. And I was always happy doing that. I used to go off in the bathroom, because the bathroom had tiles, so it was a slight echo chamber. Dave Van Ronk , a folk singer, was at the performances, and noted that several in the audience regarded their music as a joke. Simon plays a guitar with a capo on the sixth fret, using the shapes for Am, G, F and C chords. Wednesday Morning, 3 A. He phoned the home office in New York, alerting them of its appeal. Tambourine Man " also a Dylan song charting high. In the fall of , Simon was in Denmark, performing at small clubs, and picked up a copy of Billboard , as he had routinely done for several years. The former was No. The latter held the top spot for the weeks of January 8, 15, and 29, and was No. Overall, "The Sound of Silence" spent 14 weeks on the Billboard chart. He later described his experiences learning the song went to No. We were in L. Our manager called us at the hotel we were staying at. We were both in the same room. We must have bunked in the same room in those days. I picked up the phone. Next week you will go from five to one in Billboard. I remember pulling open the curtains and letting the brilliant sun come into this very red room, and then ordering room service. The song is now considered "the quintessential folk rock release". However, they eventually concluded that an adequate substitute could not be found and decided to purchase the rights for the song for the soundtrack. This was an unusual decision for the time, as the song had charted over a year earlier and recycling established music for film was not commonly done. With the practice of using well-known songs for films becoming commonplace, "The Sound of Silence" has since been used for other films, such as Kingpin , Old School , Bobby , Watchmen , and Trolls In , the web series How It Should Have Ended released a parody of the song entitled "The Sound of Violence" which discusses the endeavors of Batman , pointing out some of the various events which have occurred in films based on the superhero. Charts and certifications[edit].

Chapter 3 : Why Do We Adhere to the "Significance of Silence"? | EFCA

oyez - Meaning a call for silence and attention, it descends from Anglo-Norman *oyez/oiez*, "to hear" or "hear ye." *silential* - Describing something performed in silence. *omerta* - The code of silence in the Mafia, from the Italian word for "humility."

In danger[edit] Joseph Jordania has suggested that in social animals including humans , silence can be a sign of danger. Many social animals produce seemingly haphazard sounds which are known as contact calls. Some social animal species communicate the signal of potential danger by stopping contact calls and freezing, without the use of alarm calls , through silence. Charles Darwin wrote about this in relation with wild horse and cattle. This may help explain why lone humans in relative sonic isolation feel a sense of comfort from humming, whistling, talking to themselves, or having the TV or radio on. Vow of silence and Monastic silence "Silence" in spirituality is often a metaphor for inner stillness. A silent mind, freed from the onslaught of thoughts and thought patterns, is both a goal and an important step in spiritual development. In Christianity, there is the silence of contemplative prayer such as centering prayer and Christian meditation ; in Islam, there are the wisdom writings of the Sufis who insist on the importance of finding silence within. In Buddhism , the descriptions of silence and allowing the mind to become silent are implied as a feature of spiritual enlightenment. In Hinduism, including the teachings of Advaita Vedanta and the many paths of yoga, teachers insist on the importance of silence, Mauna , for inner growth. Perkey Avot, the Jewish Sages guide for living, states that, "Tradition is a safety fence to Torah, tithing a safety fence to wealth, vows a safety fence for abstinence; a safety fence for wisdom Moment of silence Soldiers bow their heads during a moment of silence before going on a commemorative march on Forward Operating Base Warrior , Kirkuk , Iraq , Sept. The march gave Soldiers the opportunity to reflect on the tragedy that happened eight years prior. A common way to remember a tragic incident and to remember the victims or casualties of such an event is a commemorative moment of silence. In debate[edit] Argumentative silence is the rhetorical practice of saying nothing when an opponent in a debate expects something to be said. Poorly executed, it can be offensive, like refusing to answer a direct question. However, well-timed silence can throw an opponent off and give the debater the upper hand. An argument from silence Latin: In general, *ex silentio* refers to the claim that the absence of something demonstrates the proof of a proposition. In law[edit] The right to silence is a legal protection enjoyed by people undergoing police interrogation or trial in certain countries. The law is either explicit or recognized in many legal systems. In art, entertainment, and media[edit] Film[edit] The documentary film *In Pursuit of Silence* portrays the spiritual and physical benefits of silence, as well as the price paid individually and collectively for a noisy world. Rest music Music inherently depends on silence, in some form or another, to distinguish other periods of sound and allow dynamics , melodies , and rhythms to have greater impact. For example, most music scores feature rests , which denote periods of silence. In addition, silence in music can be seen as a time for contemplation. The audience feels the effects of the previous notes and melodies, and can intentionally reflect on what they have heard. Silence does not hinder musical excellence but can enhance the sounds of instruments and vocals within a given musical composition. After the pause, the music continues to the words: Cutter Problems playing this file? The closing bars of String Quartet in E flat, Op. He cites the start of the second movement of the Ninth Symphony , where the silences contribute to a powerful sense of propulsion: The substitution of such a note by a whole-bar rest therefore gives the effect of a suppressed sound, as if one were about to speak but then refrains at the last moment. Wagner, Prelude to Tristan and Isolde, opening bars. In the spirited and energetic finale of his Symphony No. Eric Walter White , p. Woodwinds jump, growl and shriek. Eight solemn bell strokes echo and die. This is music of the high hills, music for vast spaces: We can feel the awe and the majesty of the High Alps and the great churches. The instrumental sounds are vast the silences are deep. The words of St John are alive in the music, and through these sounds Messiaen reveals himself and his vision. Though first performed on the piano , the piece was composed for any instrument or instruments and is structured in three movements. The length of each movement is not fixed by the composer, but the total length of the combination of three movements is. The

score instructs the performers to remain silent throughout the piece. A frequently used effect, known as "stop-time", places silences at moments where listeners or dancers might expect a strong beat, contributing to the syncopation. Keith Swanwick, p. The beat goes on but the sound stops. The effect is something like being thrown forward when a car stops suddenly. It is the biggest surprise in an engaging piece of music full of little deviations syncopations from the repeated beat. The reggae band Black Slate had a hit in with the song Amigo. The instrumental introduction features sudden silences before the voice enters.

Chapter 4 : The Significance of Silence (Unity in Essentials, Dialogue in Differences) | Strands of Thought

A few months ago I wrote about the impact of noise - the constant din of traffic, flight patterns, crowds, etc. that we generally live with these days. Whether it's an increased risk of cardiovascular disease or a decreased sense of mental well-being, we all pay a price for civilization's.

Greg Strand March 19, In the Evangelical Free Church of America, we focus on the essential truth of the gospel of Jesus Christ while allowing differing understandings of some doctrines within certain theological parameters. For example, we do not require agreement regarding the age of the universe, time and mode of baptism and whether faith precedes regeneration or regeneration precedes faith the Arminian and Calvinist discussion. How can we say anything in the Bible is a nonessential or a minor? That is a good question, but it is not the claim being made. Tweet We are not necessarily beholden to the words, as they change meaning over time. However, we are committed to the content and meaning of what those words convey. We must remember that although words pick up meanings over time i. We want to be aware of changing meanings and nuances of words while retaining the content and significance of what those words mean. Affirming our doctrinal truth, as articulated in our Statement of Faith, and living it out as articulated above is one of the distinctive and unique marks of the EFCA. This is pivotal to understanding why the EFCA undertook the unusual process of revising its Statement of Faith, beginning in and culminating in There have been times when Arminianism was more prevalent and times when that was true of Calvinism. Lutheranism is also an influential part of our heritage, although it is not often explicitly acknowledged or discussed when addressing soteriology. In this last stage, when cooler heads and warmer hearts prevailed, Olson considered to be the time prior to the conferenceâ€”at which the EFCA was birthed out of the merger of the Norwegian-Danish Evangelical Free Church Association and the Swedish Evangelical Free Church Association. About these two soteriological doctrines, Olson added: It is only in a strict adherence to this principle of freedom, respect for the views of others, and restraint in teaching one view as though it is the official view of the denomination when it is actually silent on the subject, that this unity can be maintained. We must recognize that while some may be Arminians, others Calvinists, others deploring the use of such names, none are heretics! Tweet This emphasis on, and commitment to, biblical truth, along with freedom, respect, restraint and unity, was the ethos of the merger work at that conference. However, the Statement of Faith crafted at that merger conference still leaned toward Arminianism. As a result, in , the EFCA Spiritual Heritage Committee began exploring how to better focus on the key truths of soteriology without making an explicit statement in the Arminian or Calvinist direction. One significant change addressed soteriology: We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, and during this age to convict men of sin, regenerate the unbelieving sinner, indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for godly living and service. Compare that to what was then affirmed: Evangelical Free Church of America 4. We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, and during this age to convict men, regenerate the believing sinner, indwell, guide, instruct, and empower the believer for godly living and service. I actually find nothing in EFCA history that explains this significant change. While working through three draft revisions of the EFCA SOF between and , the Spiritual Heritage Committee asked whether the goal of the original framers had been accomplished in the version. If not, could new wording be crafted to match the original intent? The committee concluded it could be and ought to be stated in a better way to affirm similar truths of both theological views without mandating or requiring either. On the doctrine of soteriology, the EFCA movement desired to be sensitive and welcoming to Calvinists, Lutherans and Arminians, without mandating or excluding one theological view or the other. The Holy Spirit 6. He convicts the world of its guilt. He regenerates sinners, and in Him they are baptized into union with Christ and adopted as heirs in the family of God. He also indwells, illuminates, guides, equips and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service. Often, when a denomination revises its SOF, the new version is more theologically liberal and less rigorous biblically. And we did so by affirming the Bible as the norming norm the absolute authority and our SOF as the statement that is normed by the Scriptures. We also included biblical teachings in our revised SOF that were not included in the versionâ€”not because they were

not believed in but rather because they were not being discussed or denied among Christians or the broader culture at the time. That aligns with one of the purposes of a Statement of Faith: Thus, SOFs should regularly be reviewed and occasionally be revised, so that our faith can be affirmed in the present day. A closer look at what could, but need not, divide Historically, denominations have been created with a specific theological understanding of soteriology. Discussion has often led to division, not only between denominations but also within denominations, and even within local churches. There is a place for these discussions and differences, but will they inevitably lead to divisions? This is the significance of silence: We will debate an issue but we will not divide over it. We attempt to focus on the essentials of the doctrine of salvation while granting freedom of understanding. And we do this together in the same denomination and even within the same local church. It is truly a manifestation of our unity in the gospel of Jesus Christ Ephesians 2: How then are these areas of freedom delineated? The soteriological essential is this: We are saved by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone to the glory of God alone. This Reformation principle affirms in summary form some key biblical truths. But does faith precede regeneration or does regeneration precede faith? Does one believe and is then regenerated? Or is one regenerated and then believes? However, some expound this through effective grace while the others do so through prevenient grace. Evangelicals from these various theological traditions repudiate Pelagianism and semi-Pelagianism. Baptism serves as another example of where we believe disagreement can lead to discussion rather than division. Again, I refer to Evangelical Convictions: We allow different interpretations, not because we think Scripture is intrinsically ambiguous on the matter, nor because we think Scripture provides so little information that it is unwise to hold any opinion, but because some of us think the credobaptist position is in line with Scripture and that the paedobaptist position is mistaken, and some think the paedobaptist position is in line with Scripture and that the exclusively credobaptist position is mistaken. However, we do not believe that our differing views on this matter among others should prevent our unity in the gospel in full local church fellowship. This is precisely the sort of robust dialogue that ought to occur in the EFCA. Our goal is to present various views in an irenic and constructive manner so that we can instruct and inform of the positions. We desire that people have an accurate understanding of the various views, rather than misunderstanding and mischaracterization. We in the EFCA live and minister together in unity in the gospel of Jesus Christ while allowing various positions on the specifics of doctrines, such as salvation and baptism. We desire to highlight the places where there is unity in the essentials. And where there are differences, we choose not to ignore or conceal them but model how discussions can take place. If this is the case, then what are the parameters within which we live and minister together? Let me name a few: In any conversation, my general pastoral commitment is to help those with another view know and understand it even better. Then, I desire to model for them what it looks like to hold a position and to preach and teach it, even passionately but do so in a respectful manner. It was a way the board sought intentionally to value and safeguard the vital role of the Bible, theology and doctrine in the EFCA. In , we conducted that initial doctrinal survey. The survey was sent to 1, individuals, with 1, respondingâ€™a statistically significant This tells us that doctrine matters to the EFCA. We believe the gospel is both foundational to and yet also supersedes our theological views or preferences. The Spiritual Heritage Committee, under the authority of the Board of Directors, will conduct the next five-year doctrinal survey in late Additionally, the committee is working on a new book, Evangelical Unity, which will address these issues and serve as a companion to Evangelical Convictions Our aim is to set forth guidelines for distinguishing and delineating between essentials and nonessentials of the faith or doctrine. We will then apply these to numerous doctrinal matters in our Statement of Faith in light of the pressing issues in our present day. Our aim is that it would honor and glorify the Lord and edify and nourish the people of God. A helpful summary We affirm the following truths and commitments: The gospel is central and essential to who we are as the people of God and what we believe. We are committed to the essentials of the gospel in principle and practice, in belief and behavior, in orthodoxy and orthopraxy. We acknowledge that there are differences in theological views what we would consider nonessentials , but they are secondary and ought not to distract from or prevent our shared commitment to the gospel and a ministry of the gospel. We are committed to the essentials of the gospel of Jesus Christ and we acknowledge differences, although we do not believe these

differences are absolute, either as they relate to unity or purity doctrine. From the foundation of the essentials we will engage in robust dialogue regarding the differences, without dividing. We deny that this commitment means we cannot embrace and teach our views strongly and with conviction, nor discuss the differences that exist between views. We deny that we are not allowed to talk about either our own theological views or the differences that exist between views. We deny that this is a lowest-common-denominator theology that values unity at the expense of doctrine. We deny that we as believers cannot affirm a position but must meld them all together in which everyone feels theologically compromised. We deny that the EFCA expects the local church to reflect in practice what the EFCA states as an overall principle—“with each church equally representing each view and not allowing a voice from the other perspective to be heard. In sum, we in the EFCA are tethered to the text and grounded in the gospel. We are also committed to unity in the essentials of the gospel and dialogue in differences. This does not make them unimportant but rather of secondary importance to the gospel, which we affirm in our proclamation and manifest in our life together. Some only experience this sort of life together in the gospel as they attend conferences. Do you have personal examples of ministering in its reality? Is it time to update this term for greater understanding? Do you consider this position a strength of the EFCA? President Olson had earlier written *The Significance of Silence*, where he focused on four key doctrinal issues: Today, other topics would be added to this conversation, such as age of the universe and miraculous gifts.

Chapter 5 : The Sounds of Silence by Simon and Garfunkel: Meaning, Ideas and Insights

First Known Use of silence. Noun. 13th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1. Verb. , in the meaning defined at sense 1. History and Etymology for silence.

Those present during the merger and that generation knew its importance and were committed to ensuring that remained one of the distinctives of the EFCA. With the passing of time, however, the original meaning has been lost and its meaning obscured. In fact, for many the expression entails something negative, a least common denominator sort of theology, or a singular commitment to unity, but at the expense of doctrine or purity. This is contrary to what is meant by the expression. This expression reflects our commitment to the gospel of Jesus Christ in doctrine purity and practice unity. With the gospel as the foundation and frame, we are committed to partner with any and all who share that same commitment to the essentials of the gospel, while acknowledging the differences on matters of non-essentials. This misunderstanding occurred again when I explained the title, theme and focus on our upcoming Theology Preconference. Furthermore, the person concluded, to remain silent in these matters is to act functionally as if there really are no differences. But this is not the way the expression has been understood in the EFCA. Many years later Olson wrote a book with that title, *The Significance of Silence*. This is a major aspect of who we in the Free Church are. Often when we discuss our Free Church ethos, this is the heart of what it means. In *Evangelical Convictions* this expression is explained and defined. Once [the early Free Church leaders] began to put in writing what was commonly believed among them, they were silent on those doctrines which through the centuries had divided Christians of equal dedication, Biblical knowledge, spiritual maturity and love for Christ. This expression does not mean that we will not discuss and debate these issues but simply that we will not divide over them. Since that time, and with the passing of time, the original meaning has been lost. Many conclude that it means we cannot discuss a theological issue. We must remain silent. Some conclude that this downplays theology such that we become minimalist or lowest-common denominator theology. We so value unity or peace, but we do so at the expense of purity or the gospel essentials. Neither is what is intended. Historically this expression was used in a certain context in which the drafters of the Statement of Faith chose to be silent on certain disputed doctrinal matters. It is the silence in the Statement of Faith that is referenced, not silence in the church talking about such disputed matters. Because of this, maybe it is time to change the terminology. This confusion is part of why we need to push hard to clarify what this means in the EFCA. We acknowledge them and yet we have determined to live and minister together based on the essentials of the gospel and engage in robust dialogue in the areas of differences what would be considered non-essentials. This is what we have written in *Evangelical Convictions* p. We recognize that the interpretations of Scripture on the relevant points regarding the two positions on baptism differ with one another and are in some ways incompatible. We allow different interpretations, not because we think Scripture is intrinsically ambiguous on the matter, nor because we think Scripture provides so little information that it is unwise to hold any opinion, but because some of us think the credobaptist position is in line with Scripture and that the paedobaptist position is mistaken, and some think the paedobaptist position is in line with Scripture and that the exclusively credobaptist position is mistaken. In other words, both sides hold that Scripture speaks to the matter, but each side holds a view that excludes the other. However, we do not believe that our differing views on this matter among others should prevent our unity in the gospel in full local church fellowship. This means we affirm the following truths and commitments: This also means we address these issues to clarify the misunderstandings: This Preconference is not intended to be a debate. It is vital that this whole session be marked by an irenic spirit unity and be constructive theologically doctrine. My hope and prayer is that this session will serve as a model of how this can and ought to be done. How would you have responded? Do you consider this a strength of the EFCA?

Chapter 6 : The Sound of Silence - Wikipedia

Many Catholics rightly complain about the absence of silence in the celebration of our Roman liturgy. It is important, therefore, to recall the meaning of silence as a Christian ascetical value, and therefore as a necessary condition for deep, contemplative prayer, without forgetting.

Do you know the difference? When Jesus was on trial before the Sanhedrin, accused of conspiracy and blasphemy, it says: Amazing, when you consider the fact that this is the God who speaks to All. He spoke the universe into existence. He spoke to Abraham and called him out of Ur to start a nation. He spoke to Moses from a burning bush. When he came to earth as Jesus Christ, he spoke to thousands of people in sermon after sermon. He was so talkative that John gave him a nickname: But now, nobody can get him to open his mouth. Jesus knows he has to let this trial just run its course. And that must be so hard. The religious leaders are accusing him of trying to destroy the Jerusalem temple and rebuild it in three days. How hard is it for you to be silent in the face of questions or accusations? So what are you going to do? That cute little girl is on her own! He stayed silent in the face of accusation, just like Isaiah said he would: He was a sheep willingly going to the slaughter, for you. He was taken away because of judgment on you. He was struck because of the rebellion of you. And he stayed silent through it all. Sometimes the greatest gift of love you can give is silence.

Chapter 7 : silence | Definition of silence in English by Oxford Dictionaries

The silence of this monastery, like most silence outside the fanciest anechoic chambers, is an aspiration rather than a fact. Not that long ago the chanting of the monks of Mingaladon would have.

Chapter 8 : Simon and Garfunkel - The Sound of Silence Lyrics | SongMeanings

Originally Answered: What is the meaning of the song "Sound of Silence"? This is a great song that I love, and it is very intelligent and poetic. The song uses the imagery of light and darkness to show how people's ignorance and apathy destroys their ability to communicate even on simple levels.

Chapter 9 : The Significance of Silence (Unity in Essentials, Dialogue in Differences) | EFCA

They will ignore the noise of text messages, cell phones, and nonstop activity. They will appreciate the importance of silence and the golden beauty of the learning that emerges from within.