

Tuesday of Holy Week

Readings: Isaiah 49:1–7

I Corinthians 1:18–31

Jesus speaks about his death;

John 12:20–36



I once had a conversation with a lady, a lifelong church goer, who attended church faithfully but admitted that she was still waiting to hear from God. She remained ever hopeful. In today's reading, Jesus is speaking and revealing his fears, and explaining what is to come.

“Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder.’

The thunder – the voice of Almighty God – was for the crowd's benefit. Some heard it as the voice of an angel. And many were clearly confused, hence the further questions in the passage. Yet someone heard Jesus' words for what they truly were, and recorded them for us in the passage we read today. He gave us the reassurance that we are children of light if we believe in the light, a comforting thought in times when we may feel lonely.

Points for reflection

God speaks to us each in a language that we can understand. For some, this will be loud and crystal clear; for some, an image may form; another may hear a whisper, as gentle as a feather.

How do you listen to God?

How do you feel that God speaks to you?

What can you do to make more room for listening and hearing God in your life?



The sound of thunder can be awesome! Or frightening. Distant rumbles, accompanied by falling rain, can even be comforting. Choose a piece of music to listen to that best reflects the mood you wish to feel. Set aside time to listen to it in comfort, perhaps resting in a bed or a cosy chair, with a candle, picture or cross to focus on as you listen.

◆(Pray slowly) Heavenly Father, I wait upon you. I pause, still my mind and still my heart. I wait upon you. I stop, and listen beyond the everyday. I wait upon you. I rest, and allow my soul to have space. I wait upon you. Quiet, at rest, held. I wait upon you. And call Abba, Abba Father. I know you have searched me, and you know me. I know you are the beginning and the end. I know you are the Redeemer. I wait upon you, allowing your grace to penetrate my whole being. And in this place, close, protected and eternal I find that this grace renews my strength, wipes away my tears, and promises new hope. I wait upon you. Amen.⁵

⁵ www.living-prayers.com/topics/listening_prayer.html