



continuing the journey of transforming grace:

transforming practice

July 7, 2024

Step Five Tell Me More

In the last of our five part focus on the skills identified by Irshad Manji, we conclude this exploration of ways that silence, creating common ground, listening to learn and the asking of sincere questions can create the space to build a bridge across the divide between us. Consider this last step with a deeper inquiry into what emerges when stepping into the shoes of another and seeing through the lens of moving towards “right relationship” between and among people of difference.

Opening Song
With my Own Two Hands
Jack Johnson and Ben Harper

Opening Prayer
Pope Francis | 50th World Communication Day
May 8, 2016

“Listening allows us to get things right, and not simply to be passive onlookers, users or consumers. Listening also means being able to share questions and doubts, to journey side by side, to banish all claims to absolute power and to put our abilities and gifts at the service of the common good.

Listening is never easy. Many times it is easier to play deaf. Listening means paying attention, wanting to understand, to value, to respect and to ponder what the other person says. It involves a sort of martyrdom or self-sacrifice, as we try to imitate Moses before the burning bush: we have to remove our sandals when standing on the “holy ground” of our encounter with the one who speaks to me (cf. Ex 3:5). Knowing how to listen is an immense grace, it is a gift which we need to ask for and then make every effort to practice.”

Scripture
2 Corinthians 12: 9

“My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness”



For your Thought
The art of asking the right questions

For Reflection and Dialogue

Spend a few minutes of quiet to allow what you have heard to deepen within you.

What helps you to step into the experience/shoes/ lens of another so that you can take the time to “ask another question” and then to listen?

Recall and share a time that you were surprised by the way someone else listened to you.

And then, consider...

What question, if you had the answer, would make a difference for you? What would be the difference?

Closing Contemplation

Take another look at [Irshad Manji's video](#) that began this exploration and spend a few moments of quiet to consider if something new has found fertile ground within you to bear fruit in this season of “transforming practice.”

Closing Prayer/Song
Walk With Me | Maggie Walker