

A person with short hair, wearing a dark, hooded jacket, is seen from behind, looking out over a calm body of water. In the distance, a dense forest of green trees is visible under a soft, overcast sky. The overall mood is quiet and contemplative.

Enjoy

THE SILENCE

PASTOR DEREK FORSETH

SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES:

1. The Word
2. Prayer
3. Fellowship

EPHESIANS 4:15

Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ.

JAMES 1:19

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry

PSALM 1:2

...but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.

PSALM 46:10

He says, “Be still, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations,

I will be exalted in the earth.”

ZEPHANIAH 1:7

Be silent before the Sovereign Lord, for the day of the Lord is near. The Lord has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated those he has invited.

QUESTION

Do we give God time to speak
over our opinions and
perspectives?

QUOTE

Silence testifies to the
inadequacy of our words. - BR

JOHN 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

JOHN 1:14

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

PSALM 30:11-12

You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, ¹² that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent. Lord my God, I will praise you forever.



WHEN SILENCE IS RIGHT:

1. Reflective prayer.
2. When we are angry.
3. Self control.
4. Avoiding sin.

PROVERBS 10:19

Sin is not ended by multiplying words, but the prudent hold their tongues.

1 THESSALONIANS 2:4

On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts.

ACTS 18: 9-10

One night the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision: “Do not be afraid; keep on speaking, do not be silent.¹⁰ For I am with you, and no one is going to attack and harm you, because I have many people in this city.”

1 PETER 3:15

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect

MATTHEW 12:36-37

But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. ³⁷ For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.”

REASONS FOR SILENCE:

1. Obedience or direction
2. Self-control
3. Awe or reverence
4. Rest
5. Wisdom

1 KINGS 19:1-13

Now Ahab told Jezebel everything Elijah had done and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. ² So Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah to say, "May the gods deal with me, be it ever so severely, if by this time tomorrow I do not make your life like that of one of them."

1 KINGS 19:1-13

³ Elijah was afraid and ran for his life. When he came to Beersheba in Judah, he left his servant there, ⁴ while he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness. He came to a broom bush, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." ⁵ Then he lay down under the bush and fell asleep

1 KINGS 19:1-13

All at once an angel touched him and said, "Get up and eat." ⁶ He looked around, and there by his head was some bread baked over hot coals, and a jar of water. He ate and drank and then lay down again.

1 KINGS 19:1-13

⁷ The angel of the Lord came back a second time and touched him and said, "Get up and eat, for the journey is too much for you."⁸ So he got up and ate and drank. Strengthened by that food, he traveled forty days and forty nights until he reached Horeb, the mountain of God.⁹ There he went into a cave and spent the night.

1 KINGS 19:1-13

And the word of the Lord came to him:
“What are you doing here, Elijah?”

¹⁰ He replied, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, torn down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too.”

1 KINGS 19:1-13

¹¹ The Lord said, “Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake.

1 KINGS 19:1-13

¹² After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper.

¹³ When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

WHEN GOD SEEMS SILENT:

1. Examine our life
2. Accept God's instruction
3. Silence can be intimate
4. Push forward. Don't retreat

EXODUS 14:13

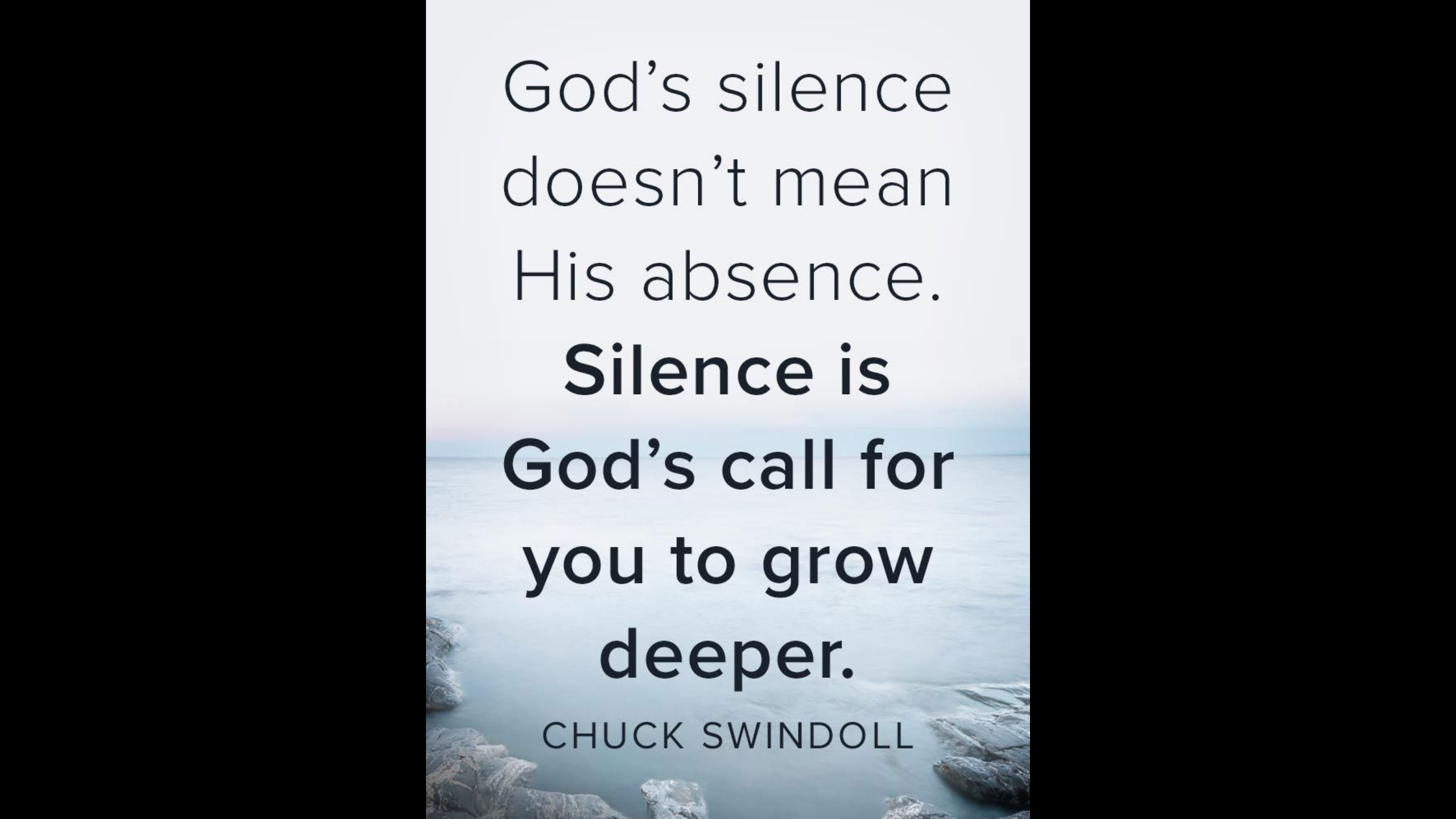
Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again."

ROMANS 8:26

In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.

COLOSSIANS 3:17

And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.



God's silence
doesn't mean
His absence.

**Silence is
God's call for
you to grow
deeper.**

CHUCK SWINDOLL