

Moving mountains with love

Hello, dear you,

Have you ever heard of the overview effect? When astronauts go into space and while they are still 'close', they first point out their own city. Then they look for their country, and then the continent where they live. And as they get further from Earth, absorbed into the deep black, infinite Milky Way, they experience something very special: Earth is our home. They also realised something else: the Earth has no top or bottom. We came up with that because that thought gives us something to hold onto.

Do you know that feeling? That your view of what you had previously considered logical, true or self-evident broadens? What you think or are convinced of is often correct, but because you are so close to it, you don't always see that there are other things that can also be true.

*We are here on dry land
where we always were
on which we have drawn imaginary lines
so that we know who we are and who we are not
where we belong and where we do not.
And we take what we want
when we want to*

*We find
over and over again
that it is about
right or wrong
instead of
doing your best.*

*The difference between being right and doing your best is:
that being right confirms a past
and doing your best builds a future.¹*

In the book from which I extracted the above text, there is a drawing of Earth. In every continent it says: *People live here*. And underneath: *Because if you are distant enough, it is clear that we all come from Earth. Actually, only 'US' exists*.

A lot went, and goes wrong, when we think in terms of 'us versus them'. We may initially be able to introduce something or someone with a 'hosanna', but if it doesn't quite fit in our alley and we have to work for it ourselves - and in ourselves - then the tide turns. And where does the 'us-versus-them thinking' actually begin in myself?

Sometimes it's because the other person, and other thoughts than the ones I know, are alien to me. Could alienation be the opposite of connection? It seems as if we mainly have words for what divides us and no longer have a language or feeling for what connects us. The fact that I am working on it, recognizing it and acknowledging it, helps me to face it.

I don't resign myself to the fact that people deliberately sow division. Because I have an influence on what civilisation means in my life, I keep working for the good, over and over again. Living life to the fullest, so that I don't feel fear flowing through my veins, but space and a loving presence. Or as Huub Oosterhuis once said: 'So that we do not suffocate in ourselves but open up'.

And because I live from out of our Apostolic foundation statement, because I choose *to be simply Apostolic, to go beyond the ordinary and to bring the story of love together*² it makes an appeal to me, and I know that I have to get out of my comfort zone. That in 2025 we can, want and must consciously breathe new life into our ideal.

That we have to move mountains with love.

To this end, I want to invoke the highest in myself and in you today. In this way I give direction to history. Probably not equal to that of all humanity, but certainly to my own. And also to the people around me and to those I am close to in thought, which goes far beyond my own circle. And if the ripples in the water radiate, then it will be there when we are there.

With a warm-hearted greeting, gladly your sister
Nanda Ziere



We baptise our children and each other in this world of thought

¹ Oliver Jeffers, Begin, Publisher De Fontein Jeugd 2024

² Titles from the last three multi-year visions.

On the 13th April, brother van der Wal and I hope to meet many of you in the beautiful Orpheus Theatre in Apeldoorn. We are looking forward to it enormously! You can still apply via the website.