


REVEREND SALLY HITCHINER

MIND THE GAP

**THE C O F E IN 2017 EXISTS
IN A LIMINAL SPACE**

**“PARTICIPANTS “STAND AT THE THRESHOLD”
BETWEEN THEIR PREVIOUS WAY OF STRUCTURING
THEIR IDENTITY, TIME, OR COMMUNITY, AND A NEW
WAY.
CONTINUITY OF TRADITION MAY BECOME
UNCERTAIN, AND FUTURE OUTCOMES ONCE TAKEN
FOR GRANTED MAY BE THROWN INTO DOUBT.”**

Karl Jung



**LIMINAL
– FROM THE
LATIN “LĪMEN”
THRESHOLD.**

“LIMINAL ZONE – AN EQUIVOCAL, MARGINAL, BORDERLINE STATE, IN WHICH ONE FINDS A DEGREE OF ‘CULTURAL REMISSION’, A STRUCTURED, TEMPORARY RELAXATION OR SUSPENSION OF NORMAL SOCIAL CONTROLS”

Kate Fox



SOCIETY

- ▶ Modernism vs Post modernism
- ▶ Babyboomers vs Millenials in power
- ▶ Technology revolution
- ▶ Experts/Elites vs individual actualisation
- ▶ Open vs Closed
- ▶ Political affiliation vs New Social Movements



THE CHURCH

- ▶ Women in positions of power
- ▶ LGBT inclusion
- ▶ Decline in power and position in society
- ▶ Decline in numbers
- ▶ Changing definitions of spirituality





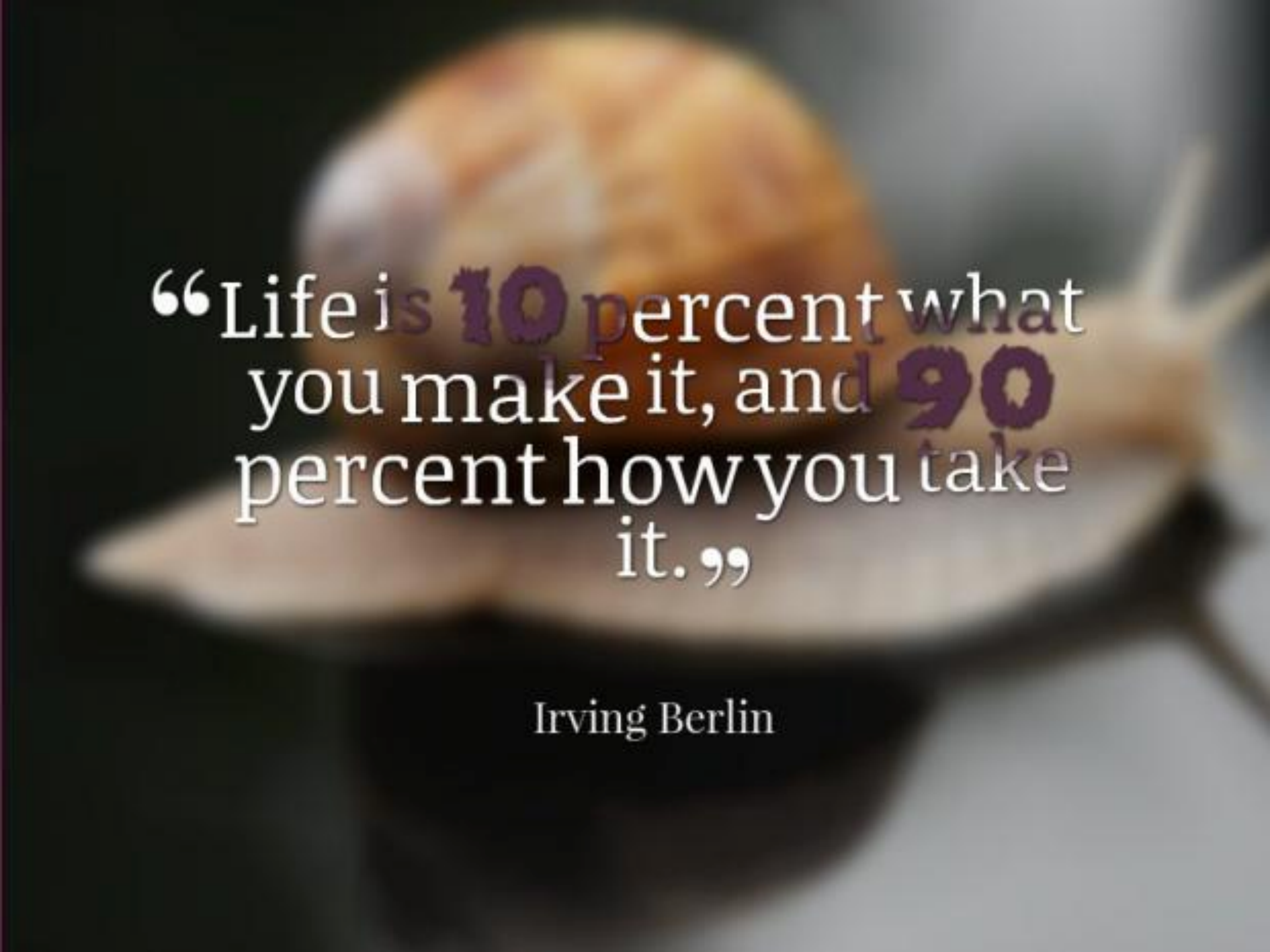
TURN TO YOUR NEIGHBOUR

**1 MINUTE EACH TO TELL OF A
LIMINAL TIME IN YOUR LIFE**

BUILDING RESILIENCE

“... IT IS WHEN YOU HAVE LEFT THE TRIED AND TRUE, BUT HAVE NOT YET BEEN ABLE TO REPLACE IT WITH ANYTHING ELSE. IT IS WHEN YOU ARE BETWEEN YOUR OLD COMFORT ZONE AND ANY POSSIBLE NEW ANSWER. IF YOU ARE NOT TRAINED IN HOW TO HOLD ANXIETY, HOW TO LIVE WITH AMBIGUITY, HOW TO ENTRUST AND WAIT, YOU WILL RUN... ANYTHING TO FLEE THIS TERRIBLE CLOUD OF UNKNOWNING.”

Richard Rohr



“Life is **10** percent what
you make it, and **90**
percent how you take
it.”

Irving Berlin

**WHAT TYPE OF LEADERS
ARE NEEDED FOR LIMINAL
MOMENTS?**



TURN TO YOUR NEIGHBOUR AGAIN

- ▶ Which season do you most readily lead in?
- ▶ Which is the hardest season for you?
- ▶ Who in your life is good with that season?
- ▶ Which authors are strong on that season?

**HOW TO LEAD THOSE WHO
ARE IN A DIFFERENT STAGE
OF LIMINALITY TO YOU?**



THE “CLEAN SLATE”

**FORCED
REVOLUTION?**

**“1 PETER ENCOURAGES TO DROP THE
PEN THAT SCRIPTS THE MASTER
NARRATIVE AND INSTEAD GIVE
ACCOUNT OF THE LIVING HOPE OF GOD
AND GOD’S FUTURE.”**

Miroslav Volf

“TO ABANDON THE PROJECT OF RESHAPING SOCIETY FROM THE GROUND UP AND INSTEAD DO AS MUCH GOOD AS WE CAN FROM WHERE WE ARE AT THE TIME WE ARE THERE (2:11), TO SUFFER INJUSTICE AND BLESS THE UNJUST RATHER THAN PERPETRATING VIOLENCE BY REPAYING “EVIL FOR EVIL OR ABUSE FOR ABUSE” (3:9), AND TO REPLACE THE ANGER OF FRUSTRATION WITH THE JOY OF EXPECTATION (4:13).”

Miroslav Volf

IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE TO CALL THE MISSIONARY DISTANCE THAT 1 PETER STRESSES SOFT DIFFERENCE. I DO NOT MEAN A WEAK DIFFERENCE, FOR IN 1 PETER THE DIFFERENCE IS ANYTHING BUT WEAK. IT IS STRONG, BUT IT IS NOT HARD.

Miroslav Volf

**FEAR FOR ONESELF AND ONE'S IDENTITY CREATES
HARDNESS.**

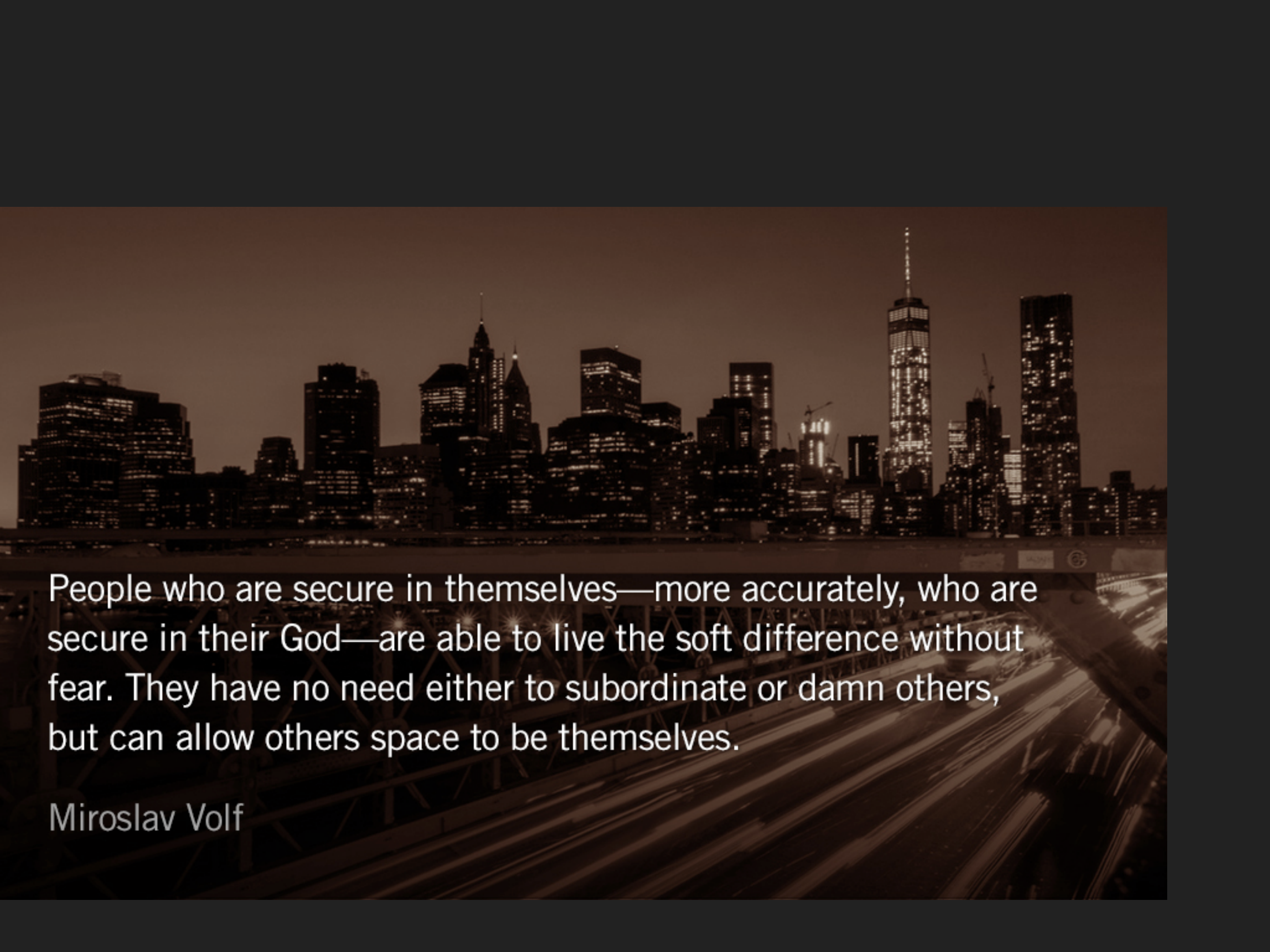
**THE DIFFERENCE THAT JOINS ITSELF WITH
HARDNESS ALWAYS PRESENTS THE OTHER WITH A
CHOICE: EITHER SUBMIT OR BE REJECTED, EITHER
"BECOME LIKE ME OR GET AWAY FROM ME."**

**HARD DIFFERENCE OPERATES WITH OPEN OR
HIDDEN PRESSURES, MANIPULATION, AND THREATS.**



**“ASSIMILATE OR
BE ANNIHILATED”**

The Borg – Star Trek



People who are secure in themselves—more accurately, who are secure in their God—are able to live the soft difference without fear. They have no need either to subordinate or damn others, but can allow others space to be themselves.

Miroslav Volf

FOR PEOPLE WHO LIVE THE SOFT DIFFERENCE, MISSION FUNDAMENTALLY TAKES THE FORM OF WITNESS AND INVITATION. THEY SEEK TO WIN OTHERS WITHOUT PRESSURE OR MANIPULATION, SOMETIMES EVEN "WITHOUT A WORD" (3:1).

Miroslav Volf



DEMOCRATISATION OF
ACTIVISM

STORY-VISM

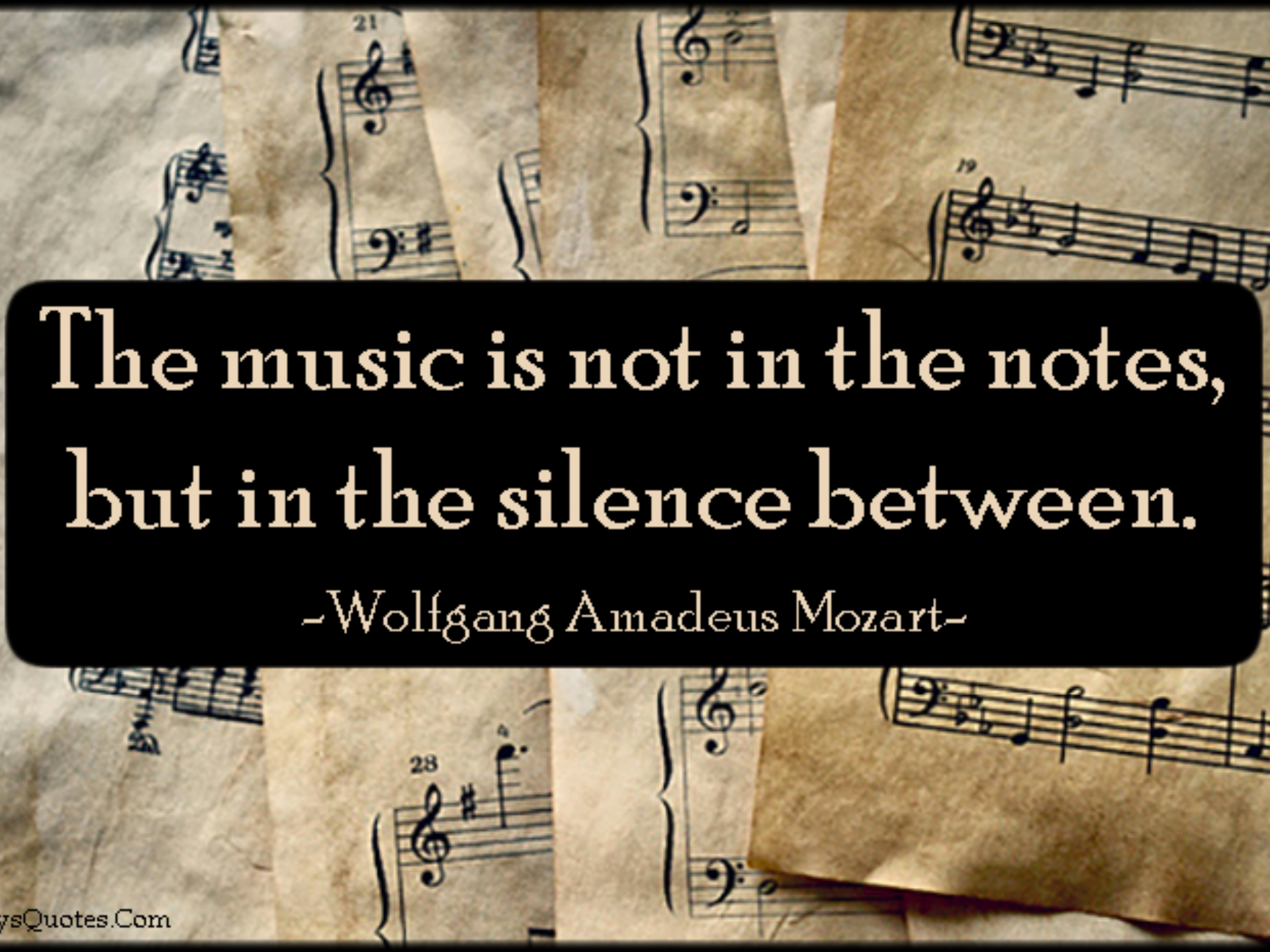
NEW RESOURCES

- ▶ The British Pub
 - ▶ Talk to strangers
 - ▶ the class system is broken
 - ▶ queuing takes on a new form
 - ▶ Optimism
 - ▶ rites of passage - new narratives



**"NOTHING GOOD OR CREATIVE
EMERGES FROM BUSINESS AS
USUAL. THIS IS WHY MUCH OF THE
WORK OF GOD IS TO GET PEOPLE
INTO LIMINAL SPACE"**

Richard Rohr



The music is not in the notes,
but in the silence between.

~Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart~