

We need to believe in love. Love—let us say here that it has justly its time and place in human life—it is not utopia, it is not naïve, it is not an admission of inferiority. It achieves what force is not capable of achieving. It has no quarrel with the need to be watchful or to exercise just discipline. On the contrary, they are the conditions on which it subsists. Lord, grant that we may believe that love is more powerful than hate. That love unites in a way that cannot be achieved by fear. That love creates while hate destroys and fear paralyses.

Take from our lips, Lord, words which cause offence and division. Open our hands to share our bread and our work, the good things which come from the one earth which you have given to everyone. Make us cease to judge on another without any pity and without readiness to forget. Enable us to believe in each other and to love; because it is only one who loves who is able to achieve justice.

Cardinal Raul Silva Henriquez, in a sermon preached in Santiago de Chile, quoted on p. 17 of *A Cloister in the World*