

Prayer for Social Media – by Sarah Rudolph

*Dear God,*

*Let me say things that matter, not just say them to matter.*

*Let me not lose sight of one value in the pursuit of another.*

*Help me to see truth within the noise:*

*To reflect before reacting, to hear before speaking;*

*To check the facts;*

*To acknowledge the good even as I strive to improve the bad – because people might be more willing to hear what I have to say, and also because I believe balance is right.*

*Because everyone deserves that respect.*

*Grant me the wisdom to determine whether an issue is best addressed in public or in private – at least at first.*

*Keep me from sacrificing thoughtfulness and nuance for the sake of passion –*

*Or, to be fair, the other way around.*

*Hold me when the pace of social media threatens to pull me under; comfort me that my thoughts will still be relevant when they're ready, while if they're not ready, they're not relevant;*

*And remind me that if someone else says it first, it will have been said, and that is what counts.*

*Watch over me as I watch my “likes” and shares, for though the impact of what I say may be greater with more attention, my own thirst for attention might impact me in ways that are not so great.*

*Keep me on the high road, not one from an Escher painting that's pretending to be higher than it is*

*And maybe even goes nowhere at all.*

*While we're at it – please check my spelling and grammar and logic,*

*And muzzle me when I'm wrong, or just not writing right.*

*Open my eyes, please, to the flaws in my logic and lapses in my judgment-*

*Before, rather than after, please.*

*Let the quivery feeling in my stomach be the exhilaration of having said something impactful, and not the sinking feeling that I shouldn't have said it at all.*

*Of course, prayer is a practice not just of supplication but of self-reflection, and so let's not forget:*

*For my part, I pledge to read everything through once, twice, three times... Is it ever enough?*

*Sigh. I'll need help, God, really –*

*And so, to paraphrase the concluding line of that ancient prayer:*

*Dear God, let me say the right things, with the right motivation in my heart,*

*And let it make a difference,*

*In accordance with Your will.*

*Join me please, all across the world wide web, and say,*

*Amen.*

<http://thewisdomdaily.com/a-prayer-for-social-media-engagement/>