

how can we work together for peace?

how can we work together for peace
when we haven't taken the time
to really listen to each other;
when we haven't really talked it through

how can we work together for peace
when we can't forget what was done to us and to our communities
when we can't forget what we tried to do to each other
when we know that we spied on each other,
inflicted terror on each other
and tried to kill each other

how can we work together for peace
when we remember that our friends were killed
when we know that our friends were injured
when we've seen lives & families torn apart by pain, grief and loss

...how can we work together for peace?

how can we work together for peace
when we're still living in fear
when we've got used to conflict
when we could lose more than we gain.

how can we work together for peace with hatred,
bitterness, anger, injustice and desires for revenge

how can we work together for peace
when it looks like betrayal and weakness
when it might look like you've won
when it might look like giving in

how can we work together for peace
when my peace may be different to yours
and when we don't really know what peace is

...how can we work together for peace?

but when we look back on the past, and then look to the future,
we may think: how can we *not* work together for peace?

how can we *not* work together for peace
when we recognise the part that we all played
when we recognise our own pain, and our own denial
when we recognise just how much we lost on the way.

how can we *not* work together for peace
when we recognise that we remained silent
when we recognise that we turned a blind eye,
when we recognise that we allowed things to happen

how can we *not* work together for peace
when we recognise that we need to be healed
when we recognise that we need to be forgiven
when we recognise that we need to forgive

when loved ones need to be free to grieve and be comforted
when we need to be free to rebuild our lives in hope
when our children need to be free to live,
grow and flourish,
without fear.

...how can we *not* work together for peace?

how can we *not* work together for peace
when we realise that we have been given another chance
and that this may be our best and last chance

how can we work together for peace?

© gullion 2007