

Wisdom for Life

A Collection of Bible Verses and Quotes

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The two things that most impact our lives are the people we spend time with and the things we read.

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Introduction:

Christians all have Bible verses or advice from other Christians that have been especially meaningful in their lives. There is an endless supply of wisdom in the Bible and we can gain new insights into the Bible and God from others. Biblical wisdom can help us in all of the moments and feelings of our lives. It is important though that we properly understand the wisdom that comes from the Bible. If you are unsure of what parts of the Bible mean or how you feel God is leading you it is vital to talk to trusted Christian friends or church workers. God can use other Christians to help provide clarity and direction for our lives.

This book contains a collection of Bible verses and quotes to provide direction, encouragement, comfort, and help for Christians. Some of the Bible verses could fit more than one category so you may find a Bible verse in one section that relates better to you in other. Because of this the end of each section also includes blank pages for you to add your own Bible verses and quotes that are meaningful to you. The book can be read through in its entirety or just by skipping around to different sections as needed.

The purpose of reading, discussing, and meditating on God's Word is for us to grow in our faith. God's Word is active and transforming. Spending time each day reflecting on, praying about, and discussing Bible verses can keep us focused on the most important things and help us at all times of our lives.

Purpose

We are called to love and serve the one true God.

What does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord.

Deuteronomy 10:12

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

Matthew 22:37

One Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Ephesians 4:5-6

But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness.

Matthew 6:33a

And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8

God has given us all gifts and abilities that we can use to serve Him through our actions and words.

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10

Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you?

1 Corinthians 3:16

You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

1 Corinthians 6:20

“Life is about learning—and about using those lessons to become a better employer, better employee, better parent, better sibling, better friend, better neighbor, better steward of our blessings.”

John Wooden

“Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous? Actually, who are you not to be? You are a child of God. Your playing small does not serve the world. There is nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We were born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It is not just in some of us; it is in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.”

Marianne Williamson¹

“I believe God made me for a purpose, but he also made me fast, and when I run, I feel God's pleasure.”

Olympian Eric Liddell

“I do the very best I know how; the very best I can; and I mean to keep on doing so until the end.”

Abraham Lincoln

“True humility: Not thinking less of ourselves but thinking of ourselves less.”*

* Author is unknown if not listed.

Christians are motivated by God's love and can only be fulfilled through Christ.

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God.

Psalm 42:1

My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge.

Psalm 62:7

I consider my life worth nothing to me; my only aim is to finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace.

Acts 20:24

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Philippians 1:21

“A car is made to run on gasoline, and it would not run properly on anything else. Now God designed the human machine to run on himself. He himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits were designed to feed on. There is no other.”

C.S. Lewis

“What is an idol? It is anything more important to you than God, anything that absorbs your heart and imagination more than God, anything you seek to give you what only God can give.”

Timothy Keller²

“Should anyone knock at my heart and say, “Who lives here?” I should reply, “Not Martin Luther, but the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Martin Luther

Christians can be focused on showing God's love to other people and not on accumulating possessions.

For we brought nothing into this world, and we can take nothing out of it.

1 Timothy 6:7

Everyone comes naked from their mother's womb, and as everyone comes, so they depart.

Ecclesiastes 5:15a

'The silver is mine and the gold is mine,' declares the Lord Almighty.

Haggai 2:8

What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit their very self?

Luke 9:25

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Luke 12:34

As water reflects the face, so one's life reflects the heart.

Proverbs 27:19

One person pretends to be rich, yet has nothing; another pretends to be poor, yet has great wealth.

Proverbs 13:7

"Let the saving love of Christ be the measure of our lives."

Chris Tomlin³

God can guide our whole lives.

Unless the Lord builds the house, the builders labor in vain.
Unless the Lord watches over the city, the guards stand watch in vain.

Psalms 127:1

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

For if their purpose or activity is of human origin, it will fail. But if it is from God, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves fighting against God.

Acts 5:38-39

“It is not God then family, but God in our family. It is not God then career, but God in our career.”

George Nelson-Director of Christian Education

“WE IN THIS COUNTRY, in this generation, are—by destiny rather than choice—the watchmen on the walls of world freedom. We ask, therefore, that we may be worthy of our power and responsibility, that we may exercise our strength with wisdom and restraint, and that we may achieve in our time and for all time the ancient vision of “peace on earth, good will toward men.” That must always be our goal, and the righteousness of our cause must always underlie our strength. For as was written long ago: “except the Lord keep the city, the watchmen waketh but in vain.”

John F. Kennedy

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Direction

We are better able to make decisions when we spend time in God's Word and talk with other Christians.

Fix these words of mine in your hearts and minds; tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.
Deuteronomy 11:18

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.
Proverbs 3:5

Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.
Proverbs 15:22

"As long as people don't know what they don't know, they don't grow."

"You need to have the expertise and the guidance of someone else. You cannot train yourself. I feel the same way about Christianity and about what the church is: The church is the gym of the soul."
Sylvester Stallone

We read the Bible not for information but for transformation. The more time we spend with God's Word the more our desires and plans align with God's.

Yet you, Lord, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.
Isaiah 64:8

In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps.
Proverbs 16:9

Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

Proverbs 19:21

Lord, I know that people's lives are not their own; it is not for them to direct their steps.

Jeremiah 10:23

Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Psalms 37:4

How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver!

Proverbs 16:16

And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.

Philippians 1:9-10

But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever! Amen.

2 Peter 3:18

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Galatians 5:22-23

“God will cause you to grow. His purpose when He leads you into His Word is never just to inform or entertain. He means to change you.”

Rev. Dr. Milton Rudnick¹

“And so it is with Christ. The longer we live in him, the greater he becomes in us. It’s not that he changes but that we do; we see more of him. We see dimensions, aspects, and characteristics we never saw before, increasing and

astonishing increments of his purity, power, and uniqueness.”
*Max Lucado*²

“The fruit of following Jesus is a new heart with a new mind, new desires, a new will, a new way of relating to people around you, and a new purpose.”
*David Platt*³

“WARNING: Bible Usage Can Be Habit Forming. Regular reading can cause loss of anxiety and fear; decreased appetite for lying, cheating, stealing, hating, anger, jealousy, and envy. Symptoms include but are not limited to: increased sense of love, joy, peace, compassion and contentment. Use only as directed. If symptoms persist, just praise the Lord.”

“Read your Bible, pray everyday and you’ll grow, grow, grow.”

“It is easy to see God’s hand in everything if you put everything in God’s hands.”

Listen and act when the Holy Spirit nudges.

Noah did everything just as God commanded him.
Genesis 6:22

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path.
Psalms 119:105

“I would have loved more deeply; I would have laughed more often; I would have given more generously; I would have lived more boldly.”
-Four categories of regret that are most common at the end of life-
*Jon Ortberg*⁴

“It simply amazes me. The more times I feel God leading me to do something, if I actually follow through on that call, I see exactly how He is working not only in my life but also in

those around me. I encourage everyone to lean in just a little closer and listen for His voice in your life."

Rachel Stohlmann

We can't always control what happens in life but we have more control of our responses.

Do everything without grumbling or arguing, so that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation. Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky.

Philippians 2:14-15

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude...I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me, and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you...we are in charge of our attitudes."

Charles Swindoll

"Be careful how you interpret the world; it is like that."

Helen Keller

"Skate to where the puck is going, not to where it has been."

Wayne Gretzky

"The thoughts that we have, the feelings we feel, the experiences that shape our understanding – these things steer the ship of our lives."

Chip Ingram⁵

God's timing is perfect.

Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

Psalm 27:14

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.

Psalm 37:7a

“Be still, and know that I am God.”

Psalm 46:10a

He has made everything beautiful in its time.

Ecclesiastes 3:11

“To wait, biblically speaking, is not to assume the worst, worry, fret, make demands, or take control. Nor is waiting inactivity. Waiting is a sustained effort to stay focused on God through prayer and belief.”

Max Lucado⁶

God has endless wisdom.

Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.

Jeremiah 33:3

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

Matthew 7:7

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

Romans 11:33

If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.

James 1:5

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! I gain understanding from your precepts.

Psalms 119:103-104a

For the foolishness of God is wiser than human wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

1 Corinthians 1:25

Everyone has knowledge to share.

The quiet words of the wise are more to be heeded than the shouts of a ruler of fools.

Ecclesiastes 9:17

“My mother said I must always be intolerant of ignorance but understanding of illiteracy. That some people, unable to go to school, were more educated and more intelligent than college professors.”

Maya Angelou

“Keep the following in mind:

1. Everyone has something to teach me.
2. Every day I have something to learn.
3. Every time I learn something, I benefit.”

John Maxwell⁷

Be careful of negative influences. Be in the world but not of the world.

A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough.

Galatians 5:9

Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

1 Chronicles 16:11

The fear of the Lord--that is wisdom, and to shun evil is understanding.

Job 28:28

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall!

1 Corinthians 10:12

Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Ephesians 6:11

The ways of the Lord are right; the righteous walk in them, but the rebellious stumble in them.

Hosea 14:9b

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Hope

Biblical hope is not wishful thinking, optimism, nor self-confidence. It is much more than that. It is looking back to what God has done, continues to do and will do.

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.

Hebrews 10:23

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

Hebrews 11:1

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope.

Psalms 130:5

“We continue to be his people, and he continues to be our God, in the life that began with our baptismal death as sinners and in our baptismal resurrection to new life in Christ. In this life we shall live, finding our identity, security, and meaning through trust in God alone, who has come near to us in Jesus Christ and remains with us forever.”

Rev. Dr. Robert Kolb¹

“It (the Bible) comprises a single story, telling us how the human race got into its present condition, and how God through Jesus Christ has come and will come to put things right.”

Timothy Keller²

Our hope is based on God’s saving act of death and resurrection that enables us to receive eternal life.

I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth.

Job 19:25

My soul finds rest in God alone; my salvation comes from him.

Psalm 62:1

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty.

Psalm 91:1

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, and blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When every earthly prop gives way,
He then is all my Hope and Stay.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne!
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

Edward Mote³

Hope provides motivation.

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices.

Acts 2:21,26

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13

Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold.

2 Corinthians 3:12

Acknowledge and take to heart this day that the Lord is God in heaven above and on the earth below. There is no other.

Deuteronomy 4:39

Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes on the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior.

Habakkuk 3:17-18

“Even if our possessions are few and our pockets are empty we know that the riches of God’s Word can fill any empty pocket or void and provide hope and comfort for all.”

Dr. Micah Stohlmann⁴

“I have learned that all humans seek hope. Whether they’re aware of it or not, they long for a better life now and an eternal life when this one is over.”

Don Piper⁵

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Change

While change is inevitable in our life, we can draw strength from the fact that God is constant and unchanging.

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

Psalm 90:1

The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever.

Isaiah 40:8

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

Hebrews 13:8

“Reliance upon our own feelings can betray us – feelings fluctuate – but God’s promise to us does not. Signs of God’s faithfulness to us will not rest in the good works we produce; God is faithful when we are not.”

Rev. Dr. Robert Kolb¹

Through any change in life-new job, new relationship, growing family, moving, graduation, health problem, loss of a loved one, etc.- we can have confidence that God will help and sustain us.

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Hebrews 13:20-21

“Peaceful living comes from close communion with Jesus in whatever we do.”

Jeanette Stohlmann²

“We don’t know what the future holds but we do know who holds the future.”

“You cannot discover new oceans unless you have the courage to lose sight of the shore.”

“Don’t be afraid to try something new. An amateur built an ark. Professionals built the Titanic.”

“It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly ... who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.”

Teddy Roosevelt

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Worry

When worry comes, look back on your life for how God has sustained and carried you. Why would the future be any different?

I will meditate on all your works and consider all your mighty deeds.

Psalm 77:12

The Lord will keep you from all harm - he will watch over your life.

Psalm 121:7

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

“Worry is an option, not an assignment. God can lead you into a worry-free world. Be quick to pray. Focus less on the problems ahead and more on the victories behind. Do your part, and God will do his. He will guard your heart with his peace....a peace that passes understanding.”

Max Lucado¹

“We will never worry about what *might* happen, we look forward to what *will* happen.”

Jerry Colangelo

“You don’t have wisdom for tomorrow’s problems. But you will tomorrow. You don’t have resources for tomorrow’s needs. But you will tomorrow. You don’t have courage for tomorrow’s challenges. But you will when tomorrow comes.”

Max Lucado²

“You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing which you think you cannot do.”

Eleanor Roosevelt

“God is our help in the past, present, and future.”

“The same Everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you tomorrow and every day of your life. Either He will shield you from suffering, or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace then, and put aside all anxious thoughts.”

Francis de Sales

The best way to remove fear or worry is to remember the Lord.

Don't be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and awesome.

Nehemiah 4:14

The Lord is my light and my salvation—whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life— of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalms 27:1

In God I trust; I will not be afraid.

Psalms 56:11a

For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.

Psalms 91:11

The Lord is with me; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?

Psalms 118:6

I lift up my eyes to the hills - where does my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the Maker of heaven and earth.

Psalms 121:1-2

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust and not be afraid.

The Lord, the Lord, is my strength and my song.

Isaiah 12:2

The Lord your God is with you, he is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, he will quiet you with his love.
Zephaniah 3:17

Can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness.
Matthew 6:27,33a

Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God.
John 14:1

"You can't change the past but you can ruin the present by worrying about the future."

"When you are worried or scared or you don't know what to do, it is good to know that God is always with you."

"Fear never wrote a symphony or poem, negotiated a peace treaty, or cured a disease. Fear never pulled a family out of poverty or a country out of bigotry. Fear never saved a marriage or a business. Courage did that. Faith did that. People who refused to consult or cower to their timidities did that. But fear itself? Fear herds us into a prison and slams the doors."
Max Lucado³

Turn to God in prayer to help alleviate worry or fear.

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.
Philippians 4:6

Keep me safe, O God, for in you I take refuge.
Psalms 16:1

"Courage is fear that has been prayed for."

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Joy

True joy comes from faith in God and the blessed assurance of heaven.

The Lord is my strength and my song; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him.

Exodus 15:2

But I trust in your unfailing love; my heart rejoices in your salvation.

Psalms 13:5

There is no one holy like the Lord; there is no one besides you; there is no Rock like our God.

1 Samuel 2:2

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, your faithfulness to the skies.

Psalms 36:5

How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty!

Psalms 84:1

Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

Psalms 84:4

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6b

Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago.

Isaiah 25:1

Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!

Luke 24:5-6

You believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.

1 Peter 1:8

"The same hand that pushed the rock from the tomb can shove away your doubt. The same power that stirred the still heart of Christ can stir your flagging faith. The same strength that put Satan on his heels can, and will, defeat Satan in your life. Just keep the power supply open. Who knows, you may soon hear people asking, "What's gotten into you?"

Max Lucado¹

"Always smile. It makes people wonder where your joy comes from."

"Joy is the serious business of heaven."

C.S. Lewis

"Birds don't sing because they have answers they sing because they have a song."

Joan Walsh Anglund

God provides many blessings in life that we can be thankful for.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

1 Chronicles 16:34

I will give thanks to the Lord because of his righteousness and will sing praise to the name of the Lord Most High.

Psalms 7:17

When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the Lord your God for the good land he has given you.

Deuteronomy 8:10

How great are your works, O Lord, how profound your thoughts!

Psalms 92:5

Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker; for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care.

Psalm 95:6-7

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.

Psalm 118:1

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Psalm 139:14

Be glad and rejoice. Surely the Lord has done great things!

Joel 2:21b

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

2 Corinthians 5:17

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are!

1 John 3:1

“We do not complain of what God does not give us; we rather thank God for what He does give us daily.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer²

“People see God every day, they just don’t recognize him.”

Pearl Mae Baily

“Find every reason you can to celebrate everything you can.”

While we will not always be happy, we can rely on inner joy based on God’s love for us in order to praise God in all circumstances.

The joy of the Lord is your strength.

Nehemiah 8:10b

I will praise the Lord, who counsels me; even at night my heart instructs me. I keep my eyes always on the Lord. With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

Psalm 16:7-8

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.

Psalm 33:20-21

Praise our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard; he has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.

Psalm 66:8-9

As for me, I will declare this forever; I will sing praise to the God of Jacob.

Psalm 75:9

Praise the Lord, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Psalm 103:1

Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.

Psalm 150:6

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Philippians 4:4

Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

"Happy moments, praise God. Difficult moments, seek God. Quiet moments, worship God. Painful moments, trust God. Every moment, THANK GOD."

Now thank we all our God by Martin Rinkart. This was written during the Thirty Years War in the midst of terrible suffering at Eilenburg in Saxony.³

1. Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Trouble

Trouble and hardship is a part of life.

"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first."
John 15:18

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."
John 16:33

"Peace doesn't come from being in a lake without storms. It comes from having Jesus with you in the boat."
Pastor P.J. Stohlmann

"Let me tell you something you already know. The world ain't all sunshine and rainbows... You, me, or nobody is gonna hit as hard as life. But it ain't about how hard you hit. It's about how hard you can get hit and keep moving forward!"
From movie Rocky Balboa¹

God can provide strength and help us with our difficulties or problems.

Do not be afraid of them; the Lord your God himself will fight for you.
Deuteronomy 3:22

I called to the Lord, who is worthy of praise, and I have been saved from my enemies.
Psalms 18:3

Call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honor me.
Psalms 50:15

Yet I am poor and needy; come quickly to me, O God. You are my help and my deliverer.
Psalms 70:5

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, and he saved them from their distress.

Psalm 107:13

The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him.

Nahum: 1:7

But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.

2 Thessalonians 3:3

Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea.

Psalm 46:1-2

“We may encounter many defeats, but we must not be defeated.”

Maya Angelou

“Jesus, do you see that wheelchair? You were right when you said that in this world we would have trouble, because that thing was a lot of trouble. But the weaker I was in that thing, the harder I leaned on you. And the harder I leaned on you, the stronger I discovered you to be.”

Joni Eareckson Tada²

She became a quadriplegic at the age of 18 after a diving accident.

“Because He lives, I can face tomorrow.

Because He lives, all fear is gone;

Because I know He holds the future,

And life is worth the living

Just because He lives!”

Bill Gaither³

“Focus on your giants--you stumble; focus on God-- your giants tumble.”

Max Lucado⁴

God can work good out of a bad situation.

Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.

2 Corinthians 4:16-17

You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good.

(Joseph speaking to his brothers)

Genesis 50:20

“Find meaning in suffering. Maybe through your suffering you will be able to help someone else; maybe you will be able to grow stronger; maybe the meaning simply is a conviction that God will be able to bring good out of it that you cannot now see.”

Jon Ortberg⁵

I walked a mile with pleasure;

She chatted all the way.

But left me none the wiser,

With all she had to say.

I walked a mile with sorrow;

And never a word said she,

But oh the things I learned from her,

When sorrow walked with me.

Robert Browning Hamilton

“When dark thoughts dog me, instead of fearing ‘What next?’ I manage my fears by trusting in God’s promise of help. I also try to look for the lesson to be learned from the challenge and the good that will surely follow the bad. In doing this, I have learned to welcome challenges rather than fear them. Challenges force us to grow in ways we might not

otherwise do. Without them, we might never test ourselves to learn what we are truly capable of accomplishing. We might never reach our full potential. And we might never understand how much we need God's help—which is an important lesson as well."

*Emmitt Smith*⁶

"Pain insists upon being attended to. God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our consciences, but shouts in our pains. It is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world."

C.S. Lewis

"Those things that hurt, instruct."

Benjamin Franklin

"NASA rejects people with pure histories of success and instead selects astronauts who have had significant failures and bounced back from them."

"A Middle Eastern potentate called his wise men together and asked them to gather all the world's knowledge in one place. They came back with 25 volumes of knowledge. The potentate said, 'It is too long. Make it shorter.' The wise men left for another year and came back with just one volume this time. The potentate replied, 'No, still too long.' They left for another year and came back with a piece of paper with just one sentence on it. 'This too shall pass.'"

All Glory, Laud, and Honor by Theodulph of Orleans. He was imprisoned when he wrote this. In 821 A.D. King Louis the Pious was celebrating Palm Sunday when he passed by the prison and heard this hymn being sung by Theodulph. When he learned who the singer was, he freed him, pardoned him, and ordered that the hymn be sung every Palm Sunday.⁷

Refrain:

All glory, laud, and honor,
to thee, Redeemer, King
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.

5. Thou didst accept their praises;
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King.

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Comfort

God's Word and promises can provide strength when we are sad.

I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go.
Genesis 28:15a

But you are a shield around me, O Lord; you bestow glory on me and lift up my head.
Psalms 3:3

You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.
Psalms 30:11

The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
Psalms 34:18

May your unfailing love be my comfort, according to your promise to your servant.
Psalms 119:76

But the Lord has become my fortress, and my God the rock in whom I take refuge.
Psalms 94:22

He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.
Isaiah 40:29,31a

I will turn their mourning into gladness; I will give them comfort and joy instead of sorrow.
Jeremiah 31:13b

My comfort in my suffering is this: your promise preserves my life.
Psalms 119:50

These are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

John 20:31

I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.

Romans 8:18

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Romans 8:28

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

For the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd; 'he will lead them to springs of living water.' 'And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

Revelation 7:17

It is well with my soul by Horatio Gates Spafford

The hymn was written by Spafford during the toughest time of his life. His four daughters and wife were traveling back to New York on a ship when it collided with another ship and sank. His four daughters died. His wife was saved by a plank that floated underneath her unconscious body. Horatio was in England and quickly went to be with his wife. On the ship, the captain called him to the bridge during the voyage. The captain explained, "A careful reckoning has been made and I believe we are now passing over the place where the ship sank." Horatio then returned to his cabin and wrote this hymn.¹

1. When peace like a river, attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll;

Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

Refrain:

It is well, with my soul,
It is well, with my soul,
It is well, it is well, with my soul.

2. Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.

5. But Lord, 'tis for Thee, for Thy coming we wait,
The sky, not the grave, is our goal;
Oh, trump of the angel! Oh, voice of the Lord!
Blessed hope, blessed rest of my soul.

I know the journey seems so long.
You feel you're walking on your own.
But there has never been a step
Where you've walked out all alone.

Troubled soul don't lose your heart.
Cause joy and peace he brings
And the beauty that's in store
Outweighs the hurt of life's sting.
Jeremy Camp²

It's in the Valleys I Grow.
Sometimes life seems hard to bear,
Full of sorrow, trouble and woe
It's then I have to remember
That it's in the valleys I grow.

If I always stayed on the mountain top
And never experienced pain,
I would never appreciate God's love
And would be living in vain.

I have so much to learn
And my growth is very slow,
Sometimes I need the mountain tops,
But it's in the valleys I grow.

I do not always understand
Why things happen as they do,
But I am very sure of one thing.
My Lord will see me through.

My little valleys are nothing
When I picture Christ on the cross.
He went through the valley of death;
His victory was Satan's loss.

Forgive me Lord, for complaining
When I'm feeling so very low.
Just give me a gentle reminder
That it's in the valleys I grow.

Continue to strengthen me, Lord
And use my life each day
To share your love with others
And help them find their way.

Thank you for valleys,
Lord For this one thing I know.
The mountain tops are glorious
But it's in the valleys I grow!
Author Unknown

"In life I have often found that out of terrible low points
comes reliance on God and a feeling of strength."
Pastor Dean Nadasdy

**Christians can provide comfort and help to those in
sadness.**

A cheerful look brings joy to the heart, and good news gives
health to the bones.
Proverbs 15:30

You have given me comfort and have spoken kindly.
Ruth 2:13

What a friend we have in Jesus by Joseph Scriven. The text was written to comfort his mother. While dying himself he told a friend, "The Lord and I wrote it between us."³

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

2. Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Prayer

Pray throughout the day.

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.

Mark 1:35

Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.

Luke 6:12

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up.

Luke 18:1

Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.

Colossians 4:2

Then I prayed to the God of heaven and I answered the king.

Nehemiah 2:4

“The less I pray, the harder it gets; the more I pray, the better it goes.”

Martin Luther

“If Jesus needed to pray, how can we do less?”

Robert W. Smith¹

“You need not cry very loud; he is nearer to us than we think.”

Brother Lawrence

Jesus, Savior, wash away
All that has been wrong today;
Help me every day to be
Good and gentle, more like Thee.
Nighttime prayer²

“I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.”
*Martin Luther –Morning Prayer*³

“Stay strong. Trust Christ.”
*Max Lucado-simple daily prayer*⁴

“I can no longer condemn or hate a brother for whom I pray, no matter how much trouble he causes me.”
Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“As long as there are tests, there will be prayer in schools.”

Prayer grows our relationship with God and provides us strength.

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer.
Psalms 19:14

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.
Psalms 25:5

Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.
Psalms 51:10

Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear.
Isaiah 59:1

Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.
Jeremiah 29:12

Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Colossians 3:16

“We will know Him better, feel closer to Him, trust Him more, and long more intensely to be in contact with Him. God is very real to people who pray often.”

Rev. Dr. Milton Rudnick⁵

1. I am sorry. 2. Help! 3. Thanks 4. Praise!

Method for praying

“Daily prayers lessen daily cares.”

Adoration, Confession, Thanks, and Supplication

A.C.T.S. method of praying

“Our strength and energy for work increase when we have prayed to God to give us the strength we need for our daily work”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer⁶

“We want God to do the spectacular every time, but sometimes He would rather whisper to us.”

Max Lucado⁷

“I have been driving many times to my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go.”

Abraham Lincoln

“Pray not for lighter burdens, but for stronger backs.”

Theodore Roosevelt

“You’ll get through this. It won’t be painless. It won’t be quick. But God will use this mess for good. In the meantime don’t be foolish or naïve. But don’t despair either. With God’s help you will get through this.”

Max Lucado⁴

“Help me to remember, Lord, that nothing’s going to happen today that you and me can’t handle together.”

Pray for forgiveness.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; Lord hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

Psalm 130:1-4

God, be merciful unto me, a sinner.

Luke 18:13

“Lord, I come thirsty. I come to drink, to receive. I receive your *work* on the cross and in your resurrection. My sins are pardoned, and my death is defeated. I receive your *energy*. Empowered by your Holy Spirit, I can do all things through Christ, who gives me strength. I receive your *lordship*. I belong to you. Nothing comes to me that hasn’t passed through you. And I receive your *love*. Nothing can separate me from your love.”

*Max Lucado*⁷

How could I ever imagine,
That I would cope without praying?
How could I keep going unless I knew
that I could return my heart to you
and soak my darkness in your light?

Pour your mercy into my madness
and your Spirit into my will,
and make me know
in my heart as well as my head
that only in you am I found, forgiven, and free.

*Angela Ashwin*⁸

Pray for requests.

Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name.

Psalm 86:11

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face shine upon us, so that your ways may be known on earth.

Psalm 67:1-2

Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all may go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well.

3 John 2

“Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find rest in you. Grant us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will, and no weakness hinder us from doing it; but that in your light we may see light, and in your service find our perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord.”

Augustine of Hippo

“Help me help people.”

“Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.

Where this is hatred, let me show love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is doubt, faith;

Where there is despair, hope;

Where there is darkness, light;

And where there is sadness, joy.”

St. Francis of Assisi

“God renew my strength, give me hope for my life, and grant me a place at your heavenly table.”

Bless, Savior dear
Be always near.
Keep me (and all)
From evil, harm, and fear.
Amen.

Robert W. Smith¹

“When the outlook is bad, try the uplook.”

“Lord help me to do great things as though they were little,
since I do them with Your power; and little things as though
they were great, since I do them in Your name.”

Blaise Pascal

“I ask that You would encourage my friends when they feel
unappreciated, empower them when they feel weary, give
them courage when their motive is to serve You, and give
them strength when the fulfillment of Your calling on their
lives feels as if it’s still a long way off. Amen.”

John Maxwell⁸

Pray to give thanks.

Your word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.
Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you
established the earth, and it endures.

Psalms 119:89-90a

I always thank my God as I remember you in my prayers,
because I hear about your love for all his holy people and
your faith in the Lord Jesus.

Philemon 1:4-5

“Don’t pray when it rains if you don’t pray when the sun
shines.”

Satchel Paige

Pray to praise.

Praise be to the Lord forever! Amen and Amen.

Psalms 89:52

I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my
God as long as I live. May my meditation be pleasing to him,
as I rejoice in the Lord.

Psalm 104:33-34a

-----Space for your own Bible verses, prayers, or quotes----

Forgiveness

All are in need of forgiveness of sins that God freely offers.

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Psalms 32:5b

Restore us, O God; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

Psalms 80:3

You, Lord, are forgiving and good, abounding in love to all who call to you.

Psalms 86:5

Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget not all his benefits - who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases.

Psalms 103:2-3

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

Psalms 103:8

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Psalms 103:12

They will be my people and I will be their God, for they will return to me with all their heart.

Jeremiah 24:7b

"I will heal their waywardness and love them freely, for my anger has turned away from them."

Hosea 14:4

Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again

have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

Micah 7:18-19

But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves.

Malachi 4:2a

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Romans 3:23-24

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:1

“Sometimes I lie awake at night and ask, ‘Where have I gone wrong?’ Then a voice says to me, ‘This is going to take more than one night.’”

Charles Schultz

“God loves you at this moment as much as he ever has and ever will.”

Through the great exchange Christ took the consequences of our sins and we receive God’s holiness and eternal life.

God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

2 Corinthians 5:21

He was delivered over to death for our sins and was raised to life for our justification.

Romans 4:25

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed.

1 Peter 2:24

"I am sure of two things, I am a great sinner and Christ is a great Savior"

John Newton

Sin – Grace = Guilt

Sin + Grace = Gratitude

Mark Batterson¹

Sins involve things we do, say, or think and also things that we do not do that God's Word teaches that we should do.

Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

James 4:17

"Christ calls us not only passively not to do the negative but also actively to do the positive."

Pastor Rick Richter²

We should forgive others as Christ has forgiven us.

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Ephesians 4:32

Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

Colossians 3:13

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

Matthew 6:12

Lord, do not hold this sin against them. (Stephen's last words while being stoned to death).

Acts 7:60

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

James 5:16

Empowered by God's love we can resist temptation to sin.

- (1) Recognize temptation for what it is and that it's intent is to lead humans into sin. Read James 1:14
- (2) Run away from temptation. Read 1 Corinthians 10:13 and 1 Timothy 6:11
- (3) Resist temptation with the Word. Read Hebrews 4:12 and 2 Corinthians 10:4-5
- (4) Repent when you fail. Read 1 John 1:9
- (5) Refocus your thoughts with praise and worship. Read Psalm 147

I will not look with approval on anything that is vile. I hate what faithless people do; I will have no part in it.

Psalm 101:3

But each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed.

James 1:14

I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.

Psalm 119:11

"Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation.

The spirit is willing, but the body is weak."

Mark 14:38

So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall! No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:12-13

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12:2

For the word of God is alive and active.

Hebrews 4:12a

“Not to be sinless, but to sin less.”

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Loneliness

God is with us our whole lives and sustains us.

Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will never leave you nor forsake you.

Deuteronomy 31:6

“I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.”

Jeremiah 31:3

For in Him we live and move and have our being.

Acts 17:28

“God always has something for you, a key for every problem, a light for every shadow, a relief for every sorrow and a plan for every tomorrow.”

“There is something you must always remember. You are braver than you believe, stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think. But the most important thing is God is always with you.”

Paraphrase of A.A. Milne, Winnie the Pooh

Others can benefit from your companionship because God created you and has a purpose for you.

So that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

1 Corinthians 12:25-27

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Psalms 139:13-14

For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.

Romans 12:4-5

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds.

Hebrews 10:24

“You can make more friends in two months by becoming interested in other people than you can in two years by trying to get other people interested in you.”

“To be interesting, be interested. Ask questions that other persons will enjoy answering. Encourage them to talk about themselves and their accomplishments.”

Dale Carnegie¹

“If you realized how powerful your thoughts are, you would never think a negative thought again.”

“Grace defines who you are.”

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Overwhelmed

Turn to God and others for help.

Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you; he will never let the righteous fall.

Psalm 55:22

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Lamentations 3:22-23

But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

2 Corinthians 12:9

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

Matthew 19:26

At that time I said to you, "You are too heavy a burden for me to carry alone. The Lord your God has increased your numbers so that today you are as numerous as the stars in the sky. May the Lord, the God of your ancestors, increase you a thousand times and bless you as he has promised! But how can I bear your problems and your burdens and your disputes all by myself? Choose some wise, understanding and respected men from each of your tribes, and I will set them over you."

Deuteronomy 1:9-13

As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the Lord is flawless. He shields all who take refuge in him.

2 Samuel 22:31

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

“God doesn't give us what we can handle. He helps us handle what we have been given.”

“The greatest memories are of the toughest victories and biggest challenges. The most satisfying days are not the days when you had nothing to do. The most satisfying days are the hardest days—the days when you had everything to do and you did it.”

Mark Batterson¹

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Encouragement

God is in control.

But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Psalms 33:11

Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, the sheep of his pasture.

Psalms 100:3

If God is for us, who can be against us?

Romans 8:31b

For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

Psalms 100:5

"I've read the last page of the Bible. It's all going to turn out all right."

Billy Graham

With God anything is possible.

Is anything too hard for the Lord?

Genesis 18:14

I am the Lord, the God of all mankind. Is anything too hard for me?

Jeremiah 32:27

Joshua told the people, "Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do amazing things among you."

Joshua 3:5

So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

1 Samuel 17:50

“Be fully persuaded that God has power to do what he promises.”

“The best I can do is the best God can do.”

“It is not a great faith that we need, but faith in a great God.”

God can help you persevere through tough times.

Moses said, “Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” And God said, “I will be with you.”

Exodus 3:11-12

The Lord said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths?...Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”

Exodus 4:11-12

No one will be able to stand up against you all the days of your life. As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you.

Joshua 1:5

The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Psalms 18:2

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:12-13

Look to the Lord and his strength; seek his face always.

Psalms 105:4

When I called, you answered me; you made me bold and stouthearted.

Psalms 138:3

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.

Isaiah 43:2a

Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Romans 5:3-5

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.

Hebrews 12:1-2

"When we pray for patience God doesn't give just give us patience, but opportunities to be patient. When we pray for courage, God doesn't just zap us and make us courageous, but gives us opportunities to be courageous."

From movie Evan Almighty¹

For every hill I've had to climb
For every rock that bruised my feet
For all the blood and sweat and grime
For blinding storms and burning heat
My heart sings but a grateful song
These were the things that made me strong.
James Casey poem "Climb the Steep."

“Who can you help to encourage not to give up by letting them know that God does not give up on us and gave everything for us to have eternal life.”

Pastor Steve Benson

When things go wrong, as they sometimes will,
When the road you're trudging seems all uphill,
When funds are low and the debts are high,
And you want to smile, but you have to sigh,
When care is pressing you down a bit,
Rest if you must, but don't you quit.

Life is queer with its twists and turns,
As every one of us sometimes learns,
And many a failure turns about,
When he might have won if he'd stuck it out.
Don't give up, though the pace seems slow -
You may succeed with another blow.

Often the goal is nearer than
It seems to a faint and faltering man;
Often the struggler has given up
When he might have captured the victor's cup,
And he learned too late, when the night slipped down,
How close he was to the golden crown.

Success is failure turned inside out -
The silver tint of the clouds of doubt,
And you never can tell how close you are -
It may be near when it seems afar;
So stick to the fight when you're hardest hit -
It's when things seem worst that you mustn't quit

Author Unknown

Make the most of your God-given abilities

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:58

For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline.

2 Timothy 1:7

“Good, better, best. Never let it rest, till your good is your better and your better is your best.”

“If you want to see where someone develops into a champion, look at his or her daily routine.”

John Maxwell²

True confidence is centered on who we are as children of God.

Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14

So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded.

Hebrews 10:35

“Jesus exuded a confidence that came from inner strength; he is the ultimate example of power under control.”

Chuck Norris

“Know your abc’s –Always Be Confident.”

Naomi Stohlmann

“One of the deepest urges in human nature is the desire to be important.

You are important!

Redeemed! Chosen! Saved!

Grace defines who you are!”

Dr. Micah Stohlmann

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Relationships

Because of God's love for us we can show this love to others in all of our relationships and interactions.

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love.

1 John 4:7-8

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

Mark 12:30-31

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

Luke 6:36

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Ephesians 4:2

But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.

Colossians 3:8

Hatred stirs up conflict, but love covers over all wrongs.

Proverbs 10:12

The words of the reckless pierce like swords, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.

Proverbs 12:18

A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

Proverbs 15:1

Without wood a fire goes out; without a gossip a quarrel dies down.

Proverbs 26:20

"But I tell you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."

Matthew 5:44

If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; if he is thirsty, give him water to drink.

Proverbs 25:21

Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

Proverbs 22:6

"I do solemnly resolve before God to take full responsibility for myself, my wife, and my children. I WILL love them, protect them, serve them, and teach them the Word of God as the spiritual leader of my home. I WILL be faithful to my wife, to love and honor her, and be willing to lay down my life for her as Jesus Christ did for me. I WILL bless my children and teach them to love God with all of their hearts, all of their minds, and all of their strength. I WILL train them to honor authority and live responsibly. I WILL confront evil, pursue justice, and love mercy. I WILL pray for others and treat them with kindness, respect, and compassion. I WILL work diligently to provide for the needs of my family. I WILL forgive those who have wronged me and reconcile with those I have wronged. I WILL learn from my mistakes, repent of my sins, and walk with integrity as a man answerable to God. I WILL seek to honor God, be faithful to His church, obey His Word, and do His will. I WILL courageously work with the strength God provides to fulfill this resolution for the rest of my life and for His glory. As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. ---Joshua 24:15"

From the movie Courageous¹

“The best way to destroy an enemy is to make them a friend.”

Abraham Lincoln

“A few well chosen words can calm a stressful situation.”

Dr. Micah Stohlmann

“Coaches and players with great team attitudes (1) listen to each other, (2) are courteous to each other, (3) show concern for each other, (4) help each other share the load, (5) say what they feel, but watch how they say it, (6) don't put each other down, (7) celebrate success, (8) don't talk behind each others' backs, (9) praise each other, and (10) treat everyone's opinions as important.”

Don Meyer

A man once asked his father, “Father, how will I ever find the right woman.” His father replied, “Forget finding the right woman, focus on being the right man.”

"If you're married and you have a wife and you really love your wife, is it good enough to only say to your wife 'I love her' the day you get married? Or should you tell her every single day when you wake up and every opportunity? That's how I feel about my relationship with Jesus Christ."

Tim Tebow

God can put us in the right place, at the right time to accomplish His purpose.

For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?

Esther 4:14

Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Colossians 4:6

“We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God. God will constantly be crossing our paths and canceling our plans by sending us people with claims and requests. We may pass them by, preoccupied with our more important tasks, like the priest who passed by the man who had fallen among thieves.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

“Have patience, have patience, don't be in such a hurry. When you get impatient, you only start to worry. Remember, remember, that God is patient too.”

Frank Hernandez & Sherry Saunders Powell²

“Ruthlessly eliminate hurry from your life.”

John Ortberg

Why am I right here, right now, at this time?

Rev. Dr. Steve Stohlmann

Just as I am, without one plea by Charlotte Elliot

Charlotte was at a party where she met a minister, Cesar Malan. He told her that he hoped she was a Christian. She responded that she would rather not discuss that. He said that he was sorry, but always liked to talk about God. Three weeks later, she met him again and said that she had been thinking about what he said. She asked him, “How do I come to Christ?” Malan responded, “Just come to him as you are.” She became a Christian and shortly after wrote this hymn.³

1. Just as I am, without one plea,
But that Thy blood was shed for me,
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

The body of believers is strengthened through community.

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another.

Proverbs 27:17

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Romans 12:9-18

But encourage one another daily, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

Hebrews 3:13

Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

Ephesians 4:29

Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another.

Hebrews 10:25

"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel."

Maya Angelou

"The physical presence of other Christians is a source of incomparable joy and strength to the believer."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer⁴

"Every individual is a complex mix of brokenness and security with relation to the impact of sin in their life."

Rev. Dr. Steve Stohlmann⁵

“Christians must be aware that God has called them to be conversing with others and consoling them with God’s good news in Christ.”

*Rev. Dr. Robert Kolb*⁶

“Every minister, lecturer and public speaker knows the discouragement of pouring himself or herself out to an audience and not receiving a single ripple of appreciative comment. What applies to professionals applies doubly to workers in offices, shops and factories and our families and friends. In our interpersonal relations we should never forget that all our associates are human beings and hunger for appreciation. It is the legal tender that all souls enjoy.”

*Dale Carnegie*⁷

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

End of Life

When our time on earth is drawing to a close, Christians have the blessed assurance of heaven.

For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end.

Psalms 48:14

My flesh and heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Psalms 73:26

Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.

Isaiah 46:4

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die."

John 11:25

"Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life and will not be judged but has crossed over from death to life."

John 5:24

If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.

Romans 14:8

As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered.

James 5:11a

"His grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home."

John Newton

"Troubles are like a bridge that bring us close to God, so close that we can almost touch Him. Death, the darkest of all

troubles, is but a door to the eternal brightness of the presence of God."

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

"Precious as it is to proclaim, "Christ died for the world," even sweeter it is to whisper, "Christ died for me."

Max Lucado¹

"Grace is the gift of feeling sure that our future, even our dying, is going to turn out more splendidly than we dare imagine."

Lewis Smedes

"Sometimes when we are at the end of our life everything falls into place and we are at our spiritual best. We know that we will soon be in heaven and can die in peace."

Pastor Dean Nadasdy

"I'm going to be okay. It's in God's hands."

Walter Payton-upon learning he had terminal cancer

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, they victory?
I triumph still, if Thou abide with me.

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Henry F. Lyte²-he died shortly after writing this hymn

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Love

God's love is self-sacrificing, never fails, is unchanging, and is not based on our feelings or actions.

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us.

1 John 3:16a

There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved.

Acts 4:12

But God demonstrated his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:37-39

Not one word has failed of all the good promises he gave through his servant Moses.

1 Kings 8:56b

I will declare that your love stands firm forever, that you established your faithfulness in heaven itself.

Psalm 89:2

“Yet my unfailing love for you will not be shaken nor my covenant of peace be removed,” says the Lord, who has compassion on you.

Isaiah 54:10

For great is your love, higher than the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

Psalm 108:4

Who am I, O Sovereign Lord, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far?

2 Samuel 7:18b

He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.

Titus 3:5a

You, Lord God, have looked on me as though I were the most exalted.

1 Chronicles 17:17b

Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 23:6

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

1 Corinthians 13:4-7

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment.

1 John 4:18a

“GRACE: God’s Riches at Christ’s Expense.”

“Great is the Lord. He is holy and just. By His power we trust in His love.”

*Michael W. Smith*¹

How deep the Father’s love for us,
How vast beyond all measure,
That He should give His only son
To make a wretch His treasure.
How great the pain of searing loss-
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One
Bring many sons to glory.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no power, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer,
But this I know with all my heart:
His wounds have paid my ransom.
*Stuart Townend*²

Amazing Grace by John Newton

He was a slave ship captain, became a Christian and later turned to be against slavery. The hymn is based on 1 Chronicles 17:16-17. Who am I, Lord God, and what is my family, that you have brought me this far? And as if this were not enough in your sight, my God, you have spoken about the future of the house of your servant. You, Lord God, have looked on me as though I were the most exalted of men.³

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see.

God's love is meant to be shared.

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Matthew 28:19-20

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10a

Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

Ecclesiastes 4:12

As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.

2 John 1:6b

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Service

Motivated by God's love, we can serve the Lord in all parts of our lives by providing our resources, time, and encouragement to those throughout the world.

But be sure to fear the Lord and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you.
1 Samuel 12:24

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.
Mark 10:45a

Each one should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.
1 Peter 4:10

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me... The King will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.
Matthew 25:35-36,40

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.
Colossians 3:23

But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.
Joshua 24:15b

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here I am. Send me!"
Isaiah 6:8

The Lord works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed.
Psalm 103:6

Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
2 Corinthians 9:7

The disciples, as each one was able, decided to provide help for the brothers and sisters living in Judea.
Acts 11:29

“When we stop focusing solely on our needs, we become aware of the needs of others around us.”

“We hear a Christian assure someone that he will pray over his problem, knowing full well that he intends to use prayer as a substitute for service. It is much easier to pray that a poor friend’s needs may be supplied than to supply them.”
A.W. Tozer

“Most of us commit our time and our resources to make our lives as comfortable as possible. We are by nature comfort seekers, not cross bearers.”
Kyle Idleman¹

“We are the richest people ever to walk the face of the earth. Period. Yet, most of us live as though there is nothing terribly wrong in the world...while 40 percent of the world’s inhabitants struggle just to eat every day. And in our own backyards, the homeless, those residing in ghettos, and a wave of immigrants live in a world outside the economic and social mainstream of North America.”
Brian Fikkert²

“Christians in affluent countries tend to pray, Lord, take this trial away from us! Persecuted Christians and the very poor pray instead, Lord, give us the strength to bear this trial. In the very poor countries they just assume they will face opposition.”

Philip Yancey³

“Oppressed people often look down and won’t look you in the face. When you smile at them and talk to them to share God’s love their gaze goes up to see love and more importantly up to see Jesus in heaven.”

Lenora Kilmer

“We are all something, but none of us are everything.”

Blaise Pascal

"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.' To this day, especially in times of disaster, I remember my mother’s words, and I am always comforted by realizing that there are still so many helpers - so many caring people in this world."

Mister Rogers

“We are here to help each other.”

Harmon Killebrew-quoting his mom

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Witness

Salvation in Jesus Christ is a great message! It is Good News meant to be shared!

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith -- and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere.

Psalms 84:10a

One thing I ask of the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

Psalms 27:4

I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done.

Psalms 118:17

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

Isaiah 9:2

How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!"

Isaiah 52:7

Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few."

Matthew 9:37

Jesus said, "Go home to your own people and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you."

Mark 5:19

For we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.

Acts 4:20

I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes.

Romans 1:16

And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?

Romans 10:14

"The most important part of our task will be to tell everyone who will listen that Jesus is the only answer to the problems that are disturbing the hearts of men and of nations."

Corrie ten Boom¹

"A little boy visited an elderly women from church with his mother. After they left, he told his mother, 'I think she must be Jesus' Grandmother.' His mom asked why? The boy said, 'She has pictures of him everywhere and she would not stop talking about Him.'"

"No, I'm not a great man. I just have a great message."

Billy Graham

"The birth of Jesus was so important it split history into two parts. A.D. and B.C.--Even non-Christians can recognize this."

Philip Yancey²

Christians, empowered by God, can witness to others through our words and actions.

So is my word that goes out from my mouth: it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:11

But the Lord said to me, Do not say 'I am too young.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you.

Jeremiah 1:7

You must speak my words to them, whether they listen or fail to listen.

Ezekiel 2:7a

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:16

He said to them, "Do you bring in a lamp to put it under a bowl or a bed?" Instead, don't you put it on its stand?"

Mark 4:21

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.

1 Peter 3:15

If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:11

"Evangelism is best done one to one and by building relationships. Many young people come to Christ because of people they know very well, usually in the context of an everyday interaction."

David Kinnaman³

“Essentially, Christian witness is expressing in our own words and way what He has done for us...The way to become confident, comfortable, and effective in sharing Christ is to do it thoughtfully and faithfully, over and over again.”

Rev. Dr. Milt Rudnick⁴

The Value of a Smile

It costs nothing, but creates much.

It enriches those who receive, without impoverishing those who give.

It happens in a flash and the memory of it sometimes lasts forever.

None are so rich they can get along without it, and none so poor but are richer for its benefits.

It creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in a business, and is the countersign of friends.

It is rest to the weary, daylight to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and Nature’s best antidote for trouble.

Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is no earthly good to anybody till it is given away.

Nobody needs a smile so much as those who have none left to give!

“Regardless of our situations in life, we are always role models for someone---*always*—and probably in ways we wouldn’t expect.”

Tony Dungy⁵

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Disappointment

God doesn't always give us what we want, but does provide us what we need.

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

Psalm 23:1

What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

Romans 8:31-32, 35

For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold.

Psalm 84:11

The Lord remembers us and will bless us.

Psalm 115:12

The Lord is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation.

Psalm 118:14

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.

Ecclesiastes 3:1

"I am still determined to be cheerful and happy, in whatever situation I may be; for I have also learned from experience that the greater part of our happiness or misery depends upon our dispositions, and not upon our circumstances."

Martha Washington

"Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see the shadow."

Helen Keller

“It’s easier to go from failure to success than it is from
excuses to success.”

John Maxwell¹

“You are not your performance. And you don’t have to be
defined by your worst moments.”

John Maxwell¹

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Leadership

True leadership is modeled on the servant leadership of Christ through empowering others with God's love.

It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way secure. He makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he causes me to stand on the heights.

2 Samuel 22: 33-34

He will defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; he will crush the oppressor.

Psalms 72:4

I know that the Lord secures justice for the poor and upholds the cause of the needy.

Psalms 140:12

Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.

Proverbs 16:3

Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs 16:18

Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.

Proverbs 31:8

"These are the ones I look on with favor: those who are humble and contrite in spirit: and who tremble at my word."

Isaiah 66:2b

'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty

Zechariah 4:6

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourself.

Philippians 2:3

“For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Matthew 23:12

"Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."

Matthew 9:35

Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things.

Matthew 25:23

“Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much.”

Luke 16:10

“Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak. Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen.”

Sir Winston Churchill

“Only Jesus taught an upside down model of leadership, where the Leader is the greatest Servant of all. Only servant leadership can take a ‘ME’ and turn it into a ‘WE.’”

“Why do you do what you do?”

“Jesus taught over and over that our very existence was all about relationships—first with him, and then with others. That’s why God created us in the first place. So it stands to reason that when your *why* answer is self-centered, your purpose, your very reason for existence, is not being fulfilled. And in the long run, you’ll not experience the true peace and joy this life has to offer.”

Todd Gongwer¹

“You have achieved excellence as a leader when people will follow you everywhere if only out of curiosity.”

Colin Powell

“The ability to deal with people is as purchasable a commodity as sugar or coffee...And I will pay more for that ability than for any other under the sun.”

John D. Rockefeller.

“There is nothing else that so kills the ambitions of a person as criticisms from superiors. I never criticize anyone. I believe in giving a person incentive to work. So I am anxious to praise but loath to find fault. If I like anything, I am hearty in my approbation and lavish in my praise.”

Charles Schwab

“We rush out the door and say, ‘Hey, how are you doing? Nice to see you.’ We don’t even look people in the eye. We’re not really talking to them. If you do that, you’re going to miss a lot of potential in other people...People aren’t things to be molded, like clay. That’s not your job. That’s manipulation---not leadership. People aren’t things to be molded; they’re lives to be unfolded. And that’s what true leaders do. They unfold the lives of others and help them reach their God-given potential.”

Rick Warren

“As a mentor and a leader, I have found that I cannot move the ball forward with positive, nurturing leadership until I *engage* with those I am blessed to lead. Once, I’ve engaged with them, I am able to *educate* and *equip*. Throughout the process, it is essential to *encourage*, *empower*, and *energize* in order to finally *elevate* the people around me.”

Tony Dungy²

“Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it.”

Dwight D. Eisenhower

“We’re not asking you to be perfect on every play. What we’re asking of you and what you should be asking of each other is to give a perfect effort from snap to whistle.”

Coach Bob Ladouceur

“Leadership is one part influence and two parts responsibility: As people of influence, we must always take responsibility for our contribution to problems that arise around us.”

Todd Gongwer¹

“Mentor leadership is all about shaping, nurturing, empowering, and growing. It’s all about relationships, integrity, and perpetual learning. Success is measured in changed lives, strong character, and eternal values rather than in material gain, temporal achievement, or status. Ultimately, mentor leadership is just as successful in achieving the standards of accomplishment in our society. But unlike other types of leadership, it is primarily concerned with building and adding value to the lives of people in the process. It’s about changing lives” “What can I do to make other people better, to make them all that God created them to be?”

Tony Dungy²

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

Success

Success should not be based on worldly things like money, power, appearance, or possessions.

“The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

1 Samuel 16:7b

Keep your lives free from the love of money and be content with what you have, because God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.”

Hebrews 13:5

“I have made millions, but they have brought me no happiness.”

John D. Rockefeller

“There is nothing in this world that can compare with the Christian fellowship; nothing that can satisfy but Christ.”

John D. Rockefeller

“If you and I ever hope to free our lives from worldly desires, worldly thinking, worldly pleasures, worldly dreams, worldly ideals, worldly values, worldly ambitions, and worldly acclaim, then we must focus our lives on another world.”

David Platt¹

“A gold medal is a nice thing - but if you're not enough without it, you'll never be enough with it.

John Candy from the movie- Cool Runnings

Give God the glory alone for all good things.

It is God who arms me with strength and keeps my way secure.

Psalms 18:32

Great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; his greatness no one can fathom.

Psalm 145:3

“But let the one who boasts boast about this: that they have the understanding to know me, that I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice, and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight,” declares the Lord.

Jeremiah 9:24

Therefore, as it is written: "Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord."

1 Corinthians 1:31

“For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Luke 14:11

Now all glory to God, who is able, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.

Ephesians 3:20

“This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”

John 15:8

So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

“The hero of every story in the Bible is God.”

“If you see a turtle up on a fence post, it had help getting up there.”

“I have made a valuable application of electricity not because I was superior to other men but solely because God, who meant it for mankind, must reveal it to someone and He was pleased to reveal it to me.”

Samuel Morse²

“I want to let the people know that there is a God who can raise someone from nothing into something. And that’s me. I came from nothing into something and I owe everything to God.”

Manny Pacquiao

True success is based on what God has done for us in Jesus’ death and resurrection. Because of this we are motivated to show His love to others.

We love because he first loved us.

1 John 4:19

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

1 Peter 2:9,12

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:37-39

“Never look down on anyone, unless you are helping them up.”

“I don’t remember that the Lord ever spoke of success. He spoke only of faithfulness in love. This is the only success that really counts.”

Mother Teresa

“Everyone in a town came to a banquet to hear an amazing actor recite poetry, sing, and eloquently display his skills. He did several pieces after everyone had eaten and everyone was very impressed. Then he asked if anyone had any requests. An old man in the back stood up and weakly said that he would like to hear the man recite Psalm 23. The actor said that he knew this piece and that he would only do it on one condition: if the old man would recite it after him. The actor vigorously and powerfully recited the Psalm. At the end everyone clapped and gave a standing ovation. The old man had to follow that. He began and in his voice that was cracking at times and with the weariness of many trials, he recited the Psalm. At the end there were no applause, but there was not a dry eye as well, as everyone was crying. Later someone asked the actor what he thought of the old man’s recitation. The actor replied, ‘I knew the Psalm, but that man knows the Shepherd.’”

The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name’s sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 23

-----Space for your own Bible verses or quotes-----

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