The man who never reads will never be read; he who never quotes will never be quoted. He who will not use thoughts of other men’s brains proves he has no brain of his own. –Charles H. Spurgeon
The wisdom of the wise and the experience of the ages are perpetuated in quotations. –Benjamin Disraeli
**Anger**
Anger always begets anger.
Anger is a thief who steals away the nice moments.
Anger is foolish; anger is futile; and anger is forbidden.
Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish to be. --Thomas A. Kempis
Bitterness is a choice, bitterness is crippling, and bitterness is condemned.
Bitterness is crippling emotionally, mentally, physically, relationally, socially, spiritually.
Carrying anger over time can lead to addictive behaviors in order to get relief—*temporary* relief. --Gary Smalley
Don’t get angry at the sheep for acting like sheep.
Expressing your anger is unhealthy; repressing, suppressing, or denying your anger is even more unhealthy.
God has not designed your body to deal with bitterness.
Hurts we don’t deserve often develop into an unforgiving spirit; hurt leads to hatred.
If you are a person who gets angry, then you are an angry person.
If you welcome bitterness it will destroy you.
Liberals and legalists are the most angry people around.
The moment I begin to hate a person, I become his slave.
The word “fool” meaning “empty headed”—it is reacting without thinking.
There has never been a happy feminist—they are filled with paranoia and anger.
Truly respecting others is the bedrock of motivation. –Dale Carnegie
We look foolish when we give vent to anger.
When a man angers you, he controls you.
When you are angry you look silly.
When we focus on the negative characteristics of others we become just like them—as a man thinks so is he.
Who is my brother? Your brother is anyone who irritates you.

**Anxiety**
Do not be afraid—is the message of Genesis to Revelation.
Drive out fear: You must refuse to be cowed by the opinions of others. You must have the strength to say no to the wrong things and to embrace the right ones, even if you are the only one who seems to know the difference.
Fear chases out faith and faith chases out fear.
Fear forces, love leads, faith follows.
FEAR = False Evidence Appearing Real
We are still afraid of one another, and of ourselves.
What we fear usually doesn’t happen, and if it does, it is not nearly as bad as we thought it would be.
When we face fear, (1) reflect on God’s faithfulness in the past, (2) focus on the presence of God here and now, (3) believe the promises of God for success.

**Application**
Application = take this from your head to your heart.
Bible teaching without application leads to arrogance.

**Apologetics**
A loss of an attitude of wonder leads to ingratitude which leads to meaninglessness and emptiness.
Apart from the Bible on sacred Scriptures encourages people to take care of widos, orphans, and prisoners. – Charles Colson

Apparently the Atheist is willing to give up everything, including truth and reason itself, in order to attack God.

Are you sure that God does not exist?
Atheism is illogical. Atheism is the infinite negation based on infinite knowledge that an infinite being does not exist. – Ravi Zacharias

Christianity gives us moral law; Naturalism gives us survival of the fittest—it takes away human dignity.

Christianity is the only religion that has at its core event the humiliation of its God.
Here I stand, I can do no other. – Martin Luther

I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen, not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else. – C. S. Lewis

http://www.quotedb.com/authors/cs-lewis

If God exists and we are made in His image we can have real meaning, and we can have real knowledge through what He has communicated to us. – Francis Schaeffer

If there is no God, everything is permissible.
If there were no heaven nor resurrection, life would be unfair.
If we fear competing viewpoints, if we fail to state the unpopular because of some sense of political correct civility, it is not civility at all; it is the denigration of the human capacity for thought, the suggestion that we are fragile flowers incapable of disagreement, argument, or civil intellectual combat.

Is Christianity true? Is an historical question, not a philosophical question. – Josh McDowell

Is there sufficient historical evidence to justify belief in Christianity?
Jesus Christ is God’s unequivocal divine yes! (2 Cor. 1:19).

Man is in an abnormal state, hence the need for redemption, regeneration, reformation, restoration, renewal. If man were in a normal state, then God would have to be evil. – Josh McDowell

Most people believe what they want to believe regardless of the facts.
Negativism (life is full of pain and ends in pain) or surprised by joy, it’s your choice.
Occam’s Razor: the best explanation is usually the simplest.
One of the most powerful apologetical arguments for Christianity is that it goes directly against human nature.

Only God is big enough to fill your heart with wonder and gratitude.
People are more interested in the relevancy of Christianity than in the veracity of Christianity.

People cannot live without purpose.
People cannot live with guilt.
People have a spiritual void that only Jesus can fill. He also gives our lives significance, meaning and purpose.

Reasoning is a spiritual, non-materialistic, activity—or it is flawed.
The clue to the meaning of life is found in relationships.
The evidences for Christianity are sufficient, but not exhaustive (John 20).
The greatest possible miracle: to find 12 men willing to die painfully for a life, knowing it was a life, when their “great cause” died on the cross. The resurrection is the only cause great enough for this effect.

There are two kinds of people: those who say to God, “Thy will be done," and those to whom God says, "All right, then, have it your way." – C.S. Lewis

There is no darkside to God’s force.
There is no ying-yang with God.
Thou hast formed us for Thyself, and our hearts are restless until they find rest in Thee. –St. Augustine

We are not now living in a post-Judeo-Christian era but rather in an anti-Judeo-Christian era. –Josh McDowell

We have an unfair advantage: the truth is on our side.
We should be armed with evidence to help skeptics realize that they need to be rescued. – Lee Strobel

Why believe? Because without belief it is impossible to survive, let alone thrive.
Why believe? Because there has to be more to life than this.
Why believe? Because there is too much order for this to be an accident.

Attitude

A godly attitude comes from other centeredness; not self-centeredness.
Always living in view of eternity = ALIVE.

Attitude. The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude is more important than fats. 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’s more important than appearances, 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 embrace for than day. We cannot change our past.... We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. 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

Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference. –Sir Winston Churchill

Beware a critical spirit motivated by envy.
Complaining does not good—what we need is real change and reform.
Every action will vibrate in eternity—the ultimate butterfly effect.
Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing. –Mother Teresa

God has not give you a longing to do that which He has not given you the ability to do.
Great people are really just ordinary people with an extraordinary amount of determination.
Great people don’t now how to quit! –Rick Warren

I have found the paradox that if I love until it hurts, then there is no hurt, but only more love.
–Mother Teresa

I like a man who grins when he fights. –Sir Winston Churchill
If what you are working for really matters, you will give it all you got.
If you judge people, you have no time to love them. –Mother Teresa
If you are a negative thinker you will be judgmental, critical, and angry—but, if you are a positive thinker you will be forgiving, encouraging, and joyful.

It is not the magnitude of our actions but the amount of love that is put into them that matters. –Mother Teresa

It takes the mind 30 days to change a belief.
It’s all about perspective.
Life is 10% what happens to you and 90% how you respond.
Life is better when you make it fun; make everything possible a game.
My attitude dictates my performance.
Negative thinking leads to a critical spirit and judgmentalism.
Old age is a mindset.
Our attitude determines our altitude.
Positive thinking leads to gratitude and joy.
Problems are opportunities to grow in love and Christlikeness.
Remember to watch your thoughts, because they become your words; watch your words, for they become your actions; watch your actions, for they become your habits; watch your habits, for they become your character; and watch your character, because it becomes your legacy.
The limitations you accept in your mind, they establish the boundaries you will live in your life. —Erwin McAmnus
The only real disability in life is a bad attitude.
The only way your circumstances can get you down is if you forget that you are sealed by the Holy Spirit.
The word that guarantees success—attitude.
Watch your thoughts, because they become your words; watch your words, for they become your actions; watch your actions, for they become your habits; watch your habits, for they become your character; and watch your character, because it becomes your legacy. —Frank Outlaw
We all have ability; the difference is how we use it. —Stevie Wonder
We bring healing when we praise and encourage.
We bring hurt when we criticize and complain.
What we see depends mainly on what we look for. —Sir John Lubbock
What you think is what you are. If you are a negative thinker you will be judgmental, critical, and angry—if you are a positive thinker you will be forgiving, encouraging, and joyful.
The choice is yours!
When we stop dreaming, we stop living.
Whether you think you can, or that you can’t you are usually right. —Henry Ford
You are today where your thoughts have brought you—and you will be tomorrow where your thoughts take you. —James Allen
You control your attitude or it controls you.
You know you are maturing when you begin to see the hand of God in the random, baffling, and seemingly pointless circumstances of life. —Rick Warren

Bible
A Bible that is never touched will never touch you.
All Scripture points to Christ.
All the good from the Savior of the world is communicated through this book; but for the book we could not know right from wrong. All the things desirable to man are contained in it. —Abraham Lincoln
Bible stories are windows that give new perspectives and insights.
Bible study by itself will not produce spirituality. In fact, it will produce carnality if it isn’t applied and practiced. —Gene Getz
Bible study is thinking the thoughts of God.
God has something special for us from His Word.
God speaks truth into our lives through His Word.
God’s Word is for transformation, not information.
If you read the Word of God, it will help you; if you study the Word of God, it will change you’ if you meditate on the Word of God, it will keep you.
In reading the Scriptures I find a great moral power. Therein I am made aware of two great forces for good...; the fear of God and the grace of God. The one is a deterrent to evil and the other is an encouragement to good. —Jim Elliot
It is not enough to be under the Word, we must be in the Word; God has spoken and He has not stuttered. God has communicated because He wants us to understand.
Look carefully for what God put in the Scriptures. –John 21:25
Men do not reject the Bible because it contradicts itself, but because it contradicts them.
Often we miss the truths of Scripture because we are not looking for them.
Reading the Bible without mediating on it is like trying to eat without swallowing.
*Sola fidei regula:* the Bible is the only authoritative voice of God to man.
*Sola scriptura.*
Take your directions from the Owner’s Manual.
The Bible contains truth, but it does not contain all truth. –Charles Colson
The Bible has 7,000 promises for the believer.
There is no accidental information in the Bible.
There are no nice subtle crosses in the Bible.
The Bible is God’s revelation of Himself to man.
The Bible is a library of sixty-six books.
The Bible is a treasure of divine instruction.
The Bible has within it all that we need to know about walking out the life which God has called us into.
The Bible is about changing, not just learning.
The Bible is not a therapeutic book of self-improvement; it is an inspirational book of eschatological promises that eye has not yet seen, ear heard, nor hearts grasped by those who love God.
The Bible is not to be just learned, it is to be used.
The Bible provides the floor plan for life.
The Bible reveals the principles by which God will judge.
The Bible tells how men can be saved and how saved men should live.
The Bible, through its principles and ideals, provides an enduring, relevant guide to Christian conduct.
The Holy Spirit and the Bible do not conflict.
The message of the Living Word in the Written Word is simply this: God loves you; Christ died for you; and He will forgive you of all your sin, and he will set you free to be the person you always wanted to be down in your heart; he will take you to places you have never gone to before with joy indescribable if you will believe in Him. –David Jeremiah
The New is concealed in the Old—and the Old is revealed in the New. –St. Augustine
The purpose of Scripture is not to enlarge our heads but to conform our character to the image of Christ. (Rom. 8:28-29; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Heb. 5:12-14).
The Written Word reveals the Living Word.
To be guided by the Holy Spirit is to be led into a knowledge of the will of God as revealed in the Bible and climaxed in Christ.
To find God’s will, we need both the Holy Spirit and the Bible: inspiration, preservation, illumination, and motivation.
To pray well is to study well.
We believe the Bible is true because Jesus said the Bible is true (John 17).
When the Bible is studied just as a textbook it leads to arrogance; it must be read devotionally for application.
When the Bible speaks, God speaks. –B.B. Warfield
Without a strong knowledge of and firm commitment to the truths which God has revealed in the Bible, no gift, no talent, no calling will ever bring about God’s intended purposes. Period.
You’re reading too much if you reflect on it too little. –Howard Hendricks
**Bible Interpretation**

Bible interpretation involves understanding and applying the meaning of biblical texts. A good application is personal, specific, measurable, timely, and reasonable. A knowledge of marriage customs, economic practices, military systems, legal systems, agricultural methods, etc., is all very helpful in the interpretation of Scripture. – Bernard Ramm

Application asks: (1) Is there a command I should obey? (2) Is there an exhortation I should follow? (3) Is there a prohibition or something I should avoid? (4) Is there a godly example I should follow? Application should be personal, specific, measurable, timely, and reasonable.

Application without interpretation is mysticism. Connecting words—and, but, now, or, for, according to, wherefore, therefore, in order that, if, from, out of—are keys to correctly interpreting a passage. Determining what the passage says is observation. Determining what the passage means is interpretation.

Facts are stupid things until brought into connection with some general law. The Bible uses figures of speech to add vitality to its verbal message. Hermeneutics bridges the gap between our minds and the words of the Bible. If you read the Word of God, it will help you; if you study the Word of God, it will change you; if you meditate on the Word of God, it will keep you.

In deduction you begin with a general principle or conclusion, then observe whether the conclusion is true. – Irving Jensen

In inductive Bible study you first observe, then make conclusions based on the text. Inspiration is infallible, but not illumination. – Bernard Ramm

Interpretation without application is rationalism. Literal interpretation is crippled without the help of cultural studies. – Bernard Ramm

Look carefully for what God put in the Scriptures. – John 21:25

Only grammatical interpretation fully honors the verbal inspiration. Roy Zuck

Paraphrasing a passage forces the student to concentrate on the meaning of the words. Qualifications of an interpreter: born again, a passion to know God's Word, a deep reverence for God, utter dependence on the Holy Spirit to guide and direct (spiritual things are spiritually discerned). – Bernard Ramm

Scripture interprets Scripture. – Martin Luther

Reading the Bible without meditating on it is like trying to eat without swallowing. *Sola fidei regula*: the Bible is the only authoritative voice of God to man.

Study without application leads to pride. Study without obedience leads to a cold heart.

Syntax is the orderly arrangement of words and their relation to one another to convey meaning in a sentence. – Summers

Textual criticism [or lower criticism] is the Biblical science which determines the text of Scripture... Historical criticism deals with authorship, date of composition, historical circumstances, the authenticity of its contents, and its literary unity... Radical criticism [or higher criticism] is the liberal attempt to explain away the supernatural based on German rationalism. – Bernard Ramm

There is no accidental information in the Bible. The Bible speaks ultimately, authoritatively, consistently, compassionately, guidingly, challengingly, realistically, adequately, and relevantly.

The Bible, through its principles and ideals, provides an enduring, relevant guide to Christian conduct.

The Bible was not written with paragraph breaks in it which is why different translations suggest different paragraph divisions.

The Bible was written to influence our thoughts and spur us to appropriate action.

The paragraph is the fundamental unit of expression.

The steps of inductive interpretation are: (1) observation, (2) interpretation, (3) correlation, and (4) application.

The importance of first-hand observation: The Student, the Fish, and Agassiz

http://www.bethel.edu/~dhoward/resources/Agassizfish/Agassizfish.htm

The understanding of most passages of Scripture is dependent on some understanding of history. –Bernard Ramm

The primary and basic need of hermeneutics: to ascertain what God has said in Sacred Scripture; to determine the meaning of the Word of God. –Bernard Ramm

The Holy Spirit and the Bible do not conflict.

The message of the Living Word in the Written Word is simply this: God loves you; Christ died for you; and He will forgive you of all your sin, and he will set you free to be the person you always wanted to be down in your heart; he will take you to places you have never gone to before with joy indescribable if you will believe in Him. –David Jeremiah

The New is concealed in the Old—and the Old is revealed in the New. –St. Augustine

The study of the canon determines the inspired books, the study of text [textual criticism] determines the working of the books; the study of historical criticism gives us the framework of the books; hermeneutics gives us the rules for the interpretation of the books; exegesis is the application of these rules to the books; and Biblical theology [preaching and application] is the result. –Bernard Ramm

The Written Word reveals the Living Word.

There are five ways to fill your mind with God’s Word: you can receive it, read it, research it, remember it, and reflect on it. –Rick Warren

To be guided by the Holy Spirit is to be led into a knowledge of the will of God as revealed in the Bible and climaxed in Christ.

To find God’s will, we need both the Holy Spirit and the Bible: inspiration, preservation, illumination, and motivation.

To pray well is to study well.

Until we can recreate and understand the cultural patterns of the various Biblical periods we will be handicapped in our understanding of the fuller meaning of Scripture. –Bernard Ramm

We know what God has said by the faithful and accurate interpretation of the Scriptures. –Bernard Ramm

We must let the Scriptures be clear where they are clear—and let the Scriptures be less than clear when they are less than clear.

When reading a book of the Bible concentrate on understanding the story line, the doctrines it discusses, the various characters, and the themes.

When summarizing a passage, ask the six questions: who, what, when, where, why, and how.

You’re reading too much if you reflect on it too little. –Howard Hendricks

**Bible Storying**

A good story is a delight.

A good story invites people to enter another’s experience and make it their own.

A good story wraps you up in truth and recognition and won’t let go.

A well-told story touches the whole man, not just his intellect.

Anything can be made more interesting through the use of storytelling.
Good things happen when you tell a story—your listeners become involved. It is again time for the church to learn to speak in stories. It is helpful to remember that Jesus wasn’t a lecturer; He was a storyteller. William Bausch Jesus chose storytelling as His way of communicating. Jesus did not lecture on subjects, He converted the imagination by telling stories and parables. We are both the prodigal and the older brother; we are the Levite, the priest, and the Samaritan. When he story is told well, we find connections between our story and the story of God. One good point in a lesson reinforced by a story can be more effective than ten deep but abstract ideas. Parable is the translation...of two Greek terms that mean ‘to throw along side of.’ What is involved is a story created to be thrown along side of a true-life situation to drive home the central point the storyteller is trying to make. As Jesus demonstrated, a good picture is worth a thousand words that slip by, unillustrated in strokes which a person can visualize, then pin to their memory. –Frank Seilhamer

One of the greatest aids in whole-brain preaching is storytelling. People are caught by stories. People, by and large, did not hear or pay attention to the naked truth. But when the same message was dressed up in the garments of a story, or a parable, they not only listened but took the message home with them. –Brian Cavanaugh

The shortest distance between a human being and Truth is a story. Though nearly all of Scripture, from Genesis to Revelation, moves by narrative and story, it is Jesus who is the perfecter of the form. Through vivid pictures of seeds, pearls, and unemployed workers, He helps us imagine the kingdom of God. To tell a story well, one needs to read it aloud 20 to 30 times, highlight the first words of each paragraph, set the mood, bait your hook, envision all the action of the story in your mind’s eye, slow the pace of the last paragraph—and coast to a stop. –Reg Grant

Stories are a meaningful way to proclaim the message of Jesus for our day. Stories are a very sophisticated way to process and communicate information. Stories give the listener a catch of the breath, a beat and lifting of the heart. Stories have power. They delight, enchant, touch, teach, recall, inspire, motivate, challenge. They help us understand. They imprint a picture on our minds. Consequently, stories often pack more punch than sermons. Want to make a point or raise an issue? Tell a story. Jesus did it. He called his stories ‘parables’. –Janet Litherland

Stories help us make sense of the world. Stories help us pass our understanding on to others. Stories must be filled with pictures in order that the imaginations of people can be opened to the ever-

Stories, parables, fables, anecdotes, illustrations, etc., help us to see the "bigger picture" in life. They help us to understand there is more to life than our own limited spheres of experience. They create pictures in our mind and open up our imagination to comprehend a greater dimension of life than we are normally used to experiencing. Stories are vehicles that take us to far off places, places we've never experienced ourselves. –Brian Cavanaugh

Stories seep into the listener's inner resources and awaken the sleeping giant—the imagination. What enables stories to be effective in ministry, counseling or teaching is that they are objective to the person; therefore, they can be heard in a non-threatening manner. Stories should help create a sense of wonder and awe, a sense of the supernatural. The marvelous pulls us toward faith.
Stories should help create a strong sense of virtue; the assurance that help is available when it is needed; that suffering should not be avoided; that suffering has the power to change the world (e.g., the cross). Telling more stories can make us more like Jesus.

The early Christians were "a community of storytellers....The stories were about Jesus of Nazareth who himself offered such spellbinding stories that they were told and retold by people who found in them a key to their own stories of faith and struggle. The stories of the Bible were always retold in a way that noticed the particular needs and concerns of the listeners. Contact with the original story was not lost, but the new listeners found relevance and renewal in the story retold because it involved them in a personal way."

The intellect works in concert with the emotions and the will. The shortest distance between a human being and Truth is a story (Nathan and David). We have passed from an audio age to a video age. We need stories the way a fish needs water. While people tolerate sermons, they celebrate the stories. You can ditch an annoying intellectual proposition without much effort, but you cannot ignore a parable that has battered your rebellious will into a defenseless pulp (e.g., David).

Biblical Worldview
We have lost the biblical view the role of government, which is to preserve order, restrain evil, and promote justice. —Chuck Colson

Change
All of us need to make changes, none of us have arrived. —John Maxwell
Always start with the end in mind.
If you need no change you need no leader. —John Maxwell
If you want things to change start making personal changes right now. —John Maxwell
In times of change people seek out leaders. —John Maxwell
It is wrong to plan things without God.
No one would argue that doing the same things the same old, anemic ways would ever produce different results—but then why do we refuse to change?
One person cannot change another person. —John Maxwell
The only person who can change you is you. —John Maxwell
The only way things will change for you is if you change. —John Maxwell
We cannot become what we need to be by remaining what we are. —Max Depres
We must be the change we envision.
Without a point of crisis, it is difficult to change.
You must create some dissatisfaction with the present if people are going to be open to change.

Choices
Death is just a matter of time; life is a matter of choice.
Here are your options: Get better or get bitter (Heb. 12:12ff).
If you desire to excel for Christ, you must narrow your choices. —Philippians 3:13
It's not the situation; it's your reaction to the situation that matters.
One thing is clear to me. You can't know everything you'd like to know. You can't do everything you'd like to do. You can't read everything you'd like to read. You must hold onto some things and let go of others. Learning to make that choice is one of the big lessons of this life. —Real Live Preacher

People usually aren’t as closed as we think they are. They just need time to think about the decision we’re asking them to make. - Rick Warren

Some of the most carnal Christians I’ve known were a veritable storehouse of biblical knowledge. They could explain any passage and defend any doctrine, yet were unloving, self-righteous, and judgmental. It is impossible to have spiritual maturity and pride at the same time. – Rick Warren

SUDs – seemingly unimportant decisions
There is a great gap between how men want to act and how they do act.
We are the sum total of our choices.
We are all at the crossroads.
We do what we truly believe.
You are free to make choices, but you are not free to escape the consequences.
You have choice: You can select joy over despair. You can select happiness over tears. You can select action over apathy. You can select growth over stagnation. – Leo Buscaglia

**Christ**
A gospel story without the resurrection of Jesus is the melancholy tale of a dead Christ who is helpless to save. – Colin Brown

A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic – on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg – or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God; or else a madman or something worse. You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to. – C.S. Lewis

A supernatural superhero will one day intervene in human history and save the world—that person will in fact be Jesus Christ Himself!

As the centuries pass, the evidence is accumulating that, measured by His effect on history, Jesus is the most influential life ever lived on this planet. – Historian Kenneth Scott Latourette

Christ Himself claimed to be God, accepted worship from others, and was viewed as deity by the apostles and the early church.

Even those who have renounced Christianity and attack it, in their inmost being still follow the Christian ideal, for hitherto neither their subtlety nor the ardour of their hearts has been able to create a higher ideal of man and of virtue than the ideal given by Christ of old. – Fyodor Dostoyevsky

Fundamentally, our Lord's message was Himself. He did not come merely to preach a Gospel; He himself is that Gospel. He did not come merely to give bread; He said, "I am the bread." He did not come merely to shed light; He said, "I am the light." He did not come merely to show the door; He said, "I am the door." He did not come merely to name a shepherd; He said, "I am the shepherd." He did not come merely to point the way; He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." – J. Sidlow Baxter

Here is a man who was born in an obscure village, the Child of a peasant woman. He worked in a carpenter shop until He was thirty, and then for three years He was an itinerant preacher. He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never owned a home. He never had a family. He never went to college. He never put His foot inside a big city. He never traveled two hundred miles from the place where He was born. He never did one of the things that usually accompany greatness. He had no credentials but Himself. He had nothing to do with this world except the naked power
of His Divine manhood. While still a young man, the tide of popular opinion turned against Him. He was turned over to His enemies. He went through the mockery of a trial. He was nailed to a Cross between two thieves. His executioners gambled for the only piece of property He had on earth while He was dying—and that was His coat. When He was dead He was taken down and laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend. Such was His human life—He rises from the dead. Nineteen wide centuries have come and gone and today He is the Centerpiece of the human race and the Leader of the column of progress. I am within the mark when I say that all the armies that ever marched, and all the navies that ever were built, and all the parliaments that ever sat, and all the kings that ever reigned, put together, have not affected the life of man upon this earth as powerfully as has that One Solitary Life. --James C. Hefley

I have read in Plato and Cicero sayings that are very wise and very beautiful; but I never read in either of them: "Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden." –Augustine

I know men and I tell you that Jesus Christ is no mere man. Between Him and every other person in the world there is no possible term of comparison. Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and I have founded empires. But on what did we rest the creation of our genius? Upon force. Jesus Christ founded His empire upon love; and at this hour millions of men would die for Him. –Napoleon

Jesus Christ: The meeting place of eternity and time, the blending of deity and humanity, the junction of heaven and earth – Anonymous

Jesus Christ is Prophet, Priest, and King.
Jesus is coming back—and He want us to be busy as we are waiting.

Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander the Great, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon; without science and learning, he shed more light on things human and divine than all philosophers and scholars combined; without the eloquence of school, he spoke such words of life as were never spoken before or since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of orator or poet; without writing a single line, he set more pens in motion, and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art, and songs of praise than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times. –Philip Schaff

No one else holds or has held the place in the heart of the world which Jesus holds. Other gods have been as devoutly worshipped; no other man has been so devoutly loved. –John Knox

The bodily resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the crowning proof of Christianity. If the resurrection did not take place, then Christianity is a false religion. If it did take place, then Christ is God and the Christian faith is absolute truth. –Henry Morris

The message of the Living Word in the Written Word is simply this: God loves you; Christ died for you; and He will forgive you of all your sin, and he will set you free to be the person you always wanted to be down in your heart; he will take you to places you have never gone to before with joy indescribable if you will believe in Him. –David Jeremiah

Church
A Great Commitment to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission will grow a Great Church! –Rick Warren

A major theme of the Bible is that of reconciliation.
A prepared city/church gets better results than an unprepared city/church.
Any strategy your church develops to build up believers must help people not only learn the Word, but also love it and live it. –Rick Warren
Bring them in—build them up—send them out.
Busyness is a great disguise for the lack of life. —Ed Stetzer
Changed lives are the church’s greatest advertisement. —Rick Warren
Christian laity are God’s secret weapon in the world. —John E. Kyle
Church growth barriers: lack of concern over God’s glory, lack of repentance over sin, lack of trust in God, lack of obedience in evangelism, lack of stewardship, lack of spiritual disciplines, lack of love, lack of unity, lack of expository preaching, lack of earnest prayer, lack of convictions, lack of passion, lack of biblical teaching, lack of equipping, lack of training, lack of lay ministry, lack of spiritual gifts assessment, lack of integrity, lack of excellence, lack of application + self-focus, self-interest, self-glory, self-centeredness, sin, unbelief, arrogance, wrong attitudes, heretical teachings, immorality, lukewarmness, indulgence (See Ed Stetzer, _Comback Churches_, pp.12-13).
Church health indicators = baptisms (conversions) + attendance (fellowship) + stewardship (discipleship) + kingdom vision (partnership)
Churches, like people, don’t plan to fail; they fail to plan.
Churches do their members a great disservice by keeping people so busy going to the next Bible study that they don’t have time to apply what they learned at the last one they attended. —Rick Warren
Dynamic people make for a dynamic church.
God goes to church when we go to church.
God is building His church His way
Growing churches are led by growing leaders. —Rick Warren
Helping churches to be as successful as possible—to reach their potential.
How do you know God is building His church—the gates of hell are coming down and people are being added.
If you love Jesus, you will love what Jesus loves—His Church.
It is a mistake to assume that study _alone_ will produce maturity. It is only one component of the ministry process. People need experiences in addition to study to grow.
Churches must have a balanced strategy for developing disciples. —Rick Warren
It is interesting to note that only dysfunctional churches are angrily attacking the emergent church; healthy churches are watchfully learning from it.
One of the main purposes of the Church is to bring men and women to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.
Relationships are the “glue” that keeps people connected to your church. —Rick Warren
The church exists for the sake of those who have yet to be introduced to Jesus Christ.
The #1 predictor of the growth of any church is the preaching ability of the pastor.
The church exists for those outside.
The church is a military outpost in engaged in attaching the gates of hell.
The church is a military unit ordered to rescue those held by the kingdom of darkness.
The church is a service department for sinners, not a showcase for saints.
The church is a spiritual hospital.
The church, as the body of Christ, in incarnate in the world to become the Suffering Servant.
The church is not called out of the world but called to go into the world and love like Christ, forgive like Christ, and give itself to the world like Christ.
The church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men. —E.M. Bounds
The church is the only organization that exists for the benefit of its non-members.
The Great Commission is not an external commandment imposed upon the church, but a statement of the life principle of the church. —Tom Julien
The Great Commission is an expression of the church’s earthly purpose. —Tom Julien

The size of a church is measured by its sending capacity not its seating capacity. –Tom Julien
We don’t go to church—we are the church.
What God is doing today, He is doing through the church.
You have seven minutes to make a first impression on your first time guests and to convince them to return. –Nelson Searcy
You will never not need a coach. If you think you don’t need a coach, you are being presumptuous. –Rick Warren

Church Administration
Each pastor serves as a “base coach,” –someone who helps the runners make it safely to the next base. –Rick Warren
We explain to our members that our goal is to help believers around the basis of life. –Rick Warren
What if committee members knew they were chosen because of their skills and commitment? What if they were joined to the others because of some common goals that everyone was excited about? What if each had a role to play that they knew was essential to the success of the group? What if they had a leader who saw them as players who were indispensable for the fulfillment of the vision? –Tom Julian

Church Evangelism
A major barrier to church growth is ‘people blindness’—being unaware of social and cultural differences in society.
Expect failure if you are not a person of prayer.
God will honor our prayers if we ask Him for witnessing opportunities.
In order to love unbelievers unconditionally, people must understand the difference between acceptance and approval.
It is now possible to live a “Christian life” without doing the things that Jesus commanded us to do. "We have hired people to go into all the world, to visit those in prison, to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to care for widows and orphans. The average Christian doesn’t have to do it. –Cal Thomas
Possibilities for building bridges exist all around us if we are willing to conquer our fears and allow a love for God and a love for people to flow through us. –Daniel Owens
Remember, we are building bridges to real people, not just accumulating decisions for Christ. –Daniel Owens
The church is a hospital for sinners. –Rick Warren
The first step in communicating the gospel involves learning to develop a relationship with an unbeliever. –Hank Hanegraaff
The Outsider finds it hard to believe you want him to be with you in heaven unless you want him in your home. –Ralph Neighbour, Jr
We must learn to think like unbelievers in order to win them.
While women weep, as they do now, I’ll fight; while children go hungry, as they do now I’ll fight; while men go to prison, in and out, in and out, as they do now, I’ll fight; while there is a drunkard left, while there is a poor lost girl upon the streets, while there remains one dark soul without the light of God, I'll fight-I'll fight to the very end! –William Booth

Church Health
A lack of joy is a major reason for decline in most churches—the cure is the fruit of the Spirit. –J. Vernon McGee

A major barrier to church growth is ‘people blindness’—being unaware of social and cultural differences in society.

Each pastor serves as a “base coach,”—someone who helps the runners make it safely to the next base. –Rick Warren

Expect failure if you are not a person of prayer.

If you lead people to commit to growing spiritually, teach them some basic habits, and give them guidance as they progress around the bases, you can expect to see them grow. –Rick Warren

If you want to pastor a growing church you have to do what pastors of growing churches do. In order to love unbelievers unconditionally, people must understand the difference between acceptance and approval.

One of the most helpful things a church can do for people is to assist them in clarifying what commitments to make and what commitments to decline. The reason we have so many weak Christians is because they are half-committed to many causes rather than being totally committed to the things that matter most. –Rick Warren

The church is a hospital for sinners. –Rick Warren

To get out of the maintenance mode churches would have to learn to think strategically—to relate their activities to vision and goals. –Tom Julien

We explain to our members that our goal is to help believers around the basis of life. –Rick Warren

We must learn to think like unbelievers in order to win them. When we sit under Bible teaching, but do not serve and walk in love we become prideful, cynical, negative, and ineffective.

Without application people sit, soak, and sour; this is the progression of faith w/o works.

**Communication**

A closed mouth gathers no feet.

A dull delivery takes the edge off of your message.

A secret is something you tell to only one person—at a time.

According to Ecclesiastes 12:9 the communicator needs to ponder, to arrange. This person is worth listening to because he has done is homework. Accurate with the facts, the communicator is careful with the text.

According to Ecclesiastes 12:10 the communicator needs to find delightful words and to write words of truth correctly. Good communication not only starts by being well prepared, it is delivered in an interesting manner.

As communicators we come not to impress, but to impart.

Being boring is a gross violation, being dull is a grave offense, being irrelevant is a disgrace to the gospel—and yet most preachers are guilty of all three crimes. As a result our evangelical messages does not have a ring to it but instead it drops with a sickening thud as it falls from the pulpit. –Charles Swindoll

Clutter is a failure of design, not an attribute of information.

Communication is the foundation of relationships.

Communication requires a balance of grace and truth.

Creativity perpetuates the learning process, brings freshness to your communication

Don’t give someone a piece of your mind; you can’t afford to lose it.

Economy means communicating without any unnecessary words. It means saying things quickly, using short words in short paragraphs. –Sue Nichols

Energy means communicating with force. It means propelling our thoughts into the minds of others. It means girding our message in strong, vivid language so that what we say “registers.” –Sue Nichols
Ethos (character), pathos (compassion), and logos (content) equal communication. – Howard Hendricks

Good communication is interesting, clear, and practical. Good communication is never automatic. It comes when you have thought through the subject so that you can deliver it in an interesting, passionate, convincing manner; it also sticks because it has been made practical, so that no one leaves saying I was bored listening to the Bible. – Charles Swindoll

Good communication is not about impressing people; it is about imparting the wisdom and power of God. Good communication is not guaranteed by knowledge alone. Good communication starts by being well prepared, is delivered in an interesting manner, and is practical; words act like goads.

If words are to enter people’s heart and bear fruit, they must be the right words, shaped to pass defenses and explode silently and effectually within their minds. – J.B. Phillips

If you communicate the gospel in all aspects that the exception of the issues that deal specifically with your times, you are not communicating at all. – Martin Luther

If you are going to bore someone, bore them with Shakespeare, don’t bore them with the Bible.

In communicating, remember that dullness is failure. It is a crime to make the Word of God dull and boring. It is important to be respectful and to build bridges in communicating the gospel. It is not a complement to be so deep than no one understands you. It’s not what you say; it’s what people hear. Words that Work

Knowing the material by itself does not equip you to communicate effectively. – Charles Swindoll

Knowledge of the Word does not guarantee the proper communication of the Word. Life is all about leaving a legacy. Long words have paralysis in their tails. – Haddon Robinson

May we not neglect the disciplines of prayer and thought and study so that we will not be responsible for causing others to be bored by the Word of God. Never take it for granted that what you are about to say is automatically interesting to your audience.

Nothing magical happens when we open the inspired Word of God; it is essential therefore that we be well prepared with the message of truth, which is the first point of good communication.

One of the most important rules of communication is clarity. Our commission is not to know the Word; it is to preach the Word. Passion is contagious.

People are hungry; there is a famine in the land for the Word of the Lord. Search for powerful stories that act like well-driven nails that send your point home. Seek materials that are accurate to the biblical text; clearly delivered without having to be decoded; and practical enough for people to take with them when the message is over.

Since reading makes a broad man, speaking makes a ready man, and writing an exact man. I suggest in the process of preparing your message, write out your thoughts—or you will be like that proverbial river, a mile wide and an inch deep. – Charles Swindoll

Start with a bang and end with a challenging story. Stay clear of clichés and tired bromides. Use words that everyone understands. Say it with enthusiasm or you don’t really believe it.

Stay away of long horn extemporaneous messages with a point here and a point there and a lot of bull in between.
Subtlety means communicating without overdrawning conclusions for the receiver. It means putting facts together with such artistry and restraint that listeners grasp our point without our coming right out and telling them. It means giving our surface material a subsurface power, understood but not articulated. –Sue Nichols

The job of the communicator is to build a bridge from the text to the audience. The simple truths are often the best ones.
The speaker is responsible to build a bridge between the text and the audience by being interesting.
The words you use often determine the outcome.
Today’s communicator must ensnare the attention of men and women on the go. We need to take seriously Paul’s charge to the Colossians that we let our speech always be with grace seasoned with salt.
We shape the way people treat us.
What I say is not what you hear, and what you think you heard is not what I meant at all.
What we have here is a failure to communicate.
When you seek to make your message interesting, you are not trying to impress your audience with your knowledge; you are helping them see how relevant the Bible is. That takes short sentences, easily understood words, terms that are grasped by everyone in attendance.
You build a bridge by being interesting; you become interesting by hard work, searching for material to make your message interesting.
You can be dull and boring and not know it.
You can think you are communicating clearly when in fact you are not.
You cannot take shortcuts with the Word of God. To communicate effectively you must to the hard work behind the scenes, digging, searching, pondering, and arranging your thoughts. –Charles Swindoll
You may think you are interesting and clearly communicating when you are not.

**Compassion**
Compassion is the ultimate power.
Compassion is to suffer with someone
If you can’t feed a hundred people, then just feed one. –Mother Teresa
It is not compassionate nor merciful to enable and encourage homelessness. –Michael Medved
People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.
The people who make a difference are not the ones with the credentials, but the ones with the concern. —Max Lucado.
When our hearts are moved with compassion, we are moved to action.
We are all called to lives of compassion.

**Conflict Resolution**
A closed mouth gathers no feet.
Criticism, like rain, should be gentle enough to nourish a man’s growth without destroying his roots. —Frank A. Clark
Everywhere you go you carry two buckets—one of water and one of gasoline—and when you come to a fire you have a choice—which bucket will you use.
From our greatest conflicts come our greatest victories!
If someone agrees with you 70 percent of the time, he is not your enemy. –Ronald Reagan
If you are doing God’s work, someone will form a “Get Jesus committee” to challenge you (John 8:13, 33, 39, 41, 48, 52)

If you don’t look like prey predators will ignore you.
I’m not OK, but that’s OK, God loves me anyway, whether you do or not.
In our disagreements let us not be disagreeable.
In the essentials, unity; in the nonessentials, liberty; and in all things, charity. –Pascal
Niceness loses to escalation and recruitment. –Dr. Laura
One core solution to conflict is being able to talk out issues.
Regardless of the situation, react with class.
The opposite of grumbling is loving confrontation.
The words you use often determine the outcome.
Those who angry with God take their frustrations out on the messenger.
Truly respecting others is the bedrock of motivation. –Dale Carnegie
Unconditional love and respect will be rewarded. –Emerson Eggerichs
We need more collaboration and less conflict.
We need to encourage one another.
We need to take seriously James’ charge not to judge others (James 4:1-12).
We need to take seriously Jesus’ charge not to judge motives (Matt. 7:1-5).
We need to take seriously Paul’s charge to the Colossians that we let our speech always be with grace seasoned with salt.
We shape the way people treat us.
When you slander you are doing the work of the devil.

**Counseling**
Attitude and preparation are the two most important elements of life.
Confession brings your sins into the light.
Count the cost.
Determine the defining moments in your life.
Enabling is interfering with someone getting better.
God, help us to respond, to heal the sick, to seek the lost, to set the captive free, to serve and never count the cost.
If you are on God’s side all hell will come against you.
Let your conduct reflect your citizenship.
Listening is hearing what is said—and what is not said.
Share what you have learned.
The greatest tragedy in Christian education is the focus on doctrine rather than spiritual transformation. –Tim Clinton
Whatever is denied cannot be healed.
You have been called to enter the darkness with the light.
You are as sick as your secrets.
You can’t give what you don’t have.
You have to let the truth flow through your life.
You have begun a journey, continue it, and finish it.

**Courage**
A real hero goes in when everyone else is going out.
Always stand on principle, even if you stand alone. –John Adams
Boldness is contagious.
Bravery is contagious.
Courage is contagious.
Courage is going from failure to failure without losing enthusiasm. –Sir Winston Churchill

Courage is not simply one of the virtues but the form of every virtue at the testing point. – C.S. Lewis

Courage is the first of human qualities because it is the quality that guarantees all the others. –Sir Winston Churchill

Courage is the mastery of fear, not the absence of fear.

Courage is the perfect sensibility of the measure of danger and a perfect willingness to endure it.

Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen. –Sir Winston Churchill

Deuteronomy 31:6

Even though you may want to move forward in your life, you may have one foot on the brakes. In order to be free, we must learn how to let go. Release the hurt. Release the fear. Refuse to entertain your old pain. The energy it takes to hand onto the past is holding you back from a new life. What is it you would let go of today?

Fear constricts the mind preventing it from taking in new information and creative responses. It should be your care, therefore, and mine, to elevate the minds of our children and exalt their courage; to accelerate and animate their industry and activity; to excite in them an habitual contempt of meanness, abhorrence of injustice and inhumanity, and an ambition to excel in every capacity, faculty, and virtue. If we suffer their minds to grovel and creep in infancy, they will grovel all their lives. –John Adams

Most people are kind, some are honest, but few are courageous.

Sometimes one man with courage is a majority. –Andrew Jackson

Sometimes the fate of a nation rests upon the shoulders of a single courageous soul. – Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Tiredness makes cowards of us all.

What is seen as stubbornness in the present is often seen as steadfastness in the future. Without fear there could be no courage.

http://www.quotedb.com/categories/courage

Courtship

10 Commandments of Dating.

When in doubt, there is no doubt.

Creation

Biblical Creation - the Cornerstone Anchor of Christianity

Evolution cannot explain creation.

From nothing nothing comes.

If evolution is true, everything is permissible.

Keep Darwinian thinking out of cosmology, out of psychology, out of human culture, out of ethics, politics, and religion! –Daniel Dennett

Most evolutionists are evolutionists for pelvic reasons, not cranial reason. –Charles Colson

Critical Thinking

Think about the consequences before you act.

Criticism

A leader’s response to valid criticism is often the test of the genuineness of his character. Adversity makes us better or bitter.

Attacks and criticisms are to be expected, but we cannot give up on the Great Commission just because people are upset.
Complaining and criticizing are cancerous and contagious –Philippians 2:14
Condemning yourself does not make you a better person.
Criticism comes easier than craftsmanship. –Zeuxis
Criticism has few terrors for a man with a great purpose. –Disraeli
Criticism is both cancerous and contagious. –Gary Woods
Criticism is often an attempt to cover-up the critic’s shortcomings.
Criticism is the disapproval of people, not for having faults, but having faults different from your own.
Criticism, like rain, should be gentle enough to nourish a man’s growth without destroying his roots. –Frank A. Clark
Criticisms may not be contempt at all; they are simply her way of crying, “Please love me.” –Emerson Eggerichs
Critics are filled with anger, bitterness, envy, greed, slander, strife, and wrath.
Do what God has called you to do and let God answer the critics.
Doubtless criticism was originally benignant, pointing out the beauties of a work rather that its defects. The passions of men have made it malignant, as a bad heart of Procrustes turned the bed, the symbol of repose, into an instrument of torture. –Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
He only profits from praise who values criticism. –Heinrich Heine
He that wrestles with us strengthens our nerves, and sharpens our skill. Our antagonist is our helper. –Edmund Burke
If you would lift me up, you must be on higher ground. –Ralph Waldo Emerson
In my wide association in life, meeting with many and great men in various parts of the world, I have yet to find the man, however great or exalted his station, who did not do better work and put forth greater effort under a spirit of approval than he would ever do under a spirit of criticism. –Charles M. Schwab
It is a barren kind of criticism which tells you what a thing is not. –R. W. Griswoold
It is easier to criticize than to change.
It is easier to criticize than to improve.
It is usually best to be generous with praise, but cautious with criticism.
Judgmental critics do not practice the teachings of Jesus.
Kites rise highest against the wind—not with it. –Sir Winston Churchill
Most people who criticize are trying to cover-up their own shortcomings.
Paul’s Contentious Critics—a competitive spirit (Phil 1; 4:15-17).
People ask you for criticism, but they only want praise. W. Somerset Maugham
People need coaching, not criticism. –Gary Woods
Reaching the unchurched is spiritual warfare, attacks and criticisms are to be expected.
Remember not to take criticism personally, since it usually does not represent the opinion of the majority. However, hear and acknowledge the opinions of the congregation, for they are the ones you lead before the Lord.
The reality is that criticism and opposition will drive you somewhere. Let it drive you closer to God and you will become better; let it drive you away from God and you will become bitter.” –Dan Southerland
To avoid criticism do nothing, say nothing, be noting. –Elbert Hubbard
To need to be more critical of our own motivations, and less critical of the motivations of others—love does not come up with the worst motivation possible (1 Cor. 13).
Wise people seek criticism. –Gary Smalley
You cannot raise a man by calling him down. –William Boetcker

Cross
If we don’t respond properly to our hurts we will develop hatred; how can we be unforgiving in light of the cross.
Our problem is that we want to be Christ-like without the cross. –Henry Blackaby
The apparent defeat of the cross is followed by the victory of the resurrection.
The cross strips us of the right to be unforgiving.
The cross is the central theme of the Bible.
The power of the cross is seen in family restoration.
You don’t come closer to God by making more commitments; you come closer to God by denying self and taking up your cross.

Crucial Issues
First, the Bible’s documents are inerrant (without error) in the original autographs (documents first penned by the human authors).
Second, without the deity of Christ, there is no Christianity to defend.
Third, Christ Himself claimed to be God, accepted worship from others, and was viewed as deity by the apostles and the early church.
Fourth, the message of the gospel centers around the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.
Fifth, if Jesus Christ did not die for sin as the only adequate substitute for a sinful human being, and if He was not literally raised from the dead, then there is no good news for the world.
Big government plus good intentions minus freedom is still tyranny.
Dead orthodoxy is no better than hedonistic liberalism.
If you vote for a pro-abortion candidate, you are as guilty as that candidate is.
In a darkening culture people are looking for lighthouses.
In the United States’ Declaration of Independence, our founding fathers, “held certain truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”
Liberalism is based on a lie.
Liberals hate life. The Hideous Strength
Liberals lie; they know what they are doing but cannot say so publicly.
Liberty comes from God and must be tempered by virtue.
The American Dream is freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and the “Protestant work ethic of thrift and hard work. It involves overcoming adversity through industry, perseverance, self-reliance, and self-discipline.
The American Dream for liberals is winning at gambling, lotteries, and lawsuits. It focuses on entitlement and luck rather than hard work.
The American Dream envisions a religious paradise in a “City upon a Hill.” –John Winthrop
The American Dream is “that dream of a land in which life should be better and richer and fuller for everyone, with opportunity for each according to ability or achievement. It is a difficult dream for the [liberal] European upper classes to interpret adequately, and too many of us ourselves have grown weary and mistrustful of it. It is not a dream of motor cars and high wages merely, but a dream of social order in which each man and each woman shall be able to attain the fullest stature of which they are innately capable, and be recognized by others for what they are, regardless of the fortuitous circumstances of birth or position. –James Truslow Adams
The American dream is that every man has “the right to live, to work, to be himself, and to become whatever thing his manhood and his vision can combine to make him.” – Thomas Wolfe

The bigger the government, the less religious freedom it tolerates.
The primary reason for working mothers is higher taxes.
The problem with the New World Order is that it demands a One World Dictator. –Roger Hedgcock

The root issue of our time is “Is there truth?” All the other issues are symptoms of this deeper issue: abortion, child abuse, crime, divorce, homosexuality, and promiscuity.
A supernatural superhero will one day intervene in human history and save the world—that person will in fact be Jesus Christ Himself!

Deconstructionism = anti-historical = non-historical approaches to finding personal truth. – Charles Colson

Deconstructionism is rewriting history according to one’s personal agenda or bias.
God is pro-life.
Government takes too much of your money and spends too much of your money.
Government should be on your side, not in your way.
He who shall introduce into public affairs the principles of primitive Christianity will change the face of the world. –Benjamin Franklin

Holocaust was motive by the theory of Evolution—and opposed by all Christian groups.
NOW has eternal impact.
Science cannot address purpose and meaning.
The battle is not yours—but the Lord’s (Joshua, Gideon, David, Jehoshaphat).
The government does not have any money, it has to take money from you to give it to your neighbor. –Rick Roberts

The Left seeks to destroy all character-building institutions: the church, the military, the scouts, etc.
One of the goals of the entertainment media is to remove guilt by killing the conscience.
Only 4% of applicants to Harvard can write a proper sentence.
Vital statistics: Over 2/3s of the American population have a secular worldview. Less than 1/3 have a spiritual worldview. Crime statistics for the 1950x by ethnicity.

We become accomplices to the evil we fail to oppose.
We have a tax code that punishes business—and stifles achievement.
Whatever government gives to me, government must take from someone who earned it.
When the government needs money, there is only one place to go—and that’s the middle class.
You cannot bring prosperity by discouraging thrift. You cannot help small men by tearing down big men. You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong. You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer. You cannot help the poor man by destroying the rich. You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income. You cannot further brotherhood of men by inciting class hatred. You cannot establish security on borrowed money. You cannot build character and courage by taking away man’s initiative and independence. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves. – Rev. William J. H. Boetcker, quoted by Ronald Reagan

You cannot have Christ in your heart—but not in your politics.

C. S. Lewis
The Problem of Pain

When pain is to be borne, a little courage helps more than much knowledge, a little human sympathy more than much courage, and the least tincture of the love of God more than all. –C. S. Lewis (10)

It is a remarkable fat that no canonical writer has ever used Nature to prove God. –Pascal

All the human beings that history has heard of have heard of some kind of morality; that is, they feel towards certain proposed actions the experiences expressed by the word “I ought” or I ought not.” –C. S. Lewis (21)

All men alike stand condemned, not by alien codes of ethics, but by their own, and all men therefore are conscious of guilt. –C. S. Lewis

The second element in religion is the consciousness not merely of a moral law, but of a moral law at once approved and disobeyed. (22)

The fourth element is a historical event. There was a man born among these Jews who claimed to be, or to be the son of, or to be “one with,” the Something which is at once the awful haunter of nature and the giver of the moral law. (23)

Christianity is not the conclusion of a philosophical debate on the origins of the universe: it is a catastrophic historical even following on the long spiritual preparation of humanity.

In a sense, it [Christianity] creates, rather than solves, the problem of pain, for pain would be no problem unless, side by side with our daily experience of this painful world, we had received what we think a good assurance that ultimate reality is righteous and loving. (24)

The Problem: “If God were good, He would wish to make His creatures perfectly happy, and if God were almighty, He would be able to do what He wished. But the creatures are not happy. Therefore God lacks either goodness, or power, or both.”

Omnipotence means power to do all that is intrinsically possible, not to do the intrinsically impossible. (28)

Meaningless combinations of words do not suddenly acquire meaning simply because we prefix to them the two other words “God can.”

The freedom of a creature must mean freedom to choose: and choice implies the existence of things to choose between. (33)

Try to exclude the possibility of suffering which the order of nature and the existence of free wills involve, and you find that you have excluded life itself. (34)

The doctrine of Total Depravity—when the consequence is drawn that, since we are totally depraved, our idea of good is worth simply nothing—may thus turn Christianity into a form of devil-worship. (38)

Christ calls men to repent—a call which would be meaningless if God’s standard were sheerly different from that which they already know and failed to practice. (39)

We want, in fact, not so much a Father in Heaven as a grandfather in heaven—a senile benevolence who, as they say, “liked to see young people enjoying themselves,” and whose plan for the universe was simple that it might be truly said at the end of each day, “a good time was had by all.” (40)

Love is something more stern and splendid than mere kindness…. There is kindness in Love: but Love and kindness are not coterminous, and when kindness is separated from the other elements of Love, it involves a certain fundamental indifference to its object, and even something like contempt of it. (40)

As Scripture points out, it is bastards who are spoiled: the legitimate sons, who are to carry on the family tradition, are punished (Heb. 12:8). It is for people whom we care nothing about that we demand happiness on any terms: with our friends, our lovers, our children, we are exacting and would rather see them suffer much than be happy in contemptible and estranging moves. (41)
If God is Love, He is, by definition, something more than mere kindness…. Though He [God] has often rebuked us and condemned us, He has never regarded us with contempt. (41)

We are, not metaphorically but in very truth, a Divine work of art, something that God is making, and therefore something with which He will not be satisfied until it has a certain character. (42)

It is natural for us to wish that God had designed for us a less glorious and less arduous destiny; but then we are wishing not for more but for less. (43)

We may wish, indeed, that we were of so little account to God that He left us alone to follow our natural impulses—that He would give over trying to train us into something so unlike our natural selves: but once again, we are asking not for more Love, but for less. (44)

The analogy between God's love for man and a man's love for a woman.

For the truth which this analogy serves to emphasize is that Love, in its own nature, demands the perfecting of the beloved; that the mere "kindness" which tolerates anything expect suffering in it subject is, in that respect, at the opposite pole from Love. (46)

Love is more sensitive than hatred itself to every blemish in the beloved. (46)

The problem of reconciling human suffering with the existence of a God who loves, is only insoluble so long as we attach a trivial meaning to the word "love," and look on things as if man were the center of them. Man is not the centre. God does not exist for the sake of man. Man does not exist for his own sake. “Thou hast created all things, and for they pleasure they are and were created” (Rev. 4:11). We were made not primarily that we may love God (though we were made for that too) but that God may love us, that we may become objects in which the Divine love may rest “well pleased.” (48)

What we would here and now call our “happiness” is not the end God chiefly has in view: but when we are such as He can love without impediment, we shall in fact be happy. (48)

I do not think I should value much the love of a friend who carted only for my happiness and did not object to my becoming dishonest. (49)

God has no needs. God is Goodness.

If He who in Himself can lack nothing chooses to need us, it is because we need to be needed. (50-51)

It is good for us to know love; and best for us to know the love of the best object, God. (51)

Our highest activity must be response, not initiative. To experience the love of God in a true, and not an illusory form, is therefore to experience it as our surrender to His demand, our conformity to His desire. (51)

When we want to be something other than the thing God wants us to be, we must be wanting what, in fact, will not make us happy. Those Divine demands which sound to our natural ears most like those of a despot and least like those of a lover, in fact marshall us where we should want to go if we knew what we wanted (52)

A man can no more diminish God’s glory be refusing to worship Him than a lunatic can put out the sun by scribbling the word “darkness” on the walls of his cell. But God wills our good, and our good is to love Him (with that responsive love proper to creatures) and to love Him we must know Him: and if we know Him, we shall in fact fall on our faces. (53)

God intends to give us what we need, not what we now think we want. Once more, we are embarrassed by the intolerable compliment, by too much love, not too little. (53)
Death
Death isn’t the worst thing that can happen to you.
In the garden He faced it; on Calvary He embraced it; three days later He erased it.
We are already dead to sin.
We must overcome the fear of death to truly live.
You have never seen a hearse pulling a U-Haul.

Diligence
Agonize before your organize.
Competence = God-given giftedness applied through hard work.
Determine that the thing can and shall be done, and then…find the way. –Abraham Lincoln
He who endures conquers.
Embrace God’s standards.
God honors persistence.
Have you noticed that those who are unwilling to be champions, do not want others to be champions either.
History is full of winners who encountered heartbreaking obstacles before they triumphed—
who won because they refused to become discouraged by their defeats (e.g.,
Washington, Lincoln, Churchill).
I have nothing to offer you but blood, toil, tears, and sweat. 
http://www.rjgeib.com/thoughts/britain/britain.html
I won’t back up, shut up, or give up, until my work is done.
It’s not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or
where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who
is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by sweat and blood; who strives
valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great
enthusiasms, the great devotions and spends himself in a worthy cause who at best
knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who at worst, if he fails, at
least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and
timid souls who have never tasted victory or defeat.” –Theodore Roosevelt
Let me tell you the secret that has led me to my goal: my strength lies solely in my tenacity.
–Louis Pasteur
Most people miss out on opportunities because it’s dressed up in overalls and it looks like
work. –Thomas Edison
Never, never, never, never give up. –Sir Winston Churchill
Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more
common that unsuccessful talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a
proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and
determination alone are omnipotent. –Calvin Coolidge
Only discipline can free us from the slavery of laziness and mediocrity.
Quitters never win and winners never quit.
There is nothing so fatal to character as half-finished tasks.
Tough times never last, but tough people do.

Discipleship
A barrier to spiritual growth for many people is not a lack of commitment, but over-
commitment to the wrong things. –Rick Warren
A disciple is one whose life is a balance between the Great Commission and the Great
Commandment.
Believers grow faster when the church provides a track to grow on. –Rick Warren
Discipleship results in character development, inner confidence, leadership, wisdom, and a positive attitude in life.

Example is not the main thing in influencing others, it is the only thing. –Albert Schweitzer

Genuine spiritual maturity includes having a heart that worships and praises God, building and enjoying loving relationships, using your gifts and talents in service to others, and sharing your faith with lost people. –Rick Warren

He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose –Jim Eliot

Incredible growth occurs in people when we break down the idea of spiritual growth into practical action steps and everyday habits. –Rick Warren

It is a mistake to assume that study alone will produce maturity. It is only one component of the ministry process. People need experiences in addition to study to grow. Churches must have a balanced strategy for developing disciples. –Rick Warren

Journaling—(1) Helps in self-understanding and evaluation; (2) Helps in meditation; (3) Helps in expressing thoughts and feelings to the Lord; (4) Helps in remembering the Lord’s works; (5) Helps in creating and preserving a spiritual heritage; (6) Helps in clarifying and articulating insights and impressions; (7) Helps in monitoring goals and priorities; and (8) helps in maintaining the other spiritual disciplines.

Many, if not most Christians, are living lives of quiet desperation due to inadequate disciple-making.

Our task as mentors is to imitate the Master Mentor, Jesus himself. Our lives must be marked both with Christ’s toughness and his tenderness, both his steel and his velvet. –Ron Lee Davis

Perhaps the transformation of the disciples of Jesus is the greatest evidence of all for the Resurrection. —John Stott

Spiritual fitness is simply a matter of learning certain spiritual exercises and being disciplined to do them until they become habits. –Rick Warren

Spiritual growth occurs by participating in all five purposes of the church. –Rick Warren

The disciples followed Jesus because He loved them; He was full of compassion. The spiritual journey requires intense concentration on God’s point of view. Such concentration will cause a narrowing of all our interests on earth and an immense broadening of our interest in God. –Jonathon Edwards

We explain to our members that our goal is to help believers around the basis of life. –Rick Warren

We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give. –Sir Winston Churchill

When any Christian’s schedule consists completely of receiving biblical input with no outflow of ministry or evangelism, his or her spiritual growth will stagnate. –Rick Warren

You are God’s ambassador—act like it.

**Dreams**

All of our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them. –Walt Disney

Be driven by a God-given dream.

If you want to build a chip, don’t herd people together to collect wood and don’t assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea. –Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Keep your dreams greater than your memories.

Sometimes dreams are worth chasing.

There are four kinds of people who want to steal your dreams: cop-outs, burn-outs, strike-outs, and drop-outs.

To do great things for God you must imagine yourself doing great things for God. So what are you dreaming about?
Wake Up!, Dress Up!, Shut Up!, Stand Up!, Look Up!, Reach Up!, Lift Up! And Back Up your dreams with actions.
When was the last time you exercised your faith in a major way when something kept you from your dream (1 Samuel 14:6).
Whether you think you can or can’t, you’re right. –Henry Ford
Your time is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else’s life. –Steve Jobs

**Education**
Everyone has a good enough brain to succeed in life; what they need to be taught is character and virtue. –Dennis Preager
Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day, but give him a fishing pole and your feed him for life.
Programs for ‘the gifted’ that ignore character create monsters. –Dennis Preager
We spend too much time trying to work on our weaknesses.
You don’t help girls by hurting boys.
You will get the behavior you reward.

**Encouragement**
Do what you can, with what you have, where you are. –Theodore Roosevelt
Don’t quit, God has plans for you.
Don’t let the things you can’t do stop you from doing the things you can do.
Doing good brings ultimate joy; doing evil brings ultimate sorrow.
Don’t go out with a whimper.
Encouragement is a gift leaders give to others. –Woods
Everybody that breathes needs encouragement and recognition.
Every blade of grass has an angel that bends over it and whispers, "Grow! Grow!" –*The Talmud*

God and all the angels in heaven are pulling for you.
God can work in the eleventh hour.
God did not cause this mess, but He will clean it up.
God does not promise a smooth flight, but He has promised a safe landing.
God does not save us from the trials; He saves us in the trials.
God is greater than any problem I have.
God is not holding out on you; you are holding out on God.
God is not holding out on you; Satan is lying to you.
God is up to something great.
God is up to something bigger than we are.
God is on the move.
God is able to provide inner peace amid outer storms.
God is in control.
God knows our weaknesses and struggles.
God knows what He is doing.
God never says, “Opps.”
God stretches us to strengthen us.
God sustains us through deep waters so that we might be wounded healers.
God only says “no” so that He can say “yes” to something better.
God works the night shift too.
God’s promises are like the stars, the darker the night the brighter they shine.
If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else. –Booker T. Washington
In my weakness, God is strong.
Little is much when God is in it!
Remembering God’s goodness is the key to overcoming today.
Stop telling God how big your mountain is, and start telling your mountain how big your God is.
The best is yet to come!
There is a great man who makes every man feel small. But the real great man is the man who makes every man feel great. —G. K. Chesterton
Things are not as bad as they seem. —John Gray
We live by encouragement, and die without it—slowly, sadly, and angrily.
We may lose this battle, but we will win this war.
Who needs my encouragement, my written and oral blessing?
You are different from everyone else.
You are more important than what you do.
You can do better than that.
You matter to God.
You’ll get through this.

**Ethics**

A little lie is like a little pregnancy it doesn’t take long before everyone knows. —C.S. Lewis
A person who is partly bad is aware that he is not very good; one who is thoroughly bad thinks he is all right. —C.B. Eavey
A real hero goes in when everyone else is going out.
A reprobate mind weeps at the killing of newborn animals while demanding the right to abort humans.
All law has a moral basis.
All legislation is an attempt to legislate morality. —Charles Colson
All that is needed for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing. —Edmund Burke
As we bring the greatest principles to bear on the smallest duties, these small duties grow great to match the principles by which we do them. —C.B. Eavey
Augustine added the three Christian virtues (faith, hope, and love) to the four cardinal Greek virtues (wisdom, temperance, fortitude, and justice).
Character develops from within; we build it by turning the central part of the self, every time we make a choice, into something a bit different form what it was before. —C.B. Eavey

Christian ethics are transcultural and universal.

Christians have more to fear from atheists than atheists have to fear from Christians (e.g. Lenin, Stalin, Hitler, Mao, Paul Pot).

Christianity in essence is not a philosophy or a system of ethics but a life dependent upon the power of God and a matter of union with Him through Christ. This life originates in God, is in grace sustained by God, and reaches ultimate perfection in God, its source (1 John 1:2). —C.B. Eavey

Clarity is more important than pseudo-agreement. —Dennis Praeger

God is by nature ethical.

Godlessness is the first step to the gulag. —Alexander Solzhenitsyn

Good people see the good and the bad in their lives; bad people see neither in their lives. —C.B. Eavey

Ethics deals with what people ought to do.
Ethics focus specifically on what Human beings ought to do. —DeWolf
Ethics involves a standard of right and wrong.
Ethics is about oughtness.
Ethics is about service to others.
Ethics is guidance for the conduct of life. —Long
Ethics is nothing else than reverence for life. –Albert Schweitzer
Ethics is seeking the highest good. –Aristotle
Ethics is the science of what is morally right. –Titus
Fundamentally we are not good people.
Human values are not all the same—some are better than others.
I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to the light I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right—stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong. –Abraham Lincoln
I have learned silence from the talkative, tolerance from the intolerant and kindness from the unkind. –Kahlil Gibran
If the billions of dollars spent on reducing climate change where spent on mosquito nets and fishing boats millions of people would truly be benefitted. –Dennis Preager
In the struggle of good and evil, the good will win. –Revelation
It is better to deserve honors and not have them than to have them and not deserve them. –Samuel Clemens
It is well to have perfection in view so that we may always advance toward it, even if we are aware that it can never be reached. –C.B. Eavey
Love nothing but God; hate nothing but sin.
Mankind is responsible for doing God's will as revealed in the Bible.
Moral poverty is growing up without loving, capable, responsible adults who teach you right from wrong. –John DiLulio Jr.
Moral poverty is being without parents and other authorities who teach you to feel joy at others’ joy, pain at others' pain, happiness when you do right, remorse when you do wrong. –John DiLulio Jr.
Moral poverty is growing up in the virtual absence of people who teach morality by their own everyday example and who insist that you follow suit. –John DiLulio Jr.
Pacifism is immoral since it refuses to protect the lives of other innocent people. –Michael Medved
Passion is stronger than reason (or no one would smoke or be overweight or do drugs).
Practical Christian ethics is the systematic study of the application to conduct of the principles of Christian living. –C.B. Eavey
Proverbs is the book on practical ethics.
Right relations to God also involve right relations to society (Matt. 22:17-22).
Science cannot provide a basis for ethics, only a belief in God can provide a basis for ethics.
The 10 commandments are the foundation of ethics.
The battle between good and evil is fought within every human heart.
The best and only safe road to honor, glory, and true dignity is justice. –George Washington
The best index to a person's character is (a) how he treats people who can't do him any good, and (b) how he treats people who can't fight back. –Abigail Van Buren
The Bible tells how men can be saved and how saved men should live.
The Bible, through its principles and ideals, provides an enduring, relevant guide to Christian conduct.
The essence of ethics is to love God with all your being, and to love your fellowman as yourself.
The forces of evil are gathering; they are working to shut us up.
The good consists in always doing with God wills at any particular moment. –T. B. Maston
The lesser of two evils is still the better of the two.
The moral character of the Christian has its root in faith. –C. B. Eavey
The Categorical Imperative of Kant that everyone wants to be good ignores the results of the Fall.
The Moral Consensus –Thomas Aquinas
The Moral Imperative –Margret Thatcher  
The neo-tolerance of postmodernism trivializes good and evil.  
The price of greatness is responsibility. –Sir Winston Churchill  
The principles of ethics are universal. –C.B. Eavey  
The source of virtue is the Law beyond the law.  
The teachings of Jesus transcend all time and culture.  
The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy. –Martin Luther King Jr.  
There are two species of human beings: those who enjoy evil and those who do not.  
There is a direct reverse correlation between crime and spiritual revival. There is little correlation between crime and economic downturns/poverty. –Charles Colson  
There is not enough darkness in all the world to put out the light of even one small candle. –Robert Alden  
To persuade is better than to legislate.  
Ultimately honesty will vanquish falsehood.  
We are responsible for our own conduct in little things as well as in great things. Life is made up not of great duties but of little duties and small obligation. –C.B. Eavey  
We are to love good and hate evil.  
When a person is becoming worse, he understands his own badness less and less. –C.B. Eavey  
When you lie you ruin your own credibility.  
When you slaughter the innocent to promote a political objective you are evil. –George W. Bush  
When you take God out life you get moral chaos.  
While secular ethics centers in man (anthropo-centric) and depends on human reason for its standards and methodology; Christian ethics centers in God (Theo-centric) and depends on revelation for its standards and methodology.  
Without absolutes there is no such thing as ethics. –Charles Colson  
Without God there is no absolute standard for ethics.  
You cannot negotiate with evil; when good compromises with evil, evil always wins.  
You cannot run with the wrong crowd and turn out right.  
You have to be good (virtuous) to be happy.  

Evangelism  
Over 90% of Christians receive Christ before age 20—we need to focus on young people.  
All Christians are not expected to use the same methods of evangelism, but all Christians are expected to evangelize. –Donald S. Whitney  
Anyone that is trying to do something for God will face some opposition. –Dan Southerland  
As each believer has the privilege and the responsibility to go to the Father to obtain forgiveness, so every believer has the privilege and the responsibility to go to the world to tell men of God’s forgiveness.  
Avoid evil, not evangelism.  
Be friends with sinners—or you are not really following Jesus’ example.  
Be the salt that makes souls thirsty for Christ.  
Be tactful with those who are not Christians ... Talk to them agreeably and with a flavor of wit, and try to fit your answers to the needs of each one.”  
- Col. 4:5-6 (JB)  
Do we believe that the lost will fall into that bottomless pit and burn forever and ever and ever? If we do, our actions don’t show it.  
Each group of Christians to which you belong can become a NET for reaching the lost.  
Evangelism is most effective when it is done as a team.
Evangelism is motivated by a more intentional gratitude for our salvation and compassion for the lost.

Evangelism is one beggar telling another beggar where he found bread.

Evangelism is who we are, not what we do.

Evangelism rarely takes place unless it is intentional. –Thom Rainer

Every church needs a 9-11 plan to minister to the community after the next major terrorist attack.

Genuine worship is a powerful witness to unbelievers if it is done in a style that makes sense to them. –Rick Warren

Give up your small ambitions—win souls for Christ.

God has given every one of us something we love to do to reach others for Jesus.

God, in His sovereignty, has chosen to honor believer’s efforts when they pray and fast for the souls of lost men and women.

God loves lost people, and He wants to use us to tell them the good news.

God uses people. God uses people to perform His work. He does not send angels. Angels weep over it, but God does not use angels to accomplish His purposes. He uses burdened broken-hearted weeping men and women. –David Wilkerson

God uses imperfect people to lead people to Himself.

God will honor our prayers if we ask Him for witnessing opportunities.

Good deeds create good will which leads to receiving Good News.

Good deeds \(\rightarrow\) good will \(\rightarrow\) Good News

Gratitude for the Gospel helps to remove fear.

He is not seeking a powerful people to represent HIM. Rather, He looks for all those who are weak, foolish, despised, and written off: and He inhabits them with His own strength.

–Graham Cooke

How many people are being set free as a result of your ministry?

I have but one passion: It is He, it is He alone. The world is the field and the field is the world; and henceforth that country shall be my home where I can be most used in winning souls for Christ. –Count Nicolaus Ludwín Zinzendorf

I want to be a nobody, who is willing to tell everybody, that there is Somebody, who can save anybody.

If I am content to heal a hurt slightly, saying “Peace, peace,” where is no peace; if I forget the poignant word “Let love be without dissimulation” and blunt the edge of truth, speaking not right things but smooth things, then I know nothing of Calvary love. –Amy Carmichael

If we are devoted to the cause of humanity, we shall soon be crushed and broken-hearted, for we shall often meet with more ingratitude from men than we would from a dog; but if our motive is love to God, no ingratitude can hinder us from serving our fellow men. –Oswald Chambers

If you teach men that God is the source of their pleasure and sin is the source of their pain, they will run to God and away from sin. –Jacquelyn K. Heasley

Intercession is vital to evangelism; nothing happens apart from God.

It is almost unthinkable that we who have been forgiven such a huge debt would not be eager to share the good news that forgiveness is available to everyone.

It is the duty of every Christian to be Christ to his neighbor. –Martin Luther

It is time for Christians to speak up and not just silently stand by watching nonbelievers go their way.

Kindness makes people curious.

Merely knowing about food in the mind will not satisfy hunger. Merely knowing about Jesus in the mind will not give eternal life. –D. James Kennedy

Militant Agnostic = I don't know and you don't either!
More flies are caught with honey than vinegar.
Most of the unchurched feel guilty about not attending church.
Most of the unchurched want to talk about matters of faith, especially heaven and how to get there.
Most people don’t believe because they don’t want to believe.
Most people reject Jesus because (1) they have never clearly understood the message of the gospel; or (2) they do not want to change the lifestyle they currently have.
Remember—Even when someone rejects the gospel, a seed has been planted.
Neither secularism nor the dark forces accompanying it have liberated people from meaninglessness, superstition and fear. –Linus J. Morris
Often before we can be used to rescue someone from spiritual danger, we have to build a relational bridge to them. –Lee Strobel
On average it takes hearing the Gospel 7 times form 7 different people to come to Jesus.
One of the great illusions of the devil is that he can make all religious systems somewhat attractive.
One of the most exciting aspects of witnessing is that it gives us a chance to rely on the Holy Spirit to help us know what to say (Luke 12:12). One way to be a lifelong learner and to enlarge our circle of knowledge about witnessing is to systematically memorize Scripture.
One reason many Christians never witness is because they do not know how to relate to people. People must be taught how to develop relationships. –Rick Warren
Our job as mentors is not to produce great men and women, but rather to energize ordinary men and women to be greatly motivated for the cause of Jesus Christ. –Ron Lee Davis
People are eternal—everything else will go up in smoke.
People are followers, seekers, runners, or fighters.
People are much more open to the gospel than we can imagine—we just need the right bait and prayer cover.
Prayer is important for the witness because it connects him to the power source.
Remember that everyone you meet is afraid of something, loves something, and has lost something.
Servant evangelism is personal witnessing with the addition of intentional acts of kindness. An exciting aspect of this approach is that it brings a smile to the face of the person to whom you are witnessing.
Sharing God’s love with those who hurt.
Simple assent to the gospel, divorced from a transforming commitment to the living Christ, is by Biblical standards less than faith, and less than saving, and to elicit only assent of this kind would be to secure only false conversions. –J.I. Packer
Spending time as a friend with all levels of the unchurched increases the receptiveness of an invitation or the gospel.
Successful fishing requires the ability to think like a fish. In order to catch fish it helps to understand their habits, preferences, and feeding patterns. Certain fish like smooth, still water, and others like to swim in rushing rivers. Some fish are bottom crawlers, and others like to hide under rocks. –Rick Warren
The best way to reach the heart is through the mind.
The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed. – Hudson Taylor
The Holy Spirit convicts, we just present.
The lost are not the enemy—they are brainwashed prisoners of the enemy.
The more a Christian is like Christ, the more effective his witness will be.
The Prime Directive is to make disciples.
The power of God is unleashed when you care so deeply for another’s soul that you pray and fast on their behalf.

The process of evangelism is not completed until the evangelized become evangelists. The reason we don’t talk to our friends about God is because we don’t talk to God about our friends.

The work of evangelism is nothing short of spiritual warfare. It is engaging in battle with the forces of hell.

This is the essence of witnessing—simply sharing your personal experiences regarding the Lord. In a courtroom, a witness isn’t expected to argue the case, prove the truth, or press for a verdict; that is the job of attorneys. Witnesses simply report what happened to them or what they saw. –Rick Warren

We are called to present the facts of history.

We are called to take advantage of opportunities to share our faith in Christ and to make the most of those opportunities. –George Barna

We are unable to win souls without love.

We are not called to entertain believers while the world goes to hell. –Henry Blackaby

We must about our Father’s business—rescuing the perishing.

We should be armed with evidence to help skeptics realize that they need to be rescued. –Lee Strobel

We struggle with evangelism because we are isolated from the very people God has called us to influence. –George Barna

We talk about our faith as if it is all about us and now—when it is is about Him and then.

What are the key issues in your community?

What I do reveals what I believe about God, regardless of what I say. –Henry Blackaby

What has come clear to you since we last met?

What you said really interests me. Could you give me an example?

What is one thing you believe will make an impact on your city?

Whatever, Wherever, and Whenever: This is how we should witness. Whatever the situation we are in, wherever we are at the time, and whenever we get the chance.

When we intelligently share our faith with nonbelievers, it pleases God. –George Barna

Why are we feuding when lost souls are dying and going to hell?

Witnessing is every Christian’s responsibility and winning men and women to Jesus is every Christian’s privilege. –Arthur McPhee

Witnessing is more than making statements, it also involves asking questions and listening. Would God be eager for you to walk into a crowd and begin spouting religious rhetoric, thus antagonizing people and driving them away from Him? Or would He empower you to serve and counsel people at their point of need, and would He help you be a better and more attentive friend? –David Jeremiah, MHD, 40

You and I are called upon to communicate the Gospel, to evangelize the world, and all of the power that we need for this can be found in prayer, and in the Spirit, and in love. These are the instruments which are ours, for the weapons of our warfare are not carnal. –Geo. M. Wilson

September 11, 2001 [www.geocities.com/SoHo/Coffeehouse/4271/stairwell.html](http://www.geocities.com/SoHo/Coffeehouse/4271/stairwell.html)

**Excellence**

Ability is cheap, discipline is costly.

Be a yardstick of quality. Some people aren’t used to an environment where excellence is expected. –Steve Jobs

Be the best original of who God has called you to be.

Be the change you want to see in the world.
Christ's high standards are not given to frustrate us but to reveal areas in our lives that need improvement (Phil. 2:5).

Christian living requires a 3-D commitment: the single-mindedness of a soldier, the discipline of an athlete, and the hard-worker of a farmer (2 Tim. 2:1-7).

Commitment must be total, or it’s no commitment at all. —John W. Peterson

Credibility: believability, reliability, the power to inspire belief is enhanced when factual errors are removed.

Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win. And everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. Therefore I run is such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; but I buffet my body and make it may slave, lest possibly, after I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified” (1 Cor. 9:24-27).

Doing your very best brings glory to God.
Don’t get used to average or second best. —John Maxwell

Each time you raise the standards for leadership, you bring everyone else in the church along a little bit—a rising tide raises all the boats in the harbor. —Rick Warren

Embrace discipline as a friend. —John Maxwell

Etiquette
Even the best get better when they practice. —Gary Woods
Even the best have to practice to get better. —Ben Woods

Everyone is trying to accomplish something big, not realizing that life is made up on little things. —Frank A. Clark

Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God. —William Carey

Factual and grammatical errors damage one’s credibility—believability.

God is honored when I do my best.

God is honored by how well we do things.

God is not impressed by mediocrity.

God always gives his very best to those who leave the choice to Him —Hudson Taylor

God has blessed you with ability—let it shine.

God held nothing back when He created the earth on which we live.

God choose to make creation not just a half-hearted effort but the absolute best it could be.

Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us daily. —Sally Koch

Great people are really just ordinary people with an extraordinary amount of determination.

Great people don’t now how to quit! —Rick Warren

High standards attract motivated people. —John Maxwell

Hold out for God’s best.

I am easily satisfied with the very best. —Sir Winston Churchill

If we are stretching ourselves to strive for more excellence we are headed in the right direction of becoming more godly in Christ Jesus.

If we desire God’s best in our lives, then we must realize His best for us includes both are strengths and weaknesses.

If we desire to be faithful to God, we must pursue excellence with all our might.

If we really want to follow the Lord, then we have no choice but to desire and pursue excellence.

If you aim too low you will never fully become all you could be.

If you don’t exercise your muscles, they weaken and atrophy. In the same way, if you don’t utilize the abilities and skills God has given you, you will lose them.” Rick Warren, 255.
If you keep doing what you have always done, the completion will catch up and pass you. 
If you practice mediocrity in preparation, expect mediocrity in results. 
If you want to motivate people, set high standards. –John Maxwell 
In 1 Corinthians 9:24, Paul is telling us to “go for it!” This is not a time to be slothful; it is time 
to press forward in Jesus with all our might. —Tom Kraeuter 
It is a sin to be good if God has called you to be great. –Thom Rainer 
Live in the light of eternal values (2 Pet. 3:11). 
Mediocre ministries get rid of the winners and focus on keeping the whiners; great ministries 
focus on keeping the winners and get rid of the whiners. –John Maxwell 
Motivation is the key to almost everything (1 Pet. 2:2). 
Overcoming challenges: Exceeding expectations. 
Potential is God’s gift to you—what you do with that potential is your gift back to God. 
Real effectiveness is developed through many years of improving just a few steps at a time. 
Self-motivated people are attracted to a vocabulary of challenge (risk, learning, growth, 
potential), autonomy, and significance. –John Maxwell 
Self-motivated people are not scared off by high standards. –John Maxwell 
Shortcuts cut short five things: experience, gratitude, maturation, discipline, and perspective. 
–John Maxwell 
Spelling and capitalization count for one primary reason—factual and grammatical errors 
damage one’s credibility and minimizes one’s ministry. A commitment to doing our best and to excellence brings glory to God. 
Super-achievers average 10,000 hours preparing for their area of expertise. 
The beginning is the most important part of the work. –Plato 
The block of granite which is a stumbling-block in the path of the weak becomes a steppingstone in the pathway of the strong. 
The difference between being a soldier and being a good solider is the single-minded commitment to please the commander (2 Tim. 2:1-7). 
The higher the expectation, the lower the reality, the greater the disappointment. 
The higher you want to go the deeper you must dig. 
The highest good leads to maximum pleasure. –R.C. Sproul 
The only people you will scare off with high standards are people who aren’t motivated— 
they want something for nothing. –John Maxwell 
The standard of excellence is simply a part of the nature of the God whom we serve. 
The work of God demands investment (study), excellence (approved), sacrifice (worker), 
craftsmanship (Word) (1 Tim. 2:15). 
There is no shortcut to excellence. You will have to make the commitment to make 
excellence your priority. Use your talents, abilities, and skills in the best way possible and get ahead of others by giving that little extra. Live by a higher standard and pay attention to the details that really do make the difference. 
Excellence: We must be willing to discipline ourselves in many areas—prayer, the study of God’s Word, musical practice time, preparation for leading, the spiritual disciplines, etc. 
To be motivated people need to have (1) heard enough they have to; (2) learn enough they 
want to; and (3) receive enough they are able to. –John Maxwell 
To motivate people we must connect with people by finding common ground: What do you 
To whom much is given much is required. 
Trifles make perfection, and perfection is no trifle. –Michelangelo 
Unless we are willing to buffet our bodies into submission, to discipline our lives, then we will 
ever truly be effective in leading God’s people in worship.

We cannot be complacent; we must discipline our lives. We must submit to the Lord’s will and bring our own wills into submission.

We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit. –Aristotle

We are wise if we pray regularly for those whom we lead. We are wise if we pray regularly for ourselves, asking that we might be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. We are wise if we work diligently at our music.

We are here to make a dent in the universe. –Steve Jobs

We need to strike the death blow to mediocrity within the church.

We should realize that although our society may disagree, there are some absolutes in life.

We have been taught that everything is relative. There are, however, certain standards which we can and should uphold regardless of the opinion of others.

Striving for excellence in all that we do is one of these. It is not just a good idea, it is an absolute. –Tom Kraeuter

We will not lose our salvation if we do not discipline our lives, but we and others may miss our high callings in the Lord’s kingdom if we take lightly the things He has entrusted to us.

What we talk about is what we are motivated about (Matt. 12:34).

Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might (Eccl. 9:10).

When the going gets tough, the tough get going.

When you do go the extra mile, you earn the appreciation and loyalty of customers who have come to expect so little from the companies with whom they do business.

When you do go the extra mile, you earn the appreciation and loyalty of students who have come to expect so little from the previous schools that they have attended.

When you do go the extra mile in preparing for ministry, you earn the respect and attention of the unchurched who are looking for truth and things worth giving their lives to. Thanks for going the extra mile.

Whether it is true or not, if one does not know simple grammar most people will assume one does not know anything of importance. We are to study to show ourselves approved—this is why everything counts.

Who you are is who you attract. –John Maxwell

You can spend your life any way you want to, but you can only spend it once.

Your credibility—believability, reliability, the power to inspire belief—is enhanced when factual errors are removed from your work.

"Do you see a man skilled in his work? He will serve before kings; he will not serve before obscure men" (Prov. 22:29, NIV). Whenever we prepare and exceed the expectations of others, we bring glory to our Heavenly Father and He elevates us.

"Whatever you hand finds to do, do it with all your might" (Ecc 9:10, NIV). Commit to doing your best; life is too short to do things half-heartedly.

"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever" (1 Cor. 9:24-25, NIV). Excellence makes a difference in eternity; mediocrity impresses no one.

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (1 Cor. 10:31, NIV). God calls us to live our lives and do our work with excellence. God deserves our best—and our best brings Him glory.

"Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not men, because you know that the Lord will reward everyone for whatever good he does" (Eph. 6:7, NIV). When we serve others with excellence we serve and honor God.

"This one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in

Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:13-14, NIV). God wants us to press forward with all our strength as part of His high calling.

“And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him” (Col. 3:17, NIV). Do everything (including your studies) in such a way as to bring glory to God.

Philippians 4:6-7
Philippians 4:8-9

Failure
Disappointment only occurs when our plans do not work out—God’s plans always work out. Disappointments are often God’s appointments
Disillusions come because our circumstances don’t fit our concept of who God is and how He works.
Disappointments make one stronger. Do right and let God take care of the results.
Don’t let failure keep you from risking, trusting, imagining, trying, believing—you are made in the image of God.
Expect failure if you are not a person of prayer.
Experience is what enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.
Failure means you were willing to try.
Failures are events, not people.
Failures are finger posts on the road to achievement. –C.S. Lewis
God turns losers into winner.
God is attracted to our weakness.

God wants us to view our failures as a way we more forward in our relationship with Him. Great deeds are usually wrought at great risks. –William Hazlitt
He who refuses to learn from history if forced to repeat its mistakes.
I am not discouraged, because every wrong attempt discarded is another step forward. –Thomas A. Edison
I don’t know the secret to success, but I do know the secret to failure—trying to please everyone. –Bill Cosby
I have failed Him, but He has never failed me.
It is always helpful to learn from your mistakes, because then your mistakes are worthwhile.
It is better to fail in a cause that will ultimately succeed that to succeed in a cause that will ultimately fail.
Mistakes are a fact of life—it is the responses to the error that counts.
No great deeds are on by falterers who ask for certainty.
No one is born to be a failure. –Jimmy Stewart
No one who loves God is a failure.
Not failure, but low aim, is a crime. –James Russel Lowel
Only those who do not expect anything are never disappointed. Only those who never try, never fail. Anyone who is currently achieving anything in life is simultaneously risking failure. It is always better to fail in doing something than to excel in doing nothing. A flawed diamond is more valuable than a perfect brick. People who have no failures also have few victories. –John L. Mason
Our problem is not raising our hopes too high but setting our sights too low. –Charles Swindoll
Probably he who never made a mistake, never made a discovery. –Samuel Smiles.
The glory is not in never failing, but in rising every time you fail. –Chinese Proverb

The greatest thing you have to fear is not failure, it is aiming too low—it’s trusting God for too little. —Charles Swindoll
The men who try to do something and fail are infinitely better than those who try to do nothing and succeed.—Lloyd Jones
The only ones who fail are those who give up—so don’t you dare give up.
The only way to fail is to give up.
The road to failure is actually the past of least persistence.
To be great is to be misunderstood, criticized, and attacked.
To fail when the battle rages is to fail when it counts most.
Those who dare to fail miserably can achieve greatly. —Robert F. Kennedy
http://www.quotedb.com/categories/failure

**Faith**
A faith that hasn't been tested can't be trusted. –Adrian Rogers
Anxiety, discouragement, worry, and panic can result from fear.
Every step of faith you take will look like presumption to those who have not heard from God. —Henry Blackaby
Faith forces you to act in the face of risk.
Faith is confidence that what God has promised will come to pass. —Henry Blackaby
Faith is important—but faith does not supersede sovereignty.
Faith is not just believing a stool is a stool; faith is sitting on the stool.
Faith is the opposite of pride (Hab. 2:4).
Faith is not passive—it is active.
Faith is the victory.
Faith is trusting God in the present to do what He promises to do in the future.
Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible!
God is more concerned that you trust Him than that you feel Him. Faith, not feelings, pleases God. —Rick Warren
God tries your faith so that we may; try His faithfulness.
God tests us before He uses us.
God always responds to those who respond to what they know. —David Jeremiah
If you are going to be faithful, it’s not going to be easy.
Pray for a faith that will not shrink when it is washed in the waters of affliction. - Ernest Wadsworth
Sorrow looks back, worry looks around, but faith looks up.
The eyes of fear are focused on the flesh; the eyes of faith are focused on the Father. —Ken Nichols
The measure of faith is equal to its impossibility.
The true test of a person’s life is not successfulness but faithfulness.
Success over our fears comes with the fear of the Lord.
We need truth, and we need sound theology. The right information is essential. But above all else, we need relationship. —David Jeremiah, MHD: 168
When you are faithful, you will touch the ages.
What is necessary is not that we have great faith but rather that we have simple trust in God’s great faithfulness —Hudson Taylor

**Fatherhood**
Children are rewards—not punishments.
Children need direction and motivation
Dads turn boys into men. — Dr. Laura
Dominating mothers and passive fathers result in passive sons and dominating daughters.
Each child is unique. 
Families need time and focus. 
Families should grow for attention, not suffer form neglect. 
God is the Builder of homes (Psalm 127-128). 
If you are shouting at your kids, you have already lost the battle. 
Love is powerful through a father’s heart, protective and generous, forgiving and strong, faithful and true. With a look and a smile it says, ‘I'm proud of you; with a hand held out it says, 'I'll take care of you’. With a faith placed in God, it says, ‘I'm praying for you.’ A father’s heart says so much without words – and his love is the song that can always be heard. 
No one has more influence on children than their dads. 
The child is the father to the man. 
The father-child relationship is the primary relationship. 
The wisdom of parenting: Just get them through it. 
There is a correlation between domestic violence and unemployment that churches need to address. 
Your kids will sometimes fail to listen to you, but never fail to imitate you. 

Fear 
Discouragement makes cowards of us all. 
It is easier to tell others not to fear than to not to fear ourselves. The same Elijah who told the widow not to fear, ran from Jezebel. 
Tiredness makes cowards of us all. 
We hinder the work of God in our lives when we let fear stop us. 
When we focus on Jezebel we forget about Mt. Carmel. 

Forgiveness 
An unforgiving spirit is a slow burn—it will make you sick. 
Forgiveness is an act of setting someone free from a debt that was a result of a wrong done against you. 
Forgiveness is not an emotion—forgiveness is an act of will, and the will can function regardless of the temperature of the heart. —Corrie ten Boom 
Forgiving does not mean not punishing. 
God uses injustice to teach forgiveness. 
If you hate those who hurt you, you can't forget them, you can't wish them well, you want them to suffer as you have suffered. These attitudes are not compatible with forgiveness. 
No one can make you unforgiving—it's a choice. 
The three sources of an unforgiving spirit: pride, selfishness, ignorance—and time doesn’t heal them. 
To err is human, to forgive divine. 
We are not made to carry hurt and hatred and bitterness and unforgiveness. 

Freedom 
Freedom is not only a gift, it is a summons to personal responsibility. —Benedict XVI 
Freedom is ever new. It is a challenge held out for each generation and it must constantly be won over for the cause of good. —Benedict XVI 
Freedom is not a virtue, freedom is the potential for virtue. —Benedict XVI 
From the dawn of the Republic, America’s quest for freedom has been guided by the conviction that the principles governing political and social life are intimately linked to a moral order based on the dominion of God the Creator. The framers of this nation’s
founding documents drew upon this conviction when they proclaimed the “self-evident truth” that all men are created equal and endowed with inalienable rights grounded in the laws of nature and of nature’s God.

In this way coming generations will be able to live in a world where truth, freedom and justice can flourish; a world where the God given dignity and rights of every man, woman and child are cherished, protected, and effectively advanced. –Benedict XVI

The preservation of freedom calls for the cultivation of virtue, self-discipline, sacrifice for the common good and a sense of responsibility towards the less fortunate. It also demands the courage to engage in civic life and to bring one’s deepest beliefs and values to reasoned public debate. –Benedict XVI

Thomas Jefferson was not a deist; he was an ethical monotheist. He believed there is a God, there is a hell, and we are responsible. –Dennis Preager

Gifts
No one is not gifted.
The investment of our talent is what grows the kingdom of God.
The best rarely are composed of the people who have the most natural talent, but rather by those few who have a passion to fulfill their God-given talents and reach for the top of their potential.

Use the right tool for the job—multiple intelligence, spiritual gift, person.
Your time, abilities, skills are all gifts from God.
Your gifts are meant to be given away.

God
God allows hard times to accomplish His purposes.
God allows persecution to accomplish His purposes.
God allows storms because He wants to see what you do with His Word when He seems to be asleep.

God always gives his very best to those who leave the choice to Him –Hudson Taylor
God always responds to those who respond to what they know. –David Jeremiah
God and all the angels in heaven are pulling for you.
God assigns tailor-made trials for us to enduring knowing they can develop our faith (Gen. 35:8).

God blesses those who are busy for Him.
God builds His church person by person.
God can work in the eleventh hour.
God can’t bless you if you try to be someone other than who He made you to be.
God can’t give it through you until He gives it to you.

God-centeredness makes you a complete person.
God chooses us to be trophies of His grace, glory, and goodness.
God created you to do something good. –Ephesians 2:10
God did not cause this mess, but He will clean it up.
God did not create me for time; He created me for eternity. –Henry Blackaby
God did not promise us an easy life; only a bright future.
God does not accept second-hand glory. –Henry Blackaby
God does not call people who are qualified; He calls people who are willing and then He qualifies them.

God does not call us to an assignment; He calls us to Himself. –Henry Blackaby

God does not grade on a curve.
God does not need me; He wants me.
God does not promise a smooth flight, but He has promised a safe landing.
God does not run the world by opinion polls.
God does not save us from the trials; He saves us in the trials.
God does not tolerate sin.
God does not want the credit for what we do. —Henry Blackaby
God does not waste suffering; if he plows it is because He purposes a crop. —J. Oswald Sanders
God does not what my ability, He wants my availability.
God doesn’t call the quailed; He qualifies the called.
God dwells in our worship.
God-focused; remembering that behind it all God is at work.
God formed me for a special place where I fit perfectly. —O.S. Hcockins
God gives each man a special task in life, and a blessing to carry it out.
God gives us the vision, then takes us into the valley to shape us into that vision. —Oswald chambers
God has a comprehensive purpose for your life.
God has a creative plan for your life.
God has a clear priority for your life.
God has a job for me that no one else can do. —Ephesians 2:10
God has a God-sized job for me. —Henry Blackaby
God has given every one of us something we love to do to reach others for Jesus.
God has made us in such a way that He is the only One who can meet our needs for significance.
God has no needs.
God has not called us to be successful; He has called us to be faithful. —Mother Teresa
God has not called us to do everything, but He has called us to do something.
God has one hand on the thermostat and the other on the timer—and He knows how much heat we need.
God helps those who recognize their need—seek, ask, knock.
God honors persistence.
God is able to provide inner peace amid outer storms.
God is always at work; but we miss it if we are following our plans. —Henry Blackaby
God is attracted to our weakness because it is then that pride is gone and we are open to Him.
God is building His Church His way.
God is greater than any problem I have.
God is grooming you for His purposes.
God has made promises; God is going to do what God is going to do.
God is Goodness.
God is honored by how well we do things.
God is honored when I do my best.
God is in control.
God is in control—even when I suffer, even when its midnight, even when my faith is weak, even when the wicked seem to prosper (Acts 12).
God is interested in developing my character. —Henry Blackaby
God is more concerned about your character than your comfort.
God is more interested in what I become that what I do. —Henry Blackaby
God is moving me toward something better. Joy comes in the morning.
God is never late, but hardly ever early (John 11).
God is not holding out on you; you are holding out on God.
God is not holding out on you; Satan is lying to you.
God is not in a hurry because God is God.
God is not stressed.
God is not worried.
God is on the move.
God is pro-life.
God is relentless in developing our character.
God is still worthy of awe, fear, honor, respect, and reverence.
God is the Pursuer—If you keep bumping into Christians, you are being pursued.
God is up to something bigger than we are.
God is up to something eternal.
God is up to something great.
God isn’t trying to mess up our lives.
God judges at the proper time.
God knows our weaknesses and struggles.
God knows our pain.
God knows what He is doing.
God loves dependence upon Him—God helps the helpless.
God loves you so much that if He had a refrigerator you’d be on it.
God never says, “Opps.”
God not only orders our steps but He orders our stops.
God often does His work through suffering—even Jesus suffered. –Henry Blackaby
God often orders us to cross our Jordan River at flood stage.
God only says “no” so that He can say “yes” to something better.
God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.
God promotes at His discretion and in His time.
God reserves the right to use people who disagree with me. –Robert A. Cook
God stretches us to strengthen us.
God sustains us through deep waters so that we might be wounded healers.
God tests us before He uses us.
God tries jour faith so that we may; try His faithfulness.
God turns losers into winners.
God uses the unlikely to do the impossible for His glory.
God usually assigns us to a place where we are most needed, not where we are most wanted.
God wants the very best for us.
God wants to be known.
God wants to change the world through us (Matt. 5:14-15).
God wants to spend eternity with me.
God wants to spend time with you—the path to discipleship (John 3:22).
God wants us to seek Him, not just His will.
God wants us to view our failures as a way we more forward in our relationship with Him.
God whispers in our pleasures, but shouts in our pain. –2 Thessalonians 1:1-12
God will never say to us, “What a great plan!”
God will only use people according to their brokenness.
God will use you if you are available, prepared, and praying.
God won’t fill a full cup.
God works the night shift too.
God, forgive us for being rough when we should have been gentile.
God, I want to be doing what You are blessing.
God, show me where I am, and take me to where I need to be.
God’s commands are designed to guide you to life’s very best. —Blackaby
God’s fingerprints in my life.
God’s glory matters.
God’s grace is sufficient.
God’s love is not a pampering love—it is a perfecting love (Heb. 12:12).
God’s power is most visible in clean vessels.
God’s promises are like the stars, the darker the night the brighter they shine.
God’s purpose for humans is that they become actually extensions of His life through a dependent relationship with Him. —David Needham
God’s purpose is bigger than your problem.
God’s purpose is to be accomplished by ordinary people who believe in and serve an extraordinary God. —Avery Willis
God’s ways keep you humble.
God’s will is good, acceptable, and perfect (Rom. 12:2).
God’s will should be our highest priority.
God’s work done in God’s way will never lack God’s supply. —Hudson Taylor
God’s work is never inexpensive or convenient; becoming His faithful servant is always a trying experience, bound up with sacrifice, devotion, and obedience. —Peters
How could God let something like this happen? "I believe God is deeply saddened by this, just as we are, but for years we’ve been telling God to get out of our schools, to get out of our government and to get out of our lives. And being the gentleman He is, I believe He has calmly backed out. How can we expect God to give us His blessing and His protection if we demand He leave us alone?"
I believe that as a whole, we modern evangelical Christians are far guiltier of dry intellectual faith then we ever want to realize. —David Jeremiah, MHD:167
If God is in us, we will do what He does.
It’s not about how much we love God; its about how much God loves us.
My God, He was; My God, He is; My God, He’s always going to be.
My Savior lives, my Savior loves, my Savior is always there for me.
Our first line of defense in the naysaying of the supernatural is to confine it to Bible times.
Our second is to concede that perhaps supernatural events happen far across the sea, in some exotic Third World setting we’re never likely to behold. —David Jeremiah, MHD:135
The Father, the Source of all blessings. The Son, the Channel of all blessings. The Holy Spirit, the Witness of all blessings.
The first three things God said about Himself in Genesis: (1) I take care of My own. (2) I keep My promises. (3) I am big, real big. The last three things God said about Himself in Revelation.
The Holy Spirit does not walk beside us; He lives inside us.
We need to approach God on the basis of who He is, not because of what He can do.
We need truth, and we need sound theology. The right information is essential. But above all else, we need relationship. —David Jeremiah, MHD:168

**Grace**
Grace – Truth = Sentimentalism (Flattery)
Truth – Grace = Legalism
Grace + Truth = Power to change lives (John 1: 14)
Grace prepares the way for truth (John 4).
God’s grace is sufficient.
There is nothing you have done that God cannot forgive.
There but for the grace of God go I.
The most radical concept in the universe: God’s amazing grace. www.mastersimage.com

Happiness
All men are seeking happiness, but by different means.
Happiness is a perfume that you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself.
Happiness is the by-product of holiness, not circumstances.
If not now, when? There is no better time to chose to be happy than now.
People are must about as happy as they make up their minds to be. –Abraham Lincoln
The greatest happiness is in serving others.
To be happy one must develop a tender heart—and a rhinoceros hide thick skin.

Heaven
All that is not eternal is eternally out of date.
Death opens the door from a little dark room into the sunshine. –C.S. Lewis
Do you think you are going to get to heaven and be disappointed!
Experiences that we have on earth are hints of something greater which is yet to come.
God is the main attraction of heaven.
God wants to spend eternity with me.
Heaven is going to be all we can stand.
Heaven is the ultimate light show—sparking diamonds, red sardius, green emeralds.
Life is short. Eternity isn’t. –God
This life is but the introduction to eternity.
On earth we are building our capacity to enjoy heaven—heaving is going to be all we can stand.
We were meant for eternity.
We were not made for earth.

Heroes
Alexander Solzhenitsyn http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aleksandr_Solzhenitsyn
Adrinrum Judson
Corrie ten Boone http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Corrie_ten_Boom
George Fox http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Fox
Hudson Taylor
Lottie Moon
William Carey

History
"Perhaps what he had in mind was what Prof. Alexander Frazer Tytler has written, that a democracy cannot exist as a permanent form of government. It can only exist until the voters discover they can vote themselves largesse out of the public treasury. From that moment on the majority, he said, always vote for the candidate promising the most benefits from the treasury with the result that democracy always collapses over a loose fiscal policy, always to be followed by a dictatorship. Unfortunately, we
can't argue with the professor because when he wrote that we were still colonials of Great Britain and he was explaining what had destroyed the Athenian Republic more than 2000 years before." –Ronald Reagan

At key moments in their history, the Israelites created songs to commemorate the great works of God: The Red Sea, Deborah, David, Solomon, Temple, Nehemiah, Ezra, Zerubbabel, Jehoshaphat.

Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference. –Sir Winston Churchill

Books are the carriers of civilization. Without books, history is silent, literature dumb, science crippled, thought and speculation at a standstill.

Continuous effort—not strength or intelligence—is the key to unlocking our potential. –Sir Winston Churchill

Courage is the first of human qualities because it is the quality that guarantees all the others. –Winston Churchill

Government should be on your side, not in your way. –McCain

He who refuses to learn from history is forced to repeat its mistakes.

Histories make men wise; poets witty; the mathematics subtle; natural philosophy deep; moral grave; logic and rhetoric able to content. –Francis Bacon

History is a tapestry of ideas.

History is full of winners who encountered heartbreaking obstacles before they triumphed—who won because they refused to become discouraged by their defeats. (Washington, Lincoln, Churchill).

History is philosophy teaching by example, and also warning; its two eyes are geography and chronology. –James A. Garfield

History is the witness that testifies to the passing of time; it illumines reality, vitalizes memory, provides guidance in daily life and brings us tidings of antiquity. –Cicero

It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance. –Robert F. Kennedy

The farther backward you can look, they farther forward you are likely to see. –Sir Winston Churchill

The historical cycle seems to be: from bondage to spiritual faith; from spiritual faith to courage; from courage to liberty; from liberty to abundance; from abundance to selfishness; from selfishness to apathy; from apathy to dependency; and from dependency back to bondage once more." –Warren T. Hackett

Whoso neglects learning in his youth, loses the past and is dead to the future. –Euripides

Holiness

A faithful priest is responsible to stay in the presence of God. –Acts 7

Everyone who is truly born again has a passion for holiness (Heb. 12:13).

Holiness does not mean separation from the world. –Paul Little

If you give up on purity, holiness, righteousness, integrity, and love, God will give you up to uncleanness (Romans 1:24,26,28).

Immorality interferes with intimacy because immorality desires to remain hidden. Maximum holiness leads to maximum pleasure.

Purity leads to intimacy because intimacy desires to be fully known.

The by-product of discipline is holiness (Heb. 12:13).

Hope

Choose to live with hope.
Dying with hope is better than living without it.
For the Christian there is hope.
Hope is eagerly looking toward the future and expecting the best—based on the promises of
God.
Hope, the belief that it can get better, is the foundation for change.
Hope is joyful anticipation that the future will be better than the past.
Hope is the key to the Christian life.
In the shadows of doubt; in the depths of despair; in the struggle for hope—be assured God
is there!
Our greatest need is HOPE.
The power of hope in the midst of adversity.

Humility
Before honor is humility.
God’s ways keep you humble.
Humility is confidence placed in God.
Humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less.
Humility is the foundation of all the other virtues. —Saint Augustine
Humility seeks God’s glory, surrenders to God’s will, and submits to God’s leaders.
The devil cannot do anything with a humble man.
There are two choices: Humble yourself or by humbled by God.
What are your physical, mental, social, and spiritual shortcoming, and how do they keep you
humble?

Humor
Be nice to nerds: Chances are you’ll end up working for one. – Charles Sykes
Laughter is healing to the soul.
Church Signs
Do not wait for the hearse to take you to church.
If you’re headed in the wrong direction, God allows U-turns.
If you don’t like the way you were born, try being born again.
Looking at the way some people live, they ought to obtain eternal fire insurance
soon.
The wedding was great, now invite Me to the marriage. –God
If you are grouchy, irritable, or just plan mean there will be a $10 charge for putting up with
you.
If you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans.
Learn three knock-knock jokes so you will always be ready to entertain children.
Messages from God: “Let’s meet at my house Sunday before the game.” “C’mon over and
bring the kids.” “Keep using my name in vain, I’ll make rush hour longer.” “Loved the
wedding. Invite me to the marriage.” “Life is short. Eternity isn’t.” “As my apprentice,
you’re never fired.” “The real Supreme Court meets up here.” “It’s a small world; I
know...I made it.” “One nation under me.” “If you must curse, use your own name!”
“All I know is...everything.” “Feeling lost? My Book is your map.” “I love you... Te
amo...{Chinese characters}.” www.oaaa.org/public
Recently Spotted Bumper Stickers:
I Give Evolution Two Opposable Thumbs Up.
I Know the Future—God Wins!

Integrity
A cynical community is a corrupt community. –John W. Gardner
A great man is always willing to be little. –Ralph Waldo Emerson
A liar needs a good memory. –Quintilliam
A little integrity is better than any career. –Ralph Waldo Emerson
A person who is fundamentally honest doesn’t need a code of ethics. The Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount are all the ethical code anybody needs. –Harry S. Truman
Ability may get you to the top, but it takes character to keep you there. –John Wooden
Ability without honor is useless. –Marcus T. Cicero
All endeavor calls for the ability to tramp the last mile, shape the last plan, endure the last hours of toil. The fight to the finish spirit is the one characteristic we must possess if we are to face the future as finishers. Many begin will but few finish.
Always stand on principle, even if you stand alone. –John Adams
Be more concerned about your character than with your reputation.
Belief = Behavior
Belief determines behavior.
Bitterness contaminates those around you.
Blessed are the flexible for they shall not break.
Blessed are the flexible for they shall not snap and be broken.
Blessed are they who can laugh at themselves for they shall never cease to be amused.
Character determines conduct.
Character is shaped by the habits we develop. –Rick Warren
Character is what you are in the dark. –Dwight Moody
Circumstances are just raw material out of which God makes character and strength and virtue.
Confidence comes not from always being right, but from not fearing to be wrong.
Do not give way to cynicism.
You can tell the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him.
Don’t get bitter; get better.
God is more concerned about your character than your comfort.
God-centeredness makes you a complete person.
God is interested in developing my character. –Henry Blackaby
Greatness of character is developed in the crucible. –Charles Swindoll
Greatness of character is refined and revealed in the crucible.
He who closes his ears to the views of others shows little confidence in the integrity of his own views. –William Congreve
Honesty is the best policy.
Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom. –Thomas Jefferson
Incredible growth occurs in people when we break down the idea of spiritual growth into practical action steps and everyday habits. –Rick Warren
Integrity is doing the right thing, even if nobody is watching.
Integrity is not a 90 percent thing, not a 95 percent thing; either you have it or you don’t.
Integrity is the lifeblood of democracy. Deceit is a poison in its veins.
Integrity without knowledge is weak and useless, and knowledge without integrity is dangerous and dreadful. –Samuel Johnson
If we believe a thing to be bad, and if we have a right to prevent it, it is our duty to try to prevent it and damn the consequences. –Lord Milner
If you tell the truth you don’t have to remember anything. –Mark Twain
In keeping silent about evil, in burying it so deep within us that no sign of it appears on the surface, we are implanting it, and it will rise up a thousandfold in the future. When we neither punish nor reproach evildoers…we are ripping the foundations of justice form beneath new generations. –Alexander Solzehnitsyn
It is a fine thing to be honest, but it is also very important to be right. —Sir Winston Churchill

It is not what you are on the outside; it's everything you are on the inside.

It is not what we eat but what we digest that makes us strong; not what we gain but what we save that makes us rich; not what we read but what we remember that makes us learned; and not what we profess but what we practice that gives us integrity. —Sir Francis Bacon

Let no pleasure tempt thee, no profit allure thee, no persuasion move thee, to do anything which thou knowest to be evil; so shalt thou always life jollity; for a good conscience is a continual Christmas. —Benjamin Franklin

Maturity is doing the right thing even when you feel like doing the wrong thing.

Nearly all men can stand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power. —Abraham Lincoln

Neither shall you allege the example of the many as an excuse for doing wrong (Ex. 23:2).

No amount of ability is of the slightest avail without honor. —Andre Carnegie

No legacy is so rich as honesty. —William Shakespeare

Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts.

—Albert Einstein

One of the truest tests of integrity is its blunt refusal to be compromised.

Spiritual maturity is demonstrated more by behavior than by beliefs. The Christian life is not just a matter of creeds and convictions; it includes conduct and character. Beliefs must be backed up with behavior. Our deeds must be consistent with our creeds. —Rick Warren

Subtlety may deceive you; integrity never will. —Oliver Crowell

The man who cannot endure to have his errors and shortcomings brought to the surface and made known, but tires to hide them, is unfit to walk the highway of truth. —James Allen

The true measure of life is not length, but honesty.

There are seven things that will destroy us: wealth without work; pleasure without conscience; knowledge without character; religion without sacrifice; politics without principle; science without humanity; business without ethics. —Mahatma Gandhi

There can be no confidence without integrity.

There is twistedness in everyone of us.

To be persuasive we must be believable; to be believable we must be credible; to be credible we must be truthful. —Edward R. Murrow

To find out who you really are, you must follow Christ.

To reach a great height a person needs to have great depth.

Truth is the secret of eloquence and of virtue, the basis of moral authority; it is the highest summit of art and of life.

When wealth is lost, nothing is lost; when health is lost, something is lost; when character is lost, all is lost. —Billy Graham

You are the sum of everything you see, watch, read, hear, and think.

You can discover more about a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation. —Plato

You can tell a type of tree by the fruit—people are checking your fruit to see what type of tree you are.

You cannot do wrong and feel right. It is impossible! —Ezra Taft Benson

**Jesus**

Immanuel means that we have a God understands what we go through. Jesus created everything.

Jesus deserves to be #1 because no one else can satisfy.
Jesus does not care what you have; He cares about who you are.
Jesus graciously applied truth to each person’s need.
Jesus is worthy of extravagance, personal sacrifice, and worship.
Jesus made me and everything I can do and am.
Jesus sent His disciples into the storm.
Jesus was not only the revealer of God, but God Himself revealed.
Jesus was the Agent Being that put God the Father’s thoughts into action.
Jesus wants us to evangelize, not to build monuments and shrines (Luke 9:33).
The Father was the Architect, the Son was the Contractor.

**Journaling**

A journal is one of the best places for charting your progress in the other spiritual disciplines and for holding yourself accountable to your goals. –Donald Whitney

A journal can be the means by which the Holy Spirit shows us areas of sin or weakness, the emptiness of a path we have chose, insight into our motives, or other things that can transform the journal page into an altar of seeking God. –Donald Whitney

A journal is a place where we can give expression to our thoughts and feelings to the Lord.

By slowing down and prompting us to think more deeply about God, journaling helps us feel more deeply about God. –Donald Whitney

If you study the Bible only as a textbook, it leads to arrogance, boredom, coldness, dullness, and indifference; the Bible needs to be meditated/ reflected upon and applied.

If Christianity was a philosophy, then our primary activity might be studying. But Christianity is a relationship and a life. The words used most often to describe the Christian life are love, give, believe, and serve. –Rick Warren

Journaling is an effective way of teaching the things of God to our children and transmitting our faith into the future (Deut. 6:4-7; 2 Tim. 1:5). –Donald Whitney

Keep a notebook or journal of lessons learned. This is a . . . record of what you are learning. Write down the insights and life lessons God teaches you about Him, about yourself, about life, relationships, and everything else. . . . The reason we must relearn lessons is that we forget them. Reviewing your spiritual journal regularly can spare you a lot of unnecessary pain and heartache. –Rick Warren

Sitting with pen and paper heightens my expectation of hearing form God as I think on Him and His words in the passage before me. –Donald Whitney

The Bible is about changing, not just learning.
Thoughts disentangle themselves when passed through the lips and across the fingertips.
Transferring a desire to paper, channels it, producing power.
Unless we journal, we tend to forget just how many times God has answered specific prayers, made timely provision, and done marvelous things in our lives. –Donald Whitney

Write down your progress in a journal. The best way to reinforce your progress in fulfilling God’s purposes for your life is to keep a spiritual journal. This is not a diary of events, but a record of the life lessons you don’t want to forget. –Rick Warren

Your journal is a place to record the works and ways of God in your life. –Donald Whitney

**Joy**

Count it all joy when you fall into various trials. –James 1

God is moving me toward something better. Joy comes in the morning.

Joy comes from making others happy. - Rick Warren

Joy is the flag that is flown when the King is in residence.

Look up joy in a concordance—and it will surprise you.
The avoidance of pain is the avoidance of joy.
The avoidance of pain is the avoidance of life itself.
The world is extremely interesting to a joyful soul.
When gratitude is lost it is replaced by emptiness.
Without joy a church cannot grow. —J. Vernon McGee
You and I were created for joy. —Lewis Smeed
You must experience the sorrow and the pain before you can be released to feel the joy.

Leadership
A spiritual leader always knows what God is doing in the life of his congregation. —Henry Blackaby
Are you a spiritual leader or a religious politician?
All great leaders are optimists—dealers in hope.
Bureaucratic leaders make others feel unimportant.
Counseling pastors focus on people’s weaknesses; equipping pastors focus on people’s strengths. —John Maxwell
Consensus is the absence of leadership. —Margaret Thatcher
Develop the strengths of your leaders.
Don’t let authority go to your head.
Don’t try to move the bus until you have the right people on board. Don’t initiate your vision until you have the right trained leaders. —John Maxwell
Each time you raise the standards for leadership, you bring everyone else in the church along a little bit—a rising tide raises all the boats in the harbor. —Rick Warren
Genuine leaders do not make excuses; they don’t start with the problem; they start with God.
God usually assigns us to a place where we are most needed, not where we are most wanted.
Great leaders are specialists, they won’t do what they can’t do.
If people are coming to work excited, if they are making mistakes freely and fearlessly, if they are having fun, if they are concentrating doing things, rather than preparing reports and going to meetings—then somewhere you have leaders. —Robert Townsend
If there were no problems, there would be no need for leaders.
If you are a Christian, you are a target of Satan; and if you are in ministry, you are a bull’s eye.
If you are lonely at the top you are not a leader. —John Maxwell
If you are lonely, get down from the mountain and connect with your people. —John Maxwell
If you revive the leader, the people will be revived.
It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.
Leaders are readers, and readers are leaders.
Leaders are only for change if it is their idea. —John Maxwell
Leaders do not fear change, pine for the past, or dread the future.
Leaders fail when they believe themselves to be invincible.
Leaders lead for the benefit of others.
Leaders make the future better than the past.
Leaders take risks for what they believe in.
Leaders who are lonely are lonely—because they have never had significance in their lives; they have lived for themselves. —John Maxwell
Leadership is about getting somewhere.
Leadership is influence.
Leadership training on steroids.

Mobilize your people to open their eyes and ears to what God is doing around them. –Henry Blackaby

One person seeking glory does not accomplish much. –Red Hourbach

Passing the baton—Jesus, Apostles, Stephen, Saul, Timothy.

People prefer to follow those who help them, not those who intimidate them. –C. Gene Wilkes

Release people to do what God is calling them to do. –Ephesians 4

Remember, the greatest risk is not to risk at all.

Teamwork is important, but team leadership is even more important—it is the multiplication of your ministry. –John Maxwell

The #1 rule of management: whatever gets rewarded gets done. We don’t get what we want to get, nag to get, ask to get or beg to get. We get what we reward. Whatever gets rewarded gets done.

The ability to lead is important, but the ability to teach others how to lead is even more important. –John Maxwell

The ability to detect ability in others is the greatest leadership ability of all.

The four “I”s of leadership—integrity, intellect, intensity, insight.

The greatest leadership ability is to discover and develop leaders. –Elmer Towns

The key to a spiritual leader’s life is his personal relationship with God. –Henry Blackaby

The key to motivating people is catching them doing something right.

The needs of people do not set the agenda of the spiritual leader—the will of God sets the agenda. –Henry Blackaby

The Right Information Makes for the Right Decisions

The role of a spiritual leader is to know the will of God. –Henry Blackaby

There are three types of leaders: risk-takers, care-takers, undertakers.

True leadership must be about the benefit of the followers—and not the enrichment of the leaders.

You can lead from anywhere.

Your destiny is determined by the books that you read and the people that you meet. –Howard Hendricks

Your vision determines your character; your character determines your leadership.

We have to have managers, but if the pastor is managing the church, who is leading the church?

What makes a leader? intelligences, integrity, imagination, skill? Not at all. It is the fact that the man has a following.

When leaders lack accountability they fail.

Why do we need leaders? Because there are problems that need to be solved.

Without leadership skills it is impossible for a pastor to succeed as a pastor. –John Maxwell

**Learning**

Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. –Henry Ford

By viewing the old we learn the new. –Chinese Proverb

An education isn’t how much you have committed to memory, or even how much you know. It’s knowing where to go to find out what you need to know; and it is knowing how to use the information you get. –William Fowler

Be the change you want to see in the world.

Contemplative learning is more effective than surface learning.

Einstein thought creatively in pictures.

Einstein was no Einstein when he was a kid. –Walter Isaacson

Every artist was at first an amateur. –Ralph W. Emerson
Focused learning is more effective than shotgun learning. –John Maxwell
Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events, small minds discuss people.
He who ceases to learn cannot adequately teach.
I address you as my fellow students. –Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch
I hear, and I forget. I see, and I remember. I do, and I understand. –Chinese Proverb
If we desire God’s best in our lives, then we must realize His best for us includes both our strengths and weaknesses.
If you desire to excel for Christ, you must narrow your choices (Phil. 3:13).
If you do not expect it, you will not find the unexpected, for it is hard to find and difficult. –Heraclitus
If you spend 30 minutes a day reading and 30 minutes reflecting, it will transform your life. –Howard Hendricks
In learning, you only get out of your studies what you put into them.
In the fields of observation, chance favors only the prepared mind. –Louis Pasteur
Information has been proliferating so rapidly it doubles every seven years.
Intentional learning is more effective than nonintentional learning. –John Maxwell
It’s what you learn after you know it all that counts. –Harry S. Truman
Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other. –John F. Kennedy
Learning is changing your thinking, feeling, and behavior.
Learning is not compulsory—neither is survival –W. Edwards Deming
Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence. –Abigail Adams
Learning must be applied immediately or it will be forgotten.
Learning that is connected to the big picture is more effective than learning that is disconnected. –John Maxwell
Learning that is shared is learning that is remembered.
Let us discern for ourselves what is right; let us learn together what is good. –Job 34:4 NIV
Men learn while they teach. –Lucius A. Seneca
Most of what we learn, we learn from people.
Most people who read, read too much and reflect too little. –Howard Hendricks
Never seem more learned than the people you are with. Wear your learning like a pocket watch and keep it hidden. Do not pull it out to count the hours, but give the time when you are asked. –Lord Chesterfield
New information must be applied immediately and repeatedly or it will be forgotten.
No matter how good teaching may be, each student must take the responsibility for his own education. –John Carolus S.J.
No one can become really educated without having pursued some study in which he took no interest. –T.S. Eliot
Not only is the learning process exciting and logical, but it’s also a discovery process. Truth is always most profitable and productive when you can see it for yourself. –Howard Hendricks
Now abideth these three: information, understanding and clarity; but the greatest of these is clarity.
Once seen never forgotten.
One can think effectively only when one is willing to endure suspense and to undergo the trouble of searching.
One must learn by doing the thing; for though you think you know it, you have no certainty, until you try. –Sophocles
People learn by doing, not by listening.
People learn more quickly by doing something or seeing something done. –Gilbert Highet

Read not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted; but to weigh and consider. –Francis Bacon

Reading makes a full man, conference a ready man and writing an exact man. –Francis Bacon

Real effectiveness is developed through many years of improving just a few steps at a time. Simulation-based training where the learner has to make consequence based choices is by far the most effective way to teach people something short of doing it themselves.

Stories make learning interesting.
Students learn better when they talk, not when the teacher talks.
Students learn more from honest criticism than form false praise.
Students who are only taught one side of the argument are ill prepared for the real world.
Teach according to how students and adults learn—they learn by doing.
Teaching doesn’t take place unless the students have learned.
The best learning happens in real life with real problems and real people—and not in classrooms.
The best rarely are composed of the people who have the most natural talent, but rather by those few who have a passion to fulfill their God-given talents and reach for the top of their potential.
The best way to show that a stick is crooked is not to argue about it or to spend time denouncing it, but to lay a straight stick alongside it. –D.L. Moody

The critical factor is not class size but rather the nature of the teaching as it affects learning.
–C.B. Neblette

The essence of the educational process is a teacher helping a learner apply knowledge to a problem.
The four basic skills students need to master are: (1) reading, (2) writing, (3) listening, and (4) speaking. –Howard Hendricks

The function of the teacher is to create the most favorable conditions for self-learning. —John Milton Gregory

The goal of learning is to do—not just to know. –John Maxwell

The greatest battles are fought in the mind.
The important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. –Pierre de Coubertin

The Law of the Student states that the student is responsible to learn regardless of the quality of the teacher.
The least of learning is done in the classrooms. –Thomas Merton

The limits of your language are the limits of your world. —Ludwig Wittgenstein

The more you discuss the more you remember.
The more you listen the more you learn.
The more you study the more you learn.
The more the student studies the more he learns.
The nature of mind, as far as we can understand it, is that of a power or force actuated by motives. The striking clock may sound in the ear, and the passing object may paint its image in the eyes, but the inattentive mind neither hears nor sees. –John Milton Gregory

The object of teaching is to enable the student to get along without his teacher –Elbert Hubbard

The opposite of ignorance in the Scriptures is not knowledge; its obedience.
The problem with the average guy coming out of the university is that he can’t read, he can’t write, and he can’t think. –Howard Hendricks

The purpose of journaling is to ensure that the heart does not grow cold while the brain is being feed facts about the Bible.
The three basic goals of learning are: (1) Learn how to think. (2) Learn how to learn. (3) Learn how to work.

The way to gain a good reputation is to endeavor to be what you desire to appear. -- Socrates

The wisdom of the wise and the experience of the ages are perpetuated in quotations. -- Benjamin Disraeli

There are two types of learning. One focuses on how to make a living, And the other on how to live.

There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure. -- Colin Powell

There are one-story intellects, two-story intellects, and three-story intellects with skylights.
All fact collectors, who have no aim beyond their facts, are one-story men. Two-story men compare, reason, generalize, using the labors of the fact collectors as well as their own. Three-story men idealize, imagine, and predict—their best illumination comes from above, through the skylight. -- Oliver Wendell Holms

There is no education like adversity. -- Benjamin Disraeli

They know enough who know how to learn. -- Henry Adams

Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is probably the reason why so few engage in it. -- Henry Ford

Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing the ground. -- Frederick Douglass

Time plus focus equals learning—It takes 5,000 hours to become a good violinist; it takes 7,000 hours to become a great violinist; it takes 10,000 hours to become an extraordinary violinist. In the same way it takes 5,000 hours of preparation to become a good student of the Bible, 7,000 hours to become a great student of the Bible; it take 10,000 hours to become an extraordinary student of the Bible. To do less is to settle for mediocrity and to short-change God (2 Tim. 2:15).

To arrive at the simple is difficult. -- Rashid Elisha

To teach is to learn twice. -- Joseph Joubert

We evangelicals are simply not producing intelligent, articulate, winsome leaders who have the spiritual power and intellectual training to outlive and outthink those outside the church. We live in what is most likely the most anti-intellectual period in the history of Christianity and there is growing pressure on seminary students, ministers, and Christian teachers generally to adopt a shallow, popularistic approach to teaching, preaching, and ministry. We must equip God’s people to think and study for themselves instead of simply filling their spiritual tanks each week with the result that they become inordinately dependent upon the teacher to tell them what to believe. Christian leaders must do their homework, and research is the only way to do that. -- J.P. Morland

We learn a lot more effectively when we are (1) having fun; (2) involved; and (3) discovering answers for ourselves.

What we hear we remember a little; what we write we remember much better. -- David Jeremiah

When a man ceases to grow he begins to decay.
When words and actions are in opposition, actions always overpower words.
Whenever we learn something new, we pay for it with something old. We must give up ignorance and prejudice and falsehood if we are to gain truth. To add a new idea to the mind, we must eject an old one. So all learning is subtracting as well as adding, dying as well as birthing. -- Socrates

Whoso neglects learning in his youth, loses the past and is dead to the future. -- Euripides

Why memorize when your eyes can snap a picture you will never forget? Incredibly visual
Why reading and studying the Bible are not enough? (John 8:12).
With only knowledge, I dry up; with only spirit, I blow up; but with a balance, I grow up.
Wonder is the desire for knowledge. —St. Thomas Aquinas
Writing makes a person more precise.
You are today what you will be five years from now with the exception of the books you have read and the people you meet. —Charles “Tremendous” Jones.
You cannot be prideful and teachable at the same time.
You cannot direct the wind but you can adjust the sails. --Anonymous
You cannot operate on the margins of your knowledge—you have to know ten times as much as you apply.
You cannot teach a man anything; you can only help him find it within himself. —Galielo Galilei
You have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you. —John Bunyan
Your most unhappy customers are your greatest source of learning. —Bill Gates
http://www.quotationspage.com/subjects/teaching/

Life
A God-honoring life requires dependence upon God.
Are you satisfied with the level of God’s power in your life?
God’s commands are designed to guide you to life’s very best. —Henry Blackaby
God’s fingerprints in my life.
I don’t work for God—God works through me—the Christian life.
If there were no afterlife, life would be unfair.
It is in the storms of life that we see the power of God.
It is never too late in life to change.
It is your perspective of life that determines your response to life’s challenges—the Word of God determines your perspective.
Life is a losing battle against the second law of thermodynamics.
Life is 10% what happens to you, 90% how you respond to it. —Charles Swindoll
Life is hard; but God is good.
Life is not a marathon; it is a series of sprints.
Life is so sacred that if someone takes another’s life they cannot keep their own.
Life is the dash between birth and death.
Life is what happens to you while you are busy making other plans.
Meditation plus obedience takes the place of worry.
Memorization is easier than application.
One of the great challenges in life is the challenge of self-identity.
Pay as much attention to the things that are working positively in your life as you do to those that are giving you trouble.
Shalom = The wholeness of life; that which pulls all of life together. Luke 10:40ff
Take a leap of faith into the arms of the great adventure of an authentic life.
The abundant life is the experience of God’s love, forgiveness, and power in the midst of our problems.
The balanced life: In dwelling, live close to the ground. In thinking, keep to the simple. In conflict, be fair and generous. In governing, do not try to control. In work, do what you enjoy. In family life, be completely present. When you are content to be simply yourself, and do not compare or compete, those you respect will respect you.
The Christian life is not so much running from evil as it is facing God.
There is something beyond this life that is more real than what we can see.
What do you want to accomplish with your life?
When you are living in the fast land you tend to overlook the basic components that give your life meaning—relationships, getting to know someone really well, putting someone else first.
You become a somebody when Jesus comes into your life.

**Love**

Do something fun and ridiculous with someone you love.
God’s love is not a pampering love—it is a perfecting love (Heb. 12:12).
I am more loved than I ever hoped.
Liberty – Love = License
Liberty + Love = Service
Life – Love = Zero
Love begins at home, and it is not how much we do, but how much love we put in that action. –Mother Teresa
Love refuses to tolerate evil.
Love gives us the vision to see others through God’s eyes, and the compassion to get involved. Love frees us from fear and gears us up to reach out to those around us
Love finds it’s greatest pleasure in the pleasure of the other.
Love is an irresistible desire to be irresistibly desired. –Robert Frost
Love is expressed in patience.
Love is friendship caught on fire.
Love is friendship set to music.
Love is the measure of maturity—If you love me keep my commandments.
Memorize your favorite love poem.
Never let a problem to be solved become more important than a person to be loved.
People are starved for love and encouragement.
Power cannot command love.
Real love is when you become selfless and you are more concerned about your mate’s or your children’s egos than your own.
Tell me what you love, and I will tell you who you are. –John Paul II
The best way to spell love is T-I-M-E.
There are many in the world who are dying for a piece of bread, but there are many more dying for a little love. –Mother Teresa
There is a little boy or girls within you that needs to be loved—let God love you.
There is nothing more exalting than requited love.
The best use of life is love; the best expression of love is time; the best time to love is now.
We are all desperate to be loved.
We can cure physical diseases with medicine, but the only cure for loneliness, despair, and hopelessness is love. –Mother Teresa
You can’t please everyone, but you can love everyone.

**Marriage**

A great marriage is not so much finding the right person as being the right person.
A great marriage is about making your spouse happy he is married to you.
A great marriage is about making your spouse happy she is married to you.
A husband needs a cheerleader, a champion, a companion, and a compliment.
A husbands’ unconditional love for his wife reveals his love for Christ. –Emerson Eggrichs
A man falls in love through his eyes, a woman through her ears. –Woodrow Wyatt
A man is excited by what he hears and by what he sees.
A man needs a playmate.
A man thrives on his wife's approval and praise. –David Jeremiah
A man without a good woman has nothing. –Dr. Laura
A man would rather live with a wife who respected him but did not love him than live with a wife who loved him but did not respect him.
A wife needs love just as she needs air to breathe. A husband needs respect just as a wife needs love.
A wife needs time, talk, tenderness, and touch.
A wife’s unconditional respect for her husband reveals her reverence for Christ (Eph. 5:21-22; 6:6-7). –Emerson Eggerichs
A woman completes a man.
A woman gets married thinking things will change; a man gets married praying things never change.
A woman is turned on by romance, a man is turned on by physical beauty.
A woman is turned on by talking, a man is turned on by seeing and touching.
A woman worries about the future until she gets a husband, while a man never worries about the future until he gets a wife.
A woman’s greatest need is to be loved; a man’s greatest need is to be admired.
Acts of revenge can get you into a lot of trouble.
All marriages suffer from the second law of thermodynamics.
As men crave physical touch; women crave emotional touch.
As women crave emotional touch; men crave physical touch.
Being desired by your spouse is a blessing.
Christians have the guidelines to be the happiest people on earth.
Craziness happens when we keep doing the same things over and over with the same ill effect. –Emerson Eggerichs
Disrespect is the most corrosive force in marriage.
Divorce hurts kids.
Ephesians 5 is the most significant treatise on marriage in the New Testament.
Every marriage has its moments of discouragement; it has to be seen in perspective. –David Jeremiah
Every time you do reach out with love or respect, heaven is watching. –Emerson Eggerichs
Every time you say “You should know” you are pretending your spouse is just like you. –John Gray
God created intimacy as part of his plan to build oneness in marriage. –Gary Smalley
God has given wives the power to turn a husband into a man—or a failure.
God is not calling on wives to feel respect; He is calling them to show respectful behavior (1 Pet. 3:1-2).
God is telling husbands to value and prize their wives as equals within the grace of God (1 Pet. 3:7).
God made us different that He might make us one.
God wants you to have a great life, and the Bible tells you how to do it.
Happy is the bride that understands how simple and straightforward a man is.
Happiness is when both are giving 100%—it reflects divine splendor.
Her criticisms may not be contempt at all; they are simply her way of crying, “Please love me.” –Emerson Eggerichs
How can I make life worth living for my spouse?
Husbands and wives must realize that they communicate in code. And the problem is, they don’t know how to decipher the messages they send to one another. —Emerson Eggerichs

Husbands and wives have needs that are truly equal. She needs unconditional love, and he needs unconditional respect. —Emerson Eggerichs

Husband shouldn’t have to “earn respect” any more than wives shouldn’t have to “earn love.” —Emerson Eggerichs

If a wife becomes disrespectful and contemptuous, the marriage is in serious danger. If this cycle isn’t broken, it will probably end in divorce. —John Gottman

If I hurt my wife, I will feel the pain.

If you are married, you are married to the right person. —David Jeremiah

If you become more loving, the relationship becomes more loving. If you cannot forgive your husband, forgive your children’s father. If you respect your husband, he will love you. If you love your wife, she will respect you.

In a good marriage, your needs are more important than my comfort.

In marriage either both win or both lose.

In marriage our joys are doubled since the happiness of one is the happiness of the other; our burdens are halved when we share them, we divide the load.

In marriage procrastination creates confusion.

In marriage timing is critical.

In serious conflict, if a husband reassures his wife that he truly loves her is spite of the argument they are having, and he avoids like the plague sending the message, “I don’t love you,” all will be fine. —Emerson Eggerichs

In the ultimate sense, your marriage has nothing to do with your spouse. It has everything to do with your relationship with Jesus Christ. —Emerson Eggerichs

Intimacy is the capacity to be real about everything.

It is easy to get married, it is work to stay married. It is our differences that attract us to each other. Differences make our partners interesting and attractive. Yet it is also our differences that create problems. The biggest problem, however, is our tendency to expect our partners to think and feel the way we do. —John Gray

It is rarely the content but rather the manner of delivery that causes problems in marriage. It won’t be any better after you are married.

Joy is everywhere when you are looking for it.

Let God love your spouse through you.

Let the wife make the husband glad to come home, and let him make her sorry to see him leave. —Marin Luther

Let your love be like the misty rain, coming softly but flooding the river.

Love and respect are the foundation of a successful marriage.

Love finds its greatest pleasure in the pleasure of the other.

Love is a feeling directed at someone that acknowledges their goodness (1 Cor. 13:5-7; when you see goodness in someone—that’s love; when you don’t see goodness in someone—that’s not love. —John Gray

Love is a necessary but insufficient reason for marriage. —Dr. Laura Schlessinger

Love is caring more for the other person than for yourself.

Love is not simply the coming together of two bodies; it is the total blending of two lives.

Love is the willful intent to serve the well being of another—to meet their needs. Loving couples don’t compete, they compliment one another.

Luther’s prescription for a great marriage: Make the husband happy to come home; make the wife sorry to see him leave.

Feminine Love = Caring + Understanding + Devoted concern

Man and woman are designed to complement and complete one another.

Man attains completion in the woman and woman in the man. —C.B. Eavey

Many marital problems result from pretending/assuming your spouse is just like you. —John Gray

Many marriages would be better if the husband and the wife clearly understood that they are on the same side. —Zig Ziglar

Masculine Love = Trust + Acceptance + Respect

Marriage is a test of how you unconditionally love and respect your spouse as you obey, honor, and please the Lord. —Emerson Eggerichs

Marriage is a unity in which the two, forsaking all others, become “one flesh.” —C.B. Eavey

Marriage is about realities, rejection, regrets, and resiliency (Song 5:2-8).

Marriage is better when you make it fun; make everything possible a game.

Marriage is either win/win or lose/lose; it is never win/lose.

Marriage is God’s answer to human loneliness; it offers the possibility for two persons to establish the intimacy that can fulfill the hunger of each for someone truly to care.

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Marriage is not a place to ‘stand up for your rights.’ Marriage is a decision to serve the other (1 Cor. 7:4 MSG).

Marriage is not living merely for each other; it is two joining hands to serve God.

Marriage is the opportunity to lay down our lives for others.

Marriage is the promise to love and respect unconditionally.

Marriage is the uniting of a man and a woman into one personality. —C.B. Eavey

Marriage is teamwork; it is being on one another’s team.

Marriage is the foundational institution upon which Western culture rests.

Men and women are love starved.

Men are commanded to love because they don’t love naturally, and on the other side, women are commanded to respect because they don’t respect naturally. —Emerson Eggerichs

Men cooperate when they are seen as the solution rather than the problem.

Men have an honor code.

My most brilliant achievement was my ability to be able to persuade my wife to marry me. —Sir Winston Churchill

Moody people never marry moody people—they are not stupid.

Moody people tend to marry non-moody people.

Most misbehavior can be traced to empty love tanks.

Never try to win an argument with your wife.

Never underestimate your power. A good woman has the power to make a bad man good. A bad woman has the power to make a good man bad (1 Kings 11:4). Rarely does a good man have the power to make a bad woman good, or a bad man have the power to make a good woman bad.

No matter how depressing or irritating my spouse might be, my response is my responsibility. —Emerson Eggerichs

No matter how desperate or hopeless a marriage may seem, if husband and wife both have basic goodwill in their hearts—and are not on drugs, they can stop the Crazy Cycle.

No woman wants to marry a weak man; she wants a man she reveres enough to trust her life to.
Nothing temporal so elevates and purifies life as to know that we are loved faithfully and truly by some person. –C.B. Eavey

Notice that the One who designed our bodies made them fit.

Often, we focus on our own needs and simply overlook the needs of the other person. The wife needs love; she is not trying to be disrespectful. The husband needs respect; he is not trying to be unloving. Once you grasp this basic principle—that the “issue” is not the real issue at all—you are on your way to cracking the communication code. –Emerson Eggerichs

One cannot be a person of integrity and honesty and have an affair.

One of the greatest turn-ons is removing a turn-off.

Only Jesus can meet our needs.

Our choice of a partner for life means the choice of our future, the development of our character, the completion of our personality, our destiny, and, probably, the kind of children we bring into the world. –C.B. Eavey

Our gender differences are most easily understood and resolved by approaching them with a sense of humor. –John Gray

Our thoughts determine the ruts our feelings must follow (Phil 4:8).

Passive men = Wild women.

People do not have to be wrong or bad not to be a match. –Dr. Laura Schlessinger

Personal attacks never, ever work with anybody. –Emerson Eggerichs

Prospective Husband Test: Will he swim through shark-infested water to bring you lemonade?

Purity leads to intimacy because intimacy desires to be fully known.

Real love begins when the passion goes away. –Scott Peck

Real love is remembering that we are supposed to be different. –John Gray

Resentment and intimacy cannot dwell together in peace.

Respect does something to the soul of a man. God made him that way. –Emerson Eggerichs

Respect for the husband is just as important as love for the wife (Eph. 5:33). –Emerson Eggerichs

Respect and romance are cousins.

Respect is a man’s deepest value. –Emerson Eggerichs

Respect is the key to motivating a husband. –Emerson Eggerichs

Respect is trusting a man, giving him the freedom to change.

Respect is yielding your wishes for the wishes of another.

Saying “I don’t know how to say this” is an effective way to avoid an argument.

Sexual union binds the couple to each other in a physical and emotional blending of persons.

Sex is God’s idea, and next to salvation, it is the greatest idea God ever had.

Sex is life-uniting.

Sex was created to be an expression of love.

Smile at each other, smile at your wife, smile at your husband, smile at your children, smile at each other—it doesn’t matter who it is—and that will help you to grow up in greater love for each other. –Mother Teresa

Something in a man longs for his wife to look up to him as he fulfills his role of protector. And when she does, it motivates him, not because he is arrogant, but because of how God has constructed him. –Emerson Eggerichs

Spiritual submission is the most powerful tool the Holy Spirit uses to change others.

Spontaneity is seen as sensitivity when it comes to romance.

Steps to Finding Lasting Love

Step #1: Becoming the right person: purpose-driven attitude.
Step #2: Attracting the right person: purpose-driven spiritual disciplines/spiritual growth.
Step #3: Having fun together: purpose-driven adventure/passion for life.
Step #4: Becoming one: purpose-driven communication/transparency.
Step #5: Meaningful nightly devotions: purpose-driven Bible application/integrity.
Step #6: Hot monogamy: purpose-driven faithfulness/loyalty.
Step #7: Gender honor: purpose-driven respect and love/viva la difference.
The ability to adjust to things you cannot control—the difference between couples who make it and those who don’t.
The act of marriage is a great mystery, a symbol of the mystical union existing between Christ and His Church. –C.B. Eavey
The balance of power is with the woman. God has built into womanhood a strength which no man enjoys and without which no man can be everything he ought to be.
The best way to get a man to change is to treat him with unconditional respect. –Emerson Eggerichs
The best way to love a husband is to show him respect in ways that are meaningful to him. Such respect lets him feel his wife’s love for him and ignites in him feelings of love for his wife. –Emerson Eggerichs
The best way to love a wife is to look beyond her criticisms and complaints to she why she isn’t feeling loved. –Emerson Eggerichs
The Bible provides the directions for mind-blowing marriage.
The Bible provides the floor plan for life.
The difference between successful couples and unsuccessful couples is that the successful ones keep getting up and keep dealing with the issues. –Emerson Eggerichs
The glory of man is his masculinity; the beauty of woman is her femininity; the fellowship of love is the harmonious combination of the two to form a complete union. –C.B. Eavey
The God of love has established marriage for our welfare and happiness.
The greatest gift you can give your husband is your happiness.
The greatest power a woman has is spiritual submission—no man can resist it.
The greatest threat to marriage is busyness—the pace of living. –James Dobson
The husband must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband (Eph. 5:33).
The key to a good life is to put God first—JOY.
The key to creating fond feelings of love in a husband toward his wife is through showing him unconditional respect. –Emerson Eggerichs
The key to energizing your spouse is meeting your spouse’s heartfelt desire. –Emerson Eggerichs
The love of a good woman is the most refining influence in a man’s life.
The more wives complain and criticize, the more husbands withdraw and stonewall; the more husbands withdraw and stonewall, the more wives complain and criticize. –John Gottman
The more you gripe the more unloving you become; the more you compliment the more loving you become.
The one thing you can count on in healthy marriages is conflict.
The perfect husband does not exist; he must be built.
The real issues in marriage are always love and respect. Everything else is just filling in the details. –Emerson Eggerichs
The secret to a great marriage is one word—commitment.
The support of the woman is often what makes a man strong.
The wife is to yield herself to her husband in the same spirit of voluntary self-giving that she demonstrated in giving herself to Christ (Eph. 5:22). The husband is commanded to give to his wife the same care that he would give to his own body (Eph. 5:28-29).

The worst thing you can do to a man is to try to change him—that’s the Holy Spirit’s job.

The woman absolutely needs love, and the man absolutely needs respect. It’s as simple—and as difficult—as that. –Emerson Eggerichs

The yearning and need of husbands is that their wives give them honor and respect. –Emerson Eggerichs

There are four levels of intimacy and they all need to play a part for the experience to be successful for both husband and wife. Those four levels are mental, emotional, spiritual, and then physical. All of these areas are vital in establishing intimacy—and when used together, they’ll enrich and deepen your oneness as a couple. –Gary Smalley

There is no more lovely, friendly or charming relationship, communion or company, than a good marriage. –Martin Luther

They way of agape is a more excellent way.

Time + Fun = Romance

Two unselfish people rarely fight and never get divorced.

To be loving is to do loving things.

To get the BEST: Bless her. Encourage her. Serve her. Touch her.

To show disrespect is to kill the marriage.

Trust ing and obeying God’s Word because we love and reverence God never, ever makes us a hypocrite! When the alarm goes off in the morning, we get up, even when we don’t feel like getting up. Because we do what we don’t feel like doing, does that make us hypocrites? No, it is a sign we are responsible people. –Emerson Eggerichs

Unconditional love and unconditional respect are powerful change agents.

Understanding that a wife’s deepest need is for love and a husband’s deepest need is for respect is the core in how to make your marriage better. –Emerson Eggerichs

Unhappy marriages are caused almost always by lack of mutual respect and lack of mutual consideration. –C.B. Eavey

Unsuccessful couples want it easy. They want their needs to be met. They just want everything to be “happy.” This approach is the epitome of immaturity. –Emerson Eggerichs

What I say is not what you hear, and what you think you heard is not what I meant at all.

What if God designed marriage to make us holy more than to make us happy?

Whatever I do for my spouse, I do it to Christ as well (Matt. 25:31-46)

When a husband feels disrespected, it is especially hard to love his wife. When a wife feels unloved, it is especially hard to respect her husband. –Emerson Eggerichs

When a man begins to feel that his wife no longer looks up to him but is looking down at him, the Crazy Cycle kicks in. –Emerson Eggerichs

When a man gets married he still hopes his wife will stay the same, while she still hopes that after marriage he will change. –John Gray

When a wife respects her husband she does not become a doormat; in fact, he starts rolling out the red carpet for her! –Emerson Eggerichs

When a wife treats her husband like a girlfriend, he does not know how to react—it drives him crazy.

When husbands feel respected, wives feel loved.

When husbands feel significant, wives feel secure.

When husbands feel in control, wives feel connected.

When it comes to the family, you can’t win unless everyone wins. –Gary Smalley
When life with your spouse causes irritation, you can let it develop into an infection or you can allow it to become a pearl. –Emerson Eggerichs
When men and woman are able to respect their differences, then love has a chance to grow. –John Gray
When the passion goes away, real love begins. –Scott Peck
When you love your spouse the way you want to be loved, you are poisoning him. When you touch your spouse’s deepest need, something good almost always happens. –Emerson Eggerichs
Whenever a husband is speaking harshly or sometimes not speaking at all, he is sending his encoded message: “I want your respect.” –Emerson Eggerichs
Whenever a wife is complaining, criticizing, or crying, she is sending her encoded message: “I want your love!” –Emerson Eggerichs
Whenever you are loving a man with the intent to change him, you are not loving him—you are hurting him.
Without love, a wife reacts without respect. Without respect, a man reacts without love—ad nauseam. –Emerson Eggerichs
Wives are basically good-willed women. They are only acting critical, contentious, and disrespectful because they are crying out for love. –Emerson Eggerichs
Wives are made to love, want to love, and expect love. Husbands are made to be respected, want respect, and expect respect. –Emerson Eggerichs
Wives can win their husbands through respect (1 Pet. 3:1-2).
Wives have far more power to change their marriage than many ever imagined. –Emerson Eggerichs
Women crave emotional touch; Men crave physical touch.
Women want love far more than respect and men want respect far more than love. –Emerson Eggerichs
Women spell love r-o-m-a-n-c-e; Men spell love r-e-s-p-e-c-t.
Women spell love t-e-n-d-e-r-n-e-s-s; Men spell love r-e-s-p-e-c-t.
Women want to feel cherished, men want to feel appreciated.
You always face a choice: to react in a godly way or in a sinful way. –Emerson Eggerichs
You are your children’s love teacher.
You can win battles while losing the war.
You want a woman to admire you, treat her like a princess.
Your first goal is to obey and please the Lord. –Emerson Eggerichs
Your marriage is not primarily about you and your spouse but it is about you and Jesus Christ. –Emerson Eggerichs
Your sexuality is primarily about God.

Men
A man can go longer without love than without respect.
A man’s self-esteem is lowest when he is out of work. –John Gray
A woman is better at being a woman than a man is.
Being masculine is a legitimate focus for a man.
By observing our Father in heaven we can learn to be better fathers on earth.
Don’t tell men anything they can’t fix. –Dr. Laura
Every boy dreams of great potential and great possibilities, of being a part of courageous activities and heroic enterprises. There is greatness inside you waiting to be unleashed. Live a life filled with courage and risk. If you do that you will move from the pawn to the hero. There is a hero inside you just waiting to be awakened—if you will just chose to live wide awake. –Erwin McManus
Every man does what he does for the admiration of a woman.
Every man needs a mission in life.

Fathers have the power to pass on a blessing, a destiny, based on who their children are (Gen 49).

Fathers should recognize the potential for discouragement (Heb. 12:5); reinforce the power of love (Heb. 12:6); remember the purpose of punishment (Heb. 12:10); and rejoice in the product of discipline (Heb. 12:11).

God calls us to do the humanly impossible.

God’s model for manhood:

1. Compassion: God is looking for men who put relationships before results and people before profits. He gives us Timothy as an example. 2. Consistency: God is looking for men who aren’t afraid to be different from the surrounding culture. 3. Cooperation: God is looking for men who put cooperation before competition. 4. Commitment: God is also looking for men who put the cause of Christ before comfort. 5. Courage: God is looking for men who put courage in service before security. He wants men who take risks for God’s kingdom. God the Father responds to our necessities (Matt. 7:9-11; James 1:15-17); respects our frailties (Psalm 103:13-14; Eph. 6:4); reprimands our immaturity (Heb. 12:5-11); and reinforces our identity (Matt. 3:16-17; Gen. 49:28).

Guys who like each other, insult each other. –Dennis Pragar

It is amazing what happens when a woman gives a man respect and admiration. –Emerson Eggerichs

Making a woman feel special builds her self-esteem. –John Gray

Man in the Arena

Manliness = confidence in the face of risk.

Manliness is a quality that causes individuals to stand for something.

Men and women are love starved.

Men are as sensitive about their actions as women are about their feelings. –John Gray

Men are commanded to love because they don’t love naturally, and on the other side, women are commanded to respect because they don’t respect naturally. –Emerson Eggerichs

Men are most manlike when they are filled with joy—rather than with pessimism. –G. K. Chesterton

Men are motivation by respect.

Men are not intuitive; they need to be reminded about what a woman needs. –John Gray

Men are under tremendous pressure to succeed, but what then need is to love and be loved. –James Dobson

Men cannot change without forgiveness. –John Gray

Men cooperate when they are seen as the solution rather than the problem.

Men do more when appreciated.

Men express hurt as anger.

Men generally act the age they are treated.

Men live by an honor code that there are certain things you just don’t do, certain things you just don’t say to a man—unless you want a fight.

Men need to feel competent; if they feel incompetent they lose all their energy. –John Gray

Men need to feel respected during conflict more than they need to feel loved. –Emerson Eggerichs

Men would rather shout than be heard.

Most men try to live up to the level of your expectations.

Never try to win an argument with your wife.

No matter how big they may be physically, emotionally men are vulnerable to what sounds like contempt. –Emerson Eggerichs
No woman wants to marry a weak man; she wants a man she reveres enough to trust her life to.

Our hearts are restless until they rest in thee, O Lord. —St. Augustine

Passive men = wild women

Sex is proof that God loves us and wants us to be happy.

Six rules every man must break

The Rule of Passivity: Never Get In a Fight
The Rule of Playing it Safe: Never Risk It All
The Rule of Perseverance: Never Give Up
The Rule of Independence: Never Ask For Help
The Rule of Restraint: Never Lose Your Cool
The Rule of Impressing Others: Never Look Stupid

The glory of God is man fully alive. —St. Irenaeus of Lyons

There is nothing your children need more than your blessing.

There is something in most men, placed there by God, to fight and die for honor, to fight and die for women, children, and their buddies. —Emerson Eggerichs

To be respected is more important than to be loved.

To be trusted is a greater complement than to be loved. —George MacDonald

Truly respecting others is the bedrock of motivation. —Dale Carnegie

We are not called to be good little boys; we are called to be heroic warriors—soldiers of light.

We not only do not understand the opposite sex; we do not understand our own sex.

We’ll get along fine just as soon as you realize I’m right.

What do these things have in common—Black holes, Christ and the Church, Murder on the Orient Express, and what does on in a woman’s brain? Mystery

When a general respects his men and believes in them more than they believe in themselves, they want to improve, they want to get better, they want to fulfill that potential this general sees in them.

When a man does not feel love he becomes stubborn and rigid. —John Gray

When a man feels appreciated he will want to do more. —John Gray

When a man feels loved he is open to change; when he does not feel loved he cannot change. —John Gray

Why waste the power of sexual attraction in marriage?

Without perspective, the skirmishes of life suck out the courage

Women crave emotional touch; Men crave physical touch.

Women spell love t-e-n-d-e-r-n-e-s-s; Men spell love r-e-s-p-e-c-t.

Unconditional love and respect will be rewarded. —Emerson Eggerichs

You want a woman to admire you, treat her like a princess.

Mercy

The seven works of spiritual mercy be these: teach men the truth, counsel men to how with Christ’s law, chastise sinners by moderate reproving in charity, comfort sorrowful men by Christ’s passion, forgive wrongs, suffer meekly reproofs for the right of God’s law, pray heartily for friend and foe. —Middle English sermons

The seven works of bodily mercy be these: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked and the needy, harbor the homeless, comfort the sick, visit prisoners, bury the dead.

The state of your heart dictates whether you harbor a grudge or give grace, seek self-pity or seek Christ, drink human misery or taste God’s mercy. —Max Lucado
**Missional Churches**
Expect failure if you are not a person of prayer.
If you want to pastor a growing church you have to do what pastors of growing churches do.
In order to love unbelievers unconditionally, people must understand the difference between acceptance and approval.
The church is a hospital for sinners. –Rick Warren
A major barrier to church growth is ‘people blindness’—being unaware of social and cultural differences in society.
We must learn to think like unbelievers in order to win them

**Missions**
Fifty years ago, 80% of all “Christians were in Europe and North America; today, 80% of all Christians are in South America, Asia, and Africa.
God wants to change the world through us (Matt. 5:14-15).
If you can’t feed a hundred people, then feed just one. –Mother Teresa
It is not good doctrine but good deeds that reach the world.
Our Jerusalem—the people we can reach out to without leaving home.
Our Judea—the people of our own culture, but who live further away.
Our Samaria—the people of other cultures living among us.
The ends of the earth—far away peoples of other cultures and languages.
The size of a church is measured by its sending capacity not its seating capacity. –Tom Julian
Ships are safe in the harbor, but that is not what they were made for.
Take the love of Christ into the darkness of the world. –Mother Teresa.
The promises of God: I have sent you. I will be with you. I will empower you. Gideon
To change the world you need to start by changing yourself.
We are made for a mission in the world.
We are not called to entertain believers while the world goes to hell. –Henry Blackaby
We are called to make a difference in the world.

**Motivation**
Motivation is like food for the brain. You cannot get enough in one sitting. It needs continual and regular top ups.
Motivation is what gets you started; habit is what keeps you doing.
The greatest motivation act one person can do for another is to listen. –Roy Moody
The most important thing about motivation is goal setting; you should always have a goal.
The “pull” of gratitude is greater than the “push” of guilt.

**Multiculturalism**
Multiculturalism: The Hindu said, “We have a custom of burning widows on the pyre of the husband.” To which the British officer said, “That’s okay. We have a custom of hanging the man who burns a widow on the pyre of the husband. You can follow your custom as long as we can follow our custom.”

**Music**
Music is the tip of the sword that opens the heart toward God.

**Obedience**
Any assignment that comes from the Maker of the universe is an important assignment. –Henry Blackaby
Be obedient to God and leave the consequences to Him.
Disobedience is costly. –Henry Blackaby
Do it God’s way.
Do right and fear not.
Do right and let God take care of the results.
Every time you do God’s work in God’s way you will have God’s power. –Henry Blackaby
God often orders us to cross our Jordan River at flood stage.
I come to know God by experience as I obey Him and He accomplishes His work through me. –Henry Blackaby
If I have an obedience problem, I have a love problem. –Henry Blackaby
In most cases the problem isn’t that we lack information; the problem is that we lack obedience. –Henry Blackaby
Keep on doing what God called you to do.
Obedience is costly to me and those around me; but disobedience is even more costly.
Obedience is the outward expression of my love for God (John 14:15). –Blackaby
Obedience requires total dependence on God to work through me. –Blackaby
Obedience to God will lead to opposition and misunderstanding. –Henry Blackaby
Someone is waiting on the other side of your obedience.
The will of God: (1) salvation and baptism, (2) corporate worship, (3) small group fellowship, (4) team ministry.
When you disobey, you miss out on some of life’s greatest experiences.
What does God want me to do today?
You cannot obey God without being blessed. –Charles Stanley

**Pain**

Frustration + tedium + loneliness = Pain
God whispers in our pleasures, but shouts in our pain (2 Thess. 1:1-12).
God knows our pain.
Pain either makes you or breaks you.
Pain reveals who we are deep within.
Pain is weakness leaving the body—a marine proverb.
We must feel the pain before we are open to change.
You have to deal with your pain—or it will destroy you.
You must choose between the pain of discipline and the pain of regret.
You’re holding too much pain in your life—you need to be loved by God. –Nicky Cruz

**Paradoxes of Scripture**

To be great we must be a servant.
To conquer the fears of life, we must fear the Lord.

**Patience/Perseverance**

Beware a critical spirit—antagonism, arrogance, complaining, grumbling, haughtiness, judgmentalism, negativity, pridefulness, sarcasm—for it eats away at the fruit of the Spirit.
Courteous is respecting our differences, being considerate of each other’s feelings, and being patient with people who irritate us.
Determine that the thing can and shall be done, and then…find the way. –Abraham Lincoln
Do a word study on patience—it will surprise you.
Embrace God’s standards.
Endurance is patience concentrated.
God honors persistence.
Have you noticed that those who are unwilling to be champions, do not want others to be champions either.

He who endures conquers.

History is full of winners who encountered heartbreaking obstacles before they triumphed— who won because they refused to become discouraged by their defeats (e.g., Washington, Lincoln, Churchill).

I have nothing to offer you but blood, toil, tears, and sweat.  
http://www.rjgeib.com/thoughts/britain/britain.html

I won’t back up, shut up, or give up, until my work is done.

If you are patient, God will come through. Job, James, I Peter

It's not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbled, or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions and spends himself in a worthy cause who at best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who at worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who have never tasted victory or defeat." –Theodore Roosevelt

Joy is everywhere when you are looking for it.

Love is expressed in patience.

Let me tell you the secret that has led me to my goal: my strength lies solely in my tenacity.  
–Louis Pasteur

Life does not get easier, it gets harder, but God is faithful. –David Jeremiah

Most people miss out on opportunities because it’s dressed up in overalls and it looks like work. –Thomas Edison

Never, never, never, never give up. –Sir Winston Churchill

Ninety percent of success is just showing up.

Nothing is the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common that unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. ‘Press on!’ –Calvin Coolidge

Only discipline can free us from the slavery of laziness and mediocrity.

Patience: ardor, boldness, bravery, commitment, courage, credibility, dedication, dependability, determination, diligence, discipline, endurance, faithfulness, fidelity, fortitude, hardness, integrity, persistence, perseverance, purpose, reliability, resilience, resolution, robustness, stamina, staying power, steadfastness, strength, thoroughness, toughness, trustworthiness, valor.

Patience: The trouble is I'm in a hurry—and God isn’t. –David Jeremiah

Patience is God-given giftedness applied through hard work.

Patience is not getting upset, or giving up, when things get difficult. –David Jeremiah

Patient endurance under suffering draws people to Christ. –Henry Blackaby

Persistence will get you almost anything eventually.

Put off a critical spirit, acrimony, animosity, antagonism, arrogance, belligerence, bitterness, complaining, conceit, egotism, enmity, envy, grumbling, hatred, haughtiness, hostility, ill will, jealousy, judging motives, negativity, resentment, rivalry, sarcasm, self-importance, smugness, spite—for these eat away at the fruit of the Spirit.

Put on faith, gentleness, gratitude, hope, joy, long-suffering, love, patience, peace.

Quitters never win and winners never quit.

The only way to fail is to give up.

The prophets suffered not because they did anything wrong; they suffered because they did things right. –David Jeremiah
The road to failure is actually the past of least persistence.
There is nothing so fatal to character as half-finished tasks.
Tough times never last, but tough people do.
Waiting on God is worth the wait. –Henry Blackaby
We need patience in the trials of life.
We need patience when we go through difficulty, disappointment, disapproval, disaster, and dishonesty. James 5:7-11
When you hit the wall, if you don’t quit you will experience the second wind. –David Jeremiah
You can do anything if you have patience. You can carry water in a sieve if you wait until it freezes.

**Pastoral Ministry**
Pastoral burnout statistics by Barna and Focus on the Family
1,500 pastors are forced to resign each month.
80% of pastors feel discouraged and inadequate.
80% of seminary graduates leave the minister after 5 years.
50% of pastors want to leave the ministry but lack other job skills.
A church’s prayer life is vitally linked to the pastor’s prayer life.
Ask clarifying questions before acting on assumptions.
Be gentle.
Chaos always precedes a new creation.
Character matters most.
Choose your battles.
Do not confuse personality with spirituality—one who by nature is pessimistic is not necessarily lacking faith in God.
Do not make policy based on exceptions.
Exercise regularly, rest, and make time every week to do something you enjoy.
Exhaustion is not next to godliness.
Feelings are real; feelings are not necessarily reality.
God blesses persons with whom I do not agree.
If I try to meet the needs of people I will never complete the work of the Father. –Henry Blackaby
If there is anything indispensable to pastoral ministry—it is prayer.
It is always better to be proactive than reactive.
It is scary to find out just how many pastors do not have a quiet time.
Just because someone is upset does not mean he or she is right.
Lack of planning on your part does not constitute a crisis on my part.
Love your wife, and regularly plan times away alone together.
Many things look like a failure while you are in the middle of them.
Mornings are for God; afternoons are for people, evenings are for family.
Never underestimate the potency of getting there first.
Our people will not remember our sermons, but they will remember our kindnesses.
Pastoral care includes care of the pastor and his family.
Pastoring is spiritual warfare.
People are more important than tasks.
Providence is sometimes inscrutable.
Resist the urge to rescue immediately when the problem has developed over time.
Sometimes you know you are right because of who is for you; sometimes you know you are right because of who is against you.
Take your day off and violate it only for emergencies.

The biggest problem with communication is the misbelieve it has occurred.
The goal of ministry is to introduce persons to Jesus Christ and to nurture their relationship to Him.
The law of unintended consequences is both positive and negative.
The most important thing a pastor can do is walk with God.
The pastor needs to be a man of priorities, passion, preaching, perseverance, and patience.
The process may be more important than the outcome.
Those who angry with God take their frustrations out on the messenger.
We are either ministering in the supernatural power of God or the superficial power of the flesh.
We cannot take our people where we ourselves have not been.
What is broken often cannot be quickly fixed.
Wining an argument is not as important as maintaining a relationship.
You must demonstrate submission to authority before exercising authority.

**Patriotism**
It is the soldier, not the reporter, who has given us freedom of the press. It is the soldier, not the poet, who has given us freedom of speech. It is the soldier, not the campus organizer, who has given us the freedom to demonstrate. It is the soldier, who salutes the flag, who serves beneath the flag, and whose coffin is draped by the flag, who allows the protestor to burn the flag.

**Peace**
If God brings you to it, He will bring you through it. Happy moments, praise God. Difficult moments, seek God. Quiet moments, worship God. Painful moments, trust God.
Every moment, thank God.
Inner peace originates with God. —Philippians 4:7
Peace in the storm. Psalm 126.
Peace is knowing you are in God’s hands.
Peace is not the absence of conflict—it is the tranquility of order in the chaos of life. —John 16:33
Peace is the presence of power, not the absence of trouble.
The rebel can never find peace.
The peace of God pulls a shattered life back together.
The peace of God doesn’t deliver you from the problems of life; it delivers you through the problems of life.

**Philosophy**
A wise man will make more opportunities than he finds. —Francis Bacon
All of philosophy is based on two questions: Does God exist, and if He does what is his nature.
All serious conversations gravitate towards philosophy. —Ernest Dimnet
Any genuine philosophy leads to action and from action back again to wonder, to the enduring fact of mystery. —Henry Miller
Courage is the most important of all the virtues, because without courage you can’t practice any other virtue consistently.
Good works are links that form a chain of love. —Mother Teresa
History is Philosophy teaching by examples. —Thucydides
Humility is the foundation of all the other virtues hence, in the soul in which this virtue does not exist there cannot be any other virtue except in mere appearance. —Augustine
I can think of nothing less pleasurable than a life devoted to pleasure. —John D. Rockerfeller
I must study politics and war that my sons may have liberty to study mathematics and
philosophy. My sons ought to study mathematics and philosophy, geography, natural
history, naval architecture, navigation, commerce and agriculture in order to give
their children a right to study painting, poetry, music, architecture, statuary, tapestry,
and porcelain. –John Adams
I never will understand all the good that a simple smile can accomplish. –Mother Teresa
If a man will begin with certainties, he shall end in doubts; but if he will be content to begin
with doubts, he shall end in certainties. –Francis Bacon
If you can’t feed a hundred people, then feed just one. –Mother Teresa
Keep me away from the wisdom which does not cry, the philosophy which does not laugh
and the greatness which does not bow before children.
Liberals oppose every freedom except sexual freedom. –Dennis Preager
Metaphysics is a dark ocean without shores or lighthouse, strewn with many a philosophic
wreck. –Immanuel Kant
Most people glean their philosophical beliefs based on the arts, TV and the movies.
Not what we have but what we enjoy, constitutes our abundance. –Epicurus
Philosophy, n. A route of many roads leading from nowhere to nothing. –Ambrose Bierce
Philosophy consists very largely of one philosopher arguing that all others are jackasses. He
usually proves it, and I should add that he also usually proves that he is one himself.
–Henry Menchen
Philosophy is at once the most sublime and the most trivial of human pursuits. –William
James
Postmodern philosophy is primarily being communicated by the arts, music, television, and
movies—not as a theoretical construct.
Science is what you know. Philosophy is what you don’t know. –Bertrand Russell
Silence is the virtue of fools. –Francis Bacon
The fruit of faith is love. –Mother Teresa
The fundamental question of life is the question of meaning. –Camus
The society which scorns excellence in plumbing because plumbing is a humble activity,
and tolerates shoddiness in philosophy because philosophy is an exalted activity, will
have neither good plumbing nor good philosophy. Neither its pipes nor its theories
will hold water. –John W. Gardner
The test of a philosopher is whether or not he lives his philosophy. No existentialist lives his
philosophy. No existentialist can criticize anyone—however, they all want to criticize
conservatives. –Josh McDowell
The worst solitude is to be destitute of sincere friendship. –Francis Bacon
There is no statement so absurd that no philosopher will make it. –Cicero
To be clever enough to get all the money, one must be stupid enough to want it. –Gilbert
Keith Chesterton
Tolerance is the virtue of the man without convictions. –Gilbert Keith Chesterton
We are all pencils in the hand of God. –Mother Teresa
We make war that we may live in peace. –Aristotle
What is a friend? A friend is a single soul dwelling in two bodies. –Aristotle
When it comes to life the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them
with gratitude. –Gilbert Keith Chesterton

Politics
A charge that is not responded to will be believed.
Courage is the most important of all the virtues, because without courage you can’t practice
any other virtue consistently.
Silence is agreement.

To compromise with corruption is to become corrupt.
Tolerance is the virtue of the man without convictions.  —Gilbert Keith Chesterton

**Postmodernism**

A cynical community is a corrupt community.  —John W. Gardner

A self-centered, pleasure-driven, individualistic worldview cannot motivate people to do good.  —Charles Colson

Between 2/3 and ¾ of the American population have a postmodern worldview, including most evangelicals.

Having a clear faith, based on the creed of the church, is often labeled today as a fundamentalism.  ... Whereas relativism, which is letting oneself be tossed and 'swept along by every wind of teaching,' looks like the only attitude acceptable to today's standards.  —Pope Benedict XVI

If you can never say, "You are wrong," you can never say, "I am right," either.

If you call good evil, what will you call evil?  —Dennis Preager

If you call good evil, you will eventually call evil good.

If you stand for nothing, you will fall for anything.

In Western Civilization the goal of science, the university, and the arts is the pursuit of truth.  —Chuck Colson

It is good to hate evil—and to love the good.

It is truth that has died—not God.

Many Boomers are seeking a religious experience that can heal their broken lives, relationships, marriages, and addictions.  They want to know, is there something more?  They want a kind of spirituality without religion or demands.

Nobody tolerates everything.

One man's justice is another's injustice; one man's beauty another's ugliness; one man's wisdom another's' folly.  —Ralph Waldo Emerson

Our task is to preach salvation to those who don't believe they need it.

Our task is to take people where they are and help them decipher where God is to be found in His Word.

People who don't like the truth, make up their own truth.

People want to know that God knows about them, notices, and cares.

Postmodernism in inherently intolerant of all other viewpoints.

Postmodern philosophy is primarily being communicated by the arts, music, television, and movies—not as a theoretical construct.

Postmodernism philosophy is based on Marx, Freud, and Darwin.

Relativism can only be true if there is no God.

The left calls intolerance tolerance and tolerance intolerance.

The pursuit of Western Civilization is the search for Truth.  —Chuck Colson

The root of our cultural problems is not pornography; it is the rejection and denial of absolute Truth.  —Charles Colson

There is a distinction between tolerance and pluralism.  Tolerance gives us room to say, "I think you're wrong, but I'll defend your right to be wrong."  Pluralism strongly suggests that there isn't any such thing as right and wrong—and no such thing as truth and error.  As is practiced more and more in America, pluralism tends to require that you not only leave room for your neighbor to believe what he believes, but that you also refrain from disagreeing with it—Joel Belz.  "Tolerance vs. Pluralism,"  *World* (Nov/Dec. 2001).

Tolerance is the postmodern virtue.  Absolutes are not in their mentality; different morals and religious strokes for different folks is their creed.  This is how they cope in a highly
pluralistic society. For them, particular religious traditions are seen as spiritual resources, not as ultimate authorities by which they should live their lives. –Bausch

We are moving toward a dictatorship of relativism which does not recognize anything as definitive and has as its highest value one's own ego and one's own desires. –Pope Benedict XVI

We are not now living in a post-Judeo-Christian era but rather in an anti-Judeo-Christian era. –Josh McDowell

We would live in world of absolute moral chaos is there was no absolute Truth. –Charles Colson

Without Christianity, Europe would not exist. European secularism and the denial of its Christian roots have cut it off from its own heritage, leaving it vulnerable to the challenge of Islam. –Hilaire Belloc

You cannot fight something with nothing—which is what post-Christian postmodernism is left with.

**Prayer**

Always respond to every impulse to pray. The impulse to pray may come when you are reading or when you are battling with a text. I would make an absolute law of this – always obey such an impulse. –Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Ask for what you want; but be willing to take what God gives you—it may be better than what you ask for.

Expect failure if you are not a person of prayer.

God helps those who recognize their need—seek, ask, knock.

God will honor our prayers if we ask Him for witnessing opportunities.

He who kneels the most stands best. –D. L. Moody

I have so much to do that I spend several hours in prayer before I am able to do it.—John Wesley

If Jesus needed to pray...

If you are strangers to prayer you are strangers to power. —Billy Sunday

Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire? —Corrie Ten Boom

Notice, we never pray for folks we gossip about, and we never gossip about the folk for whom we pray! For prayer is a great deterrent. --Leonard Ravenhill

Pray, and let God worry. –Martin Luther

Pray often, for prayer is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God, and a scourge for Satan —John Bunyan

Prayer demonstrates our dependence upon God.

Prayer enlarges the heart until it is capable of containing God’s gift of Himself. –Mother Teresa

Prayer is connecting to the Source of ultimate power. –Swindoll

Prayer is God’s way of bonding us to Him. –Adrian Rogers

Prayer is our Declaration of Dependence upon God.

Prayer is the link between God’s will and our works.

Prayer means that we get into union with God’s view of other people. – Oswald Chambers

Prayer time should include listening—reflection on God’s Word—not just talking.

Prayer should be our first resource, not the last resort.

Prayer stops the worrying.

Prayer stops worry in its tracks.

Prayer will put backbone where your wishbone is.

Prayerlessness demonstrates our independence from God.

Relief is just a prayer away.
Remember, no one has time to pray; we have to take time from other things that are valuable in order to understand how necessary prayer. The things that act like thorns and stings in our personal lives will go away instantly when we pray; we won't feel the smart anymore, because we have God’s point of view about them. Prayer means that we get into union with God’s view of other people. – Oswald Chambers

Replace your concerns with prayer.

Some of God’s greatest gifts are unanswered prayers.

Spiritual empowerment from your ongoing time with God will allow you to persevere.

The Church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men. The Holy Ghost does not flow through methods, but through men. He does not come on machinery, but on men. He does not anoint plans, but men...Men of prayer.” – E. M. Bounds

There is not in the world a kind of life more sweet and delightful than that of a continual conversation with God. –Brother Lawrence

We look upon prayer simply as a means of getting things for ourselves, but the Biblical purpose of prayer is that we may get to know God Himself. –Oswald Chambers

When I pray, coincidences happen, and when I don't pray, they don't. --William Temple

When we pray, Jesus prays.

Without Scripture, prayer becomes a one-way conversation.

Worry solves nothing.

**Preaching**

A survey of top American preachers revealed that it takes about 20 hours to prepare a sermon.

Application starts in the introduction, not in the conclusion. Should a preacher of even limited ability bring to the surface people’s questions, problems, hurts, and desires to deal with them from the Bible, he will be acclaimed a genius. –Haddon Robinson

Don’t just use the microscope to discover the minutia of just a few verses, use the telescope to examine the grand themes of the Bible. –Charles Swindoll

Expository Preaching: When the message is centered on explaining and applying the text of the Bible for life change. –Rick Warren

Expository Preaching is when the message is centered around explaining and applying the text of the Bible for life change. –Rick Warren

How a minister steps into the pulpit tells the audience a lot about him. If he moves in an unhurried, confident manner, his body language communicates that he has something important to say and that the audience would do well to listen. Before he speaks, the preacher should pause to capture attention. He should look at the people, not at his notes ore even at his Bible. –Haddon Robinson

If the preacher does not capture attention in the first 30 seconds, he may never gain it at all. If preaching is to have its full influence, it must be directed to the whole mind.

If you want to know what to preach on take a look at the 25 bestselling titles of Care Notes by Abbey Press in St. Meinrad, Indiana.

In preaching, remember that dullness is failure.

Keep the introduction short. An introduction needs to be long enough to capture attention, raise needs, and orient the audience to the subject, the idea, or the first point. – Haddon Robinson

Never preach in the abstract, the Bible is filled with case studies.

Once the idea of the passage has been stated, the preacher must then raise one of these basic questions about it: What does this mean? Is it true? What difference does it make? –Haddon Robinson
One of the best ways to learn how to preach is through concentrated study of the sermons of master preachers past and present—beginning with the Old Testament prophets.
—Andrew W. Blackwood

Our task is to preach salvation to those who don’t believe they need it.
Pastors of growing churches invest an average of 20 hours in sermon preparation.
Preach the gospel at all times and if necessary, use words. –Francis of Assisi
Preachers need feedback and workshops to continue improving their skills.
Preaching is about transformation, not information. –Rick Warren
Preaching is our main priority; not administration.
Stand up to be seen, speak up to be heard, sit down to be appreciated.
Start with a paradox, an unfamiliar setting, a rhetorical question, a startling fact or statistic, a provocative comment, humor, the passage itself, or a story. Make the most of your first 25 words to seize attention.
The #1 predictor of the growth of any church is the preaching ability of the pastor.
The audio system should be superb, the preacher clear, and the message compelling.
The Bible is about changing, not just learning.
The cross gives preaching its power.
The goal of preaching is not just to inform, but to invite the listener to faith.
The purpose of conclusion is to conclude—not merely to stop. Like a lawyer, a minister asks for a verdict. The listeners should know and feel what God’s truth demands of them. Directly or indirectly the conclusion answers the question, So what? What difference does this make? And the people face another question: Am I willing to allow God to make the difference in my experience? –Haddon Robinson

To begin the preacher must take the ancient Scripture and make it live in people’s lives today, here and now; we must go beyond self-interest topics to an authentic sense of discipleship and mission, but begin here they are.

We are highly susceptible to “visual” stories, image stories.
We must counter the myths of our culture: (1) the fittest survive, (2) things = happiness, (3) wealth and power are more important than people, and (4) progress is always good—with the image stories of the Bible.

We must make the most of our short time with people.
We must preach well if we are to reach postmoderns.
When God’s Word is taught in an uninteresting way, people don’t just think the pastor is boring, they think God is boring! –Rick Warren

When you begin, start with a band, and when you quit, quit all over! –Haddon Robinson
Your task as a communicator is not to impress people, but to impact them; not just to convince them, but also to change them. –Howard Hendricks

**Pride**

God loves us too much to allow us to get prideful (1 Pet. 5:5).
It is my pride that makes me independent of God. It’s appealing to me to feel that I am the master of my fate, that I run my own life, call my own shots, go it alone. But that feeling is my basic dishonesty. I can’t go it alone. I have to get help from other people, and I can’t ultimately rely on myself. I’m dependent on God for my next breath. It is dishonest of me to pretend that I am anything but a man—small, weak, and limited. So, living independent of God is self-delusion. It is not just a matter of pride being an unfortunate little trait and humility being an attractive little virtue; it’s my inner psychological integrity that’s at stake. When I’m conceited, I am lying to myself about what I am. I am pretending to be God, and not man. My pride is the idolatrous worship of myself. And that is the national religion of Hell!” – Howard Butt, The Art of Being a Big Shot.
Knowledge is proud that it knows so much; wisdom is humble that it knows so little. 
One real danger of having knowledge without perspective, conviction, skills, and character,
is that it produces pride (1 Cor. 8:1). – Rick Warren

Pride blocks God’s grace in our lives, which we must have in order to grow, change, heal,
and help others.
Pride builds walls between people; humility builds bridges.
Pride is the national religion of Hell.
Pride keeps more people out of heaven than immorality.
Pride quenches spiritual power quicker than anything else.
Satan does not care what Christians are divided over, just as long as we are divided.
Some of the most carnal Christians I’ve known were a veritable storehouse of biblical
knowledge. They could explain any passage and defend any doctrine, yet were
unloving, self-righteous, and judgmental. It is impossible to have spiritual maturity
and pride at the same time. – Rick Warren

Study without service produces Christians with judgmental attitudes and spiritual pride. –
Rick Warren

Swallow your pride, it’s nonfattening.
The antidote to pride is praise.

**Prophecy**
Every night we pitch our tent one day closer to home.
If you don’t believe in the Rapture we will explain it to you on the way up.
Prophecy is God’s authentification of His Word.
Prophecy is telling the future before it happens.
Prophecy is what makes Christianity unique.
The fact that Jesus has not come back does not mean that Jesus is not coming back.
The fulfillment of First Coming prophecies gives confidence in the fulfillment of Second
Coming prophecies.
The Holy Land is God’s land and God gave it to the Jewish people.
The purpose of prophecy is to provide confidence and hope in the hard times.
The rebirth of Israel in 1948 is evidence that prophecy will be literally fulfilled.

**Purpose**
All of our abilities come from God. Even abilities used to sin are God-given; they are just
being misused or abused. . . . Since your natural abilities are from God, they are just
as important and as ‘spiritual’ as your spiritual gifts. The only difference is that you
were given them at birth. – Rick Warren

As the fish was made for water, man was made for God. In God man “lives and moves had
has his being.” God is the native habitat for which man was created, in which man
was intended to dwell. – Richard C. Halverson

God gives each man a special task in life, and a blessing to carry it out.
God has a comprehensive purpose for your life.
God created you to do something good. – Ephesians 2:10
God allows persecution to accomplish His purposes.
God formed me for a special place where I fit perfectly. – O.S. Hockins
God takes everything in your life and focuses it for His purposes. – Henry Blackaby
God’s purpose is to be accomplished by ordinary people who believe in and serve an
extraordinary God. – Avery Willis

God has made us in such a way that He is the only One who can meet our needs for
significance.
God has a creative plan for your life.

God has a clear priority for your life.
God has a job for me that no one else can do. – Ephesians 2:10
God has plans for you (Jer. 29).
God isn’t trying to mess up our lives.
God, I want to be doing what You are blessing.
God chooses us to be trophies of His grace, glory, and goodness.
God is more interested in what I become that what I do. – Henry Blackaby
God is grooming you for His purposes.
God’s purpose is bigger than your problem.
God’s will should be our highest priority.
If I can help somebody as I pass along, if I can cheer somebody up with a word or song, if I can show somebody how he’s traveling wrong, then my life will not be in vain. – Martin Luther King Jr.
If I try to meet the needs of people I will never complete the work of the Father. – Henry Blackaby
If you are still here, God has a job for you.
It feels good to do what God made you to do. When you minister in a manner consistent with the personality God gave you, you experience fulfillment, satisfaction, and fruitfulness. – Rick Waren, 246
Man enjoys his maximum freedom—his optimum productivity and efficiency, when he serves God. – Richard C. Halverson
Man must be ruled by God or he will be enslaved by tyrants! – Richard C. Halverson
Man out of fellowship with God is man out of place! – Richard C. Halverson
Man out of tough with God is a caricature! – Richard C. Halverson
Man was made for God and his restlessness increases in ration to his rebellion against the rule of God in his life until rebellion leads to total impasse and man finds himself arriving at the ultimate in frustration and futility. – Richard C. Halverson
Man without God experiences an increasing hunger that finds less and less satisfaction in life. Satisfaction comes in inverse ratio to his effort to find it. He learns more and more about less and less, becomes increasingly insensitive to the basic realities of life, increasingly immune to the deep things of the heart and mind, increasingly impervious to the loving overtures of God in Christ. He ends up with an insatiable appetite that gnaws and growls interminable. He is God hungry! – Richard C. Halverson
Mastered by God, man is the master of himself and his world. Mastered by something less than God, man is the victim of himself and his world. – Richard C. Halverson
Our sense of emptiness is not accidental; it is a fundamental clue as to our origin, purpose and destiny. Nothing that we experience on earth can truly satisfy.
The God who calls me is also the One who will enable me to do His will. – Henry Blackaby
There is a design behind my life—a purpose, a plan. Jeremiah 1:4
Using Your Personality: The Bible gives us plenty of proof that God uses all types of personalities. Peter was a sanguine, Paul was a choleric, Jeremiah was a melancholy. . . . There is no ‘right’ or ‘wrong’ temperament for ministry. We need all kinds of personalities to balance the church and give it flavor. – Rick Warren
What do you believe God wants you to do next?
What we do in life echoes in eternity.
What were you placed on earth for—to live for Jesus—eternal gain.
We have no problems, just challenges to adjust to the plan of God.
When ordinary people begin to see their extraordinary potential, life is no longer a trivial pursuit. – Tom Julien
You are the way God made you for a reason.
You’re just a player in a much bigger plan.
You were made to rule the world.

**Purpose Driven Churches**
Expect failure if you are not a person of prayer.
If you want to pastor a growing church you have to do what pastors of growing churches do.
In order to love unbelievers unconditionally, people must understand the difference between acceptance and approval.
The church is a hospital for sinners. –Rick Warren
A major barrier to church growth is ‘people blindness’—being unaware of social and cultural differences in society.
We must learn to think like unbelievers in order to win them.

**Relationships**
Accountability is necessary because we all have blind spots that keep us from sound decisions.
Bonding takes place in times of trouble.
Caving in to another leads inevitably to resentment.
Do not despise any person, and do not consider anything impossible, for there is no person who does not have an hour and no thing that does not have its place.
Einstein was no Einstein when he was a kid. –Walter Isaacson
Everybody’s normal till you get to know them.
Life is relationships—the rest is details.
I am a friend to all who are friends of Christ.
If Christianity was a philosophy, then our primary activity might be studying. But Christianity is a relationship and a life. The words used most often to describe the Christian life are love, give, believe, and serve. –Rick Warren
Make sure to be in with your equals if you’re going to fall out with your superiors. -Jewish proverb
Make people feel important.
One reason many Christians never witness is because they do not know how to relate to people. People must be taught how to develop relationships. –Rick Warren
People care if you care for them—establish relationships.
People need relationships to grow. We do not grow in isolation from others; we develop in the context of fellowship (Heb. 10:24-25). –Rick Warren
Relationships are the “glue” that keeps people connected to your church. –Rick Warren

**Rules**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rules</th>
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The quality of your relationship to Christ can be seen in the quality of your relationship to other believers. –Rick Warren
To follow the straight path, choose a good colleague; to avoid the evil path, avoid a wicked colleague. –Joshua b. Hanania, Mishna: Abot
Treat people as if they were what they ought to be and you help them to become what they are capable of being. –Goethe
You can only go as high as the people you associate with—don’t ever be the smartest person you know.
Repentance
A question (or story) appeals to the conscience where an accusation hardens the will. Allow the weight of your sin to bring you to your knees. Repent or perish. Repentance is choosing God over sin. Repentance is turning your back on sin and moving toward God. –David Jeremiah Remorse is not repentance; repentance is a change of direction. Peter’s Sermons: God sent Jesus. Your sin killed Him. But God raised Him from the dead. By faith you can be changed. So, repent! (There is a God and He loves you. All mankind killed Jesus. If we did not have a debt, Christ would not have had to pay it. The unique claim of Christianity is that we serve a risen, living God. The Jews knew Scripture and tried to obey every negative commandment—but refused to repent. Being a disciple requires obedience and submission, not just head knowledge and easy believism—Luke 9:23-25. To be a Christ-follower requires obeying Jesus teachings—His positive commands (1 John 1:5-8).

There is a difference between repentance and regret. –David Jeremiah True faith always includes genuine repentance. –David Jeremiah You can’t serve the Lord with a burden of unrepentant sin on your back.

Research
If the facts don’t fit the theory, change the facts. –Albert Einstein A question (or story) appeals to the conscience where an accusation hardens the will.

Rick Warren
A barrier to spiritual growth for many people is not a lack of commitment, but over-commitment to the wrong things. –Rick Warren A Great Commitment to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission will grow a Great Church! –Rick Warren Any strategy your church develops to build up believers must help people not only learn the Word, but also love it and live it. –Rick Warren Be patient with God and with yourself. . . . Remember that God is never in a hurry, but he is always on time. He will use your entire lifetime to prepare you for your role in eternity. –Rick Warren Beliefs must be backed up with behavior. Our deeds must be consistent with our creeds. –Rick Warren Changed lives are the church's greatest advertisement. –Rick Warren Christlike character is the ultimate goal of all Christian education. –Rick Warren Churches do their members a great disservice by keeping people so busy going to the next Bible study that they don’t have time to apply what they learned at the last one the attended. –Rick Warren Each pastor serves as a “base coach,” –someone who helps the runners make it safely to the next base. –Rick Warren Each time you raise the standards for leadership, you bring everyone else in the church along a little bit—a rising tide raises all the boats in the harbor. –Rick Warren Every act of enjoyment becomes an act of worship when you thank God for it. –Rick Warren Faith, not feelings, pleases God. –Rick Warren Genuine worship is a powerful witness to unbelievers if it is done in a style that makes sense to them. –Rick Warren God has a part in our growth, but so do we. –Rick Warren God requires that we be willing to put our will and effort into what He desires for us.

God wants every believer to develop the character of Christ. –Rick Warren

God’s will for every believer is spiritual maturity. –Rick Warren

Great people are really just ordinary people with an extraordinary amount of determination. Great people don’t now how to quit! –Rick Warren

If Christianity were a philosophy, then our primary activity might be studying. But Christianity is a relationship and a life. The words used most often to describe the Christian life are love, give, believe, and serve. –Rick Warren

If God never did anything else for you, he would still deserve your continual praise for the rest of your life because of what Jesus did for you on the cross. God’s Son died for you! This is the greatest reason for worship. –Rick Warren

If you are out of fellowship with a brother, your worship is worthless (Matt. 5:23-24). A Christian cannot be in fellowship with God and out of fellowship with believers at the same time. –Rick Warren

Incredible growth occurs in people when we break down the idea of spiritual growth into practical action steps and everyday habits. –Rick Warren

It is a mistake to assume that study alone will produce maturity. It is only one component of the ministry process. People need experiences in addition to study to grow. Churches must have a balanced strategy for developing disciples. –Rick Warren

Joy comes from making others happy. –Rick Warren

Like a proud parent, God especially enjoys watching you use the talents and abilities He has given you… God also gains pleasure in watching you enjoy His creation –Rick Warren

One real danger of having knowledge without perspective, conviction, skills, and character, is that it produces pride (1 Cor. 8:1). –Rick Warren

Our deeds must be consistent with our creeds. –Rick Warren

People usually aren’t as closed as we think they are. They just need time to think about the decision we’re asking them to make. –Rick Warren

People need relationships to grow. We do not grow in isolation from others; we develop in the context of fellowship (Heb. 10:24-25). –Rick Warren

Preaching is about transformation, not information. –Rick Warren

Receiving, reading, researching, remembering, and reflecting on the Word are all useless if we fail to put them into practice. We must become ‘doers of the Word.’ –Rick Warren

Relationships are the “glue” that keeps people connected to your church. –Rick Warren

Servants think about their work, not what others are doing. They don’t compare, criticize, or compete with other servants or ministries. They’re too busy doing the work God has given them. –Rick Warren, The Purpose Driven Life, p. 268.

Some of the most carnal Christians I’ve known were a veritable storehouse of biblical knowledge. They could explain any passage and defend any doctrine, yet were unloving, self-righteous, and judgmental. It is impossible to have spiritual maturity and pride at the same time. –Rick Warren

Spiritual fitness is simply a matter of learning certain spiritual exercises and being disciplined to do them until they become habits. –Rick Warren

Spiritual growth is a journey that will last a lifetime. –Rick Warren

Spiritual growth is a process that takes time. God uses a gradual process of change to develop us into the image of Christ. There are no shortcuts to ministry. –Rick Warren

Spiritual growth occurs by participating in all five purposes of the church. –Rick Warren

Spiritual growth is intentional—a person must want to grow, decide to grow, and make an effort to grow. –Rick Warren

Spiritual maturity is demonstrated more by behavior than by beliefs. –Rick Warren

Stress is a part of ministry. –Rick Warren
Study without service produces Christians with judgmental attitudes and spiritual pride. – Rick Warren

The Christian life is not just a matter of creeds and convictions; it includes conduct and character. Beliefs must be backed up with behavior. Our deeds must be consistent with our creeds. – Rick Warren

The deepest level of worship is praising God in spite of pain, thanking God during a trial, trusting him when tempted, surrendering while suffering, and loving him when he seems distant. – Rick Warren (107)

The last thing many believers need is to go to another Bible study [class]. They already know far more than they are putting into practice. What they need are ministry and evangelism experiences where they can apply what they already know, relational experiences (like a small group) where they can be held accountable for what they know, and meaningful worship experiences where they can express appreciation to God for what they know. – Rick Warren (342)

The proof that we are walking in the light is that we have “fellowship with one another” (1 John 1:7). – Rick Warren

The quality of your relationship to Christ can be seen in the quality of your relationship to other believers. – Rick Warren

The ultimate goal of spiritual growth is to become like Jesus. – Rick Warren

There are five ways to fill your mind with God’s Word: you can receive it, read it, research it, remember it, and reflect on it. – Rick Warren (188)

There is no such thing as instant spiritual maturity. – Rick Warren

The greatest tragedy is not death, but life without purpose. – Rick Warren (30).

The task of equipping people with the habits necessary for spiritual maturity is called discipleship. – Rick Warren

The ultimate goal of spiritual growth is to become like Jesus. – Rick Warren

We serve God by serving others. – Rick Warren

When any Christian's schedule consists completely of receiving biblical input with no outflow of ministry or evangelism, his or her spiritual growth will stagnate. – Rick Warren

When God’s Word is taught in an uninteresting way, people don’t just think the pastor is boring, they think God is boring! – Rick Warren

Expository Preaching: When the message is centered on explaining and applying the text of the Bible for life change. – Rick Warren

You develop a skill, not by listening to a lecture, but by practice and experience. – Rick Warren

You know you are maturing when you begin to see the hand of God in the random, baffling, and seemingly pointless circumstances of life. – Rick Warren

You will never not need a coach. If you think you don’t need a coach, you are being presumptuous. – Rick Warren

**Righteousness**

Evil must be defeated for righteousness to reign.

The righteous will be exalted.

**Ronald Reagan**

Above all, we must realize that no arsenal, or no weapon in the arsenals of the world, is so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women. It is a weapon our adversaries in today's world do not have.

All great change in America begins at the dinner table.

All the waste in a year from a nuclear power plant can be stored under a desk.
Approximately 80% of our air pollution stems from hydrocarbons released by vegetation, so let's not go overboard in setting and enforcing tough emission standards from man-made sources.

Concentrated power has always been the enemy of liberty.

Each generation goes further than the generation preceding it because it stands on the shoulders of that generation. You will have opportunities beyond anything we've ever known.

Facts are stubborn things.

Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same.

Freedom prospers when religion is vibrant and the rule of law under God is acknowledged.

Government always finds a need for whatever money it gets.

Government does not solve problems; it subsidizes them.

Government exists to protect us from each other. Where government has gone beyond its limits is in deciding to protect us from ourselves.

Government is the solution to the problem; government is the problem.

Government's first duty is to protect the people, not run their lives.

Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it.

Governments tend not to solve problems, only to rearrange them.

Heroes may not be braver than anyone else—they are just braver five minutes longer.

History teaches that war begins when governments believe the price of aggression is cheap.

How do you tell a communist? Well, it's someone who reads Marx and Lenin. And how do you tell an anti-Communist? It's someone who understands Marx and Lenin.

I have wondered at times what the Ten Commandments would have looked like if Moses had run them through the US Congress.

If we ever forget that we are One Nation Under God, then we will be a nation gone under.

If we love our country, we should also love our countrymen.

Inflation is as violent as a mugger, as frightening as an armed robber and as deadly as a hit man.

Information is the oxygen of the modern age. It seeps through the walls topped by barbed wire, it wafts across the electrified borders.

It has been said that politics is the second oldest profession. I have learned that it bears a striking resemblance to the first.

Let us be sure that those who come after will say of us in our time, that in our time we did everything that could be done. We finished the race; we kept them free; we kept the faith.

Man is not free unless government is limited.

My philosophy of life is that if we make up our mind what we are going to make of our lives, then work hard toward that goal, we never lose - somehow we win out.

No government ever voluntarily reduces itself in size. Government programs, once launched, never disappear. Actually, a government bureau is the nearest thing to eternal life we'll ever see on this earth!

Of the four wars in my lifetime, none came about because the U.S. was too strong.

One way to make sure crime doesn't pay would be to let the government run it.

Peace is not absence of conflict, it is the ability to handle conflict by peaceful means.

Protecting the rights of even the least individual among us is basically the only excuse the government has for even existing.

Recession is when a neighbor loses his job. Depression is when you lose yours.
Republicans believe every day is the Fourth of July, but the democrats believe every day is April 15.

Status quo, you know, is Latin for 'the mess we're in'.

Surround yourself with the best people you can find, delegate authority, and don't interfere.

The government’s view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases: If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it.

The most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government and I'm here to help.

The problem is not that people are taxed too little, the problem is that government spends too much.

The taxpayer - that's someone who works for the federal government but doesn't have to take the civil service examination.

There are no constraints on the human mind, no walls around the human spirit, no barriers to our progress except those we ourselves erect.

There are no easy answers' but there are simple answers. We must have the courage to do what we know is morally right.

There are no great limits to growth because there are no limits of human intelligence, imagination, and wonder.

They say the world has become too complex for simple answers. They are wrong.

To sit back hoping that someday, some way, someone will make things right is to go on feeding the crocodile, hoping he will eat you last - but eat you he will.

Today, if you invent a better mousetrap, the government comes along with a better mouse.

We are never defeated unless we give up on God.

We can not play innocents abroad in a world that is not innocent.

We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone.

We have the duty to protect the life of an unborn child.

We might come closer to balancing the Budget if all of us lived closer to the Commandments and the Golden Rule.

We must reject the idea that every time a law's broken, society is guilty rather than the lawbreaker. It is time to restore the American precept that each individual is accountable for his actions.

Within the covers of the Bible are the answers for all the problems men face.

Without God, democracy will not and cannot long endure.

You cannot bring prosperity by discouraging thrift. You cannot help small men by tearing down big men. You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong. You cannot lift the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer. You cannot help the poor man by destroying the rich. You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than your income. You cannot further brotherhood of men by inciting class hatred.

You cannot establish security on borrowed money. You cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves. – Rev. William J. H. Boetcker, attributed to Lincoln and quoted by Ronald Reagan

**Salvation**

Good works do not determine salvation—they demonstrate salvation. God makes us strong through our suffering.

He died for my death that I might live His life.

Jesus paid a debt He did not owe because we owed a debt we could not pay!

The next best thing to being in heaven is knowing that you are going there (blessed assurance, oh, what a foretaste of glory above).
The truth is that no one has to go to hell. God made salvation available to all. –David Jeremiah
There is a fight for your soul.
There is no exit from hell. Avoiding Hell is positive. –David Jeremiah

Satan
God will turn to good what Satan meant for evil.
If Satan can get you to believe a lie, he can control your life.
If the devil can’t make you bad, he will make you busy.
If you really love Jesus, you won’t be flirting with the Devil.
If you aren’t serving Jesus, you are a slave to the devil. –John 8:39
Never give the devil a ride. He will always want to drive.
Never seek love from the devil.
Satan cannot make anyone sin; but he can trick them.
Satan does not tell complete lies; he tells partial lies to deceive us into disobedience.
Satan is a genius, a mastermind as seen by how rampant sin is.
Satan loads us with false guilt now so that he can load us with true guilt later.
Satan seeks to pervert the gifts of God.
Satan seeks to undermine our confidence in God (Gen. 3).
Satan wants to ruin your life.
Satan will promise you anything—he is the father of lies.
Satan’s lie: Self-worth = my performance + others’ opinions about me.
Satan’s most effective tools are Christians who don’t walk their talk.
Satan’s #1 weapon is that you can sin without consequences (without dying).
Satan’s plan is to divide and conquer.
Satan’s strategy is to keep good people silent in evil times.
Satan’s strategies: Balaam strategy, Diotrephes strategy/syndrome, Eliab strategy, Goliath strategy.
Screwtape Letters.
Temptation is Satan’s lure to draw us away from God.
The devil "has persuaded us that true spirituality is to separate ourselves totally from the world around us. –Paul Little
The only way to overcome the father of lies is by the truth—Thy Word is Truth.
To believe the lie of Satan is to be defeated.
We are to know the schemes and strategies of the devil.

Self-esteem
It feels good to do good.

Servanthood
Before and After: David (shepherd boy to giant killer); Joseph (convict to prime minister);
Ruth (pagan to messianic line), Paul (persecutor to missionary).
Calling one to difficult service may actually be God’s way of honoring His servant’s strength of character.
Don’t grow weary in being faithful—a reward awaits faithful servants. –Henry Blackaby
Emphasizing self-esteem over service encourages selfishness. Are you Unselfish
God has a God-sized job for me. –Henry Blackaby
God blesses those who are busy for Him.
God does not call us to an assignment; He calls us to Himself. –Henry Blackaby
God does not want my ability, He wants my availability.
God does not call people who are qualified; He calls people who are willing and then He qualifies them.

God does not want the credit for what we do. —Henry Blackaby

God’s work is never inexpensive or convenient; becoming His faithful servant is always a trying experience, bound up with sacrifice, devotion, and obedience — Peters

Great servants are grateful individuals. —Psalm 32

I was created for service. —Ephesians 2:10

I was born to serve the Lord.

In the service of a greater good.

It is not what you say, but what you do, that counts.

Let the work of God become your pattern.

Servant leadership.

Servants think about their work, not what others are doing. They don’t compare, criticize, or compete with other servants or ministries. They’re too busy doing the work God has given them. —Rick Warren, *The Purpose Driven Life*, p. 268.

Serving God is accomplished by serving others. —Matthew 25:40

The equipping always follows the assignment; it never precedes it. —Henry Blackaby

The goal is to add value to people.

We are designed for service.

Watch to see where God is working and join Him. —Henry Blackaby

We all want to hear, “Well done!”

We serve God by serving others. —Rick Warren

**Significance**

If you are a perfectionist, you have set an impossible goal for yourself and therefore you will be constantly faced with frustration and failure. You are forgiven in Christ. You are righteous in Christ. —Adrian Rogers

We are made for something better.

You are not an accident. . . . God never does anything accidentally, and He never makes mistakes. —Rick Warren

Your performance doesn’t make you any more or less in God’s eyes. If you think that God is going to accept you on the basis of your quiet time, your Bible study, or your service, you will fall into a trap of never knowing if you’ve done enough. You’ll never truly feel accepted. Perfectionism is a thief. It promises rewards, but it steals joy and steals satisfaction. Why? Because perfectionism is an unattainable goal. —Adrian Rogers

**Sin**

Anytime you rationalize sin, you are having a conversation with the devil.

Arrogance, egoism, greed, insolence, lust, pride, selfishness lead to hate.

Be sure your sins will find you out.

By choosing the good, you will miss the evil.

Confronting your sin is painful.

Do you really think God is holding out on you?

Evil contaminates the good—water that is 99% pure is contaminated.

Evil is a matter of choice; disease is not. —G. K. Chesterton

Evil is uniting, why can’t good unite?

God is not holding out on you; you are holding out on God.

God is not holding out on you; Satan is lying to you.

If you flirt with sin you may find yourself married to it.

If you search for good you will find it; if you search for evil, it will find you.
Ignorance is not the cause of evil—evil is the cause of ignorance, of willfully ignoring the truth.

I'm against sin. I'll kick it as long as I've got a foot, and I'll fight it as long as I've got a fist. I'll butt it as long as I've got a head. I'll bite it as long as I've got a tooth. And when I'm old and fistless and footless and toothless, I'll gum it till I go home to Glory and it goes home to perdition! --Billy Sunday

It is easier to avoid the pitfalls of sin if you avoid the paths of temptation.

Nothing sinful can get into heaven.

One bad decision leads to another.

One reason sin flourish is that it is treated like a cream puff instead of a rattlesnake.

- Billy Sunday

Playing with sin is like playing with a rattlesnake.

Sin does not bring blessing; sin brings discipline.

Sin has consequences that cannot be avoided.

Sin is basically irrational.

Sin is fun for a while; but you sin will find you out.

Sin keeps you from hearing the voice of God.

Sin leads to boredom, total boredom. The more a man sins, the less he gets out of it, until he goes all the way and receives nothings. Sin numbs a man, renders him totally insensitive to its effects, and totally vulnerable to its devices. Sin takes the shine and vitality and virility out of life. It is dulling, enervating, debilitating. Sin is like quicksand. The more a man struggles once he is in its grip, the deeper he sinks helplessly into it. – Richard C. Halverson

Sin never satisfies, it always requires more.

Sin short-circuits lasting pleasure and satisfaction

Sin will always take you farther than you planned to go.

Sin would have few takers if its consequences occurred immediately. –W.T. Purkiser

Stop playing with sin; it will do you in.

The devil is a genius, if you talk with him he will convince you to exchange every spiritual blessing (Eph. 3:1) for that which does not satisfy.

The fear of God is a deterrent to sin. –Henry Blackaby

The greatest of all faults is to be conscious of none.

They who see sin where there is no sin, and see no sin where there is sun, are prone to great evil.

To compromise with evil is to become evil.

To say “No” to the flesh is actually saying “Yes” to one’s deepest being.

We have been saved from the penalty of sin; we are being saved from the power of sin; and we will be saved from the presence of sin.

We have lost our fear of God and of sin. –Henry Blackaby

We need to crucify sin rather than manage sin. –Henry Blackaby

When evil is ignored, it flourishes.

When confronting our culture we must not forget to confess our sin. –David Jeremiah

When we focus on Christ we won’t have time for the lusts of the flesh. –Galatians 5:16

When you do evil you should feel guilty.

You cannot run with the wrong crowd and turn out right.

Your walk with God is a deterrent to sin.

Small Groups

People need relationships to grow. We do not grow in isolation from others; we develop in the context of fellowship (Heb. 10:24-25). –Rick Warren

Small groups are keys to assimilation, spiritual growth, and discipleship.
Small groups are where connection and fellowship occur. The #1 predictor of the growth of any class is the teaching ability of the teacher. The last thing many believers need is to go to another Bible study [class]. They already know far more than they are putting into practice. What they need are ministry and evangelism experiences where they can apply what they already know, relational experiences (like a small group) where they can be held accountable for what they know, and meaningful worship experiences where they can express appreciation to God for what they know. –Rick Warren (342)

We need others to grow. We were never meant to live alone.

**Spiritual Disciplines**
Beliefs must be backed up with behavior. Our deeds must be consistent with our creeds. –Rick Warren

Fasting says no to selfishness, demonstrates dependence upon God, and builds character. God can only use us to the extent that we are willing to discipline ourselves. God has a part in our growth, but so do we. –Rick Warren

God requires that we be willing to put our will and effort into what He desires for us. God wants every believer to develop the character of Christ. –Rick Warren

If Christianity was a philosophy, then our primary activity might be studying. But Christianity is a relationship and a life. The words used most often to describe the Christian life are love, give, believe, and serve. –Rick Warren

If we will follow His Word and willingly discipline ourselves we will become far more effective in the role to which God has called us. God will multiply our efforts at self-discipline even beyond our expectations. If we will take the first step, He will pour out His blessing.

Incredible growth occurs in people when we break down the idea of spiritual growth into practical action steps and everyday habits. –Rick Warren

It is fruit, not knowledge, that demonstrates a person’s maturity (Matt. 7:16). If we don’t put into practice what we know, we foolishly “build a house on sand” (Matt. 7:24-27).

It is not enough to know the truth, you have to let it change you. Living the Christian life is not difficult, it is impossible. Our secret life with God is the root of outward spiritual power. People need relationships to grow. We do not grow in isolation from others; we develop in the context of fellowship (Heb. 10:24-25). –Rick Warren

Prayer is fellowship and communion with God. Receiving, reading, researching, remembering, and reflecting on the Word are all useless if we fail to put them into practice. We must become ‘doers of the Word.’ –Rick Warren

Spiritual disciplines are keys to spiritual and evangelistic growth. Spiritual disciplines require more than a half-hearted attitude in order to be truly effective. Spiritual fitness is simply a matter of learning certain spiritual exercises and being disciplined to do them until they become habits. –Rick Warren

Spiritual growth is a journey that will last a lifetime. –Rick Warren

Spiritual growth is a process that takes time. God uses a gradual process of change to develop us into the image of Christ. There are no shortcuts to ministry. –Rick Warren

Spiritual growth occurs by participating in all five purposes of the church. –Rick Warren

Spiritual maturity is demonstrated more by behavior than by beliefs. –Rick Warren

Spiritual transformation is the process that leads to maturity.

The Christian life is not just a matter of creeds and convictions; it includes conduct and character. Beliefs must be backed up with behavior. Our deeds must be consistent with our creeds. –Rick Warren

The man of God must walk with God through daily devotions and spiritual disciplines. The purpose of journaling is to ensure that the heart does not grow cold while the brain is being fed facts about the Bible. The spiritual disciplines are best practiced in community. The ultimate goal of spiritual growth is to become like Jesus. –Rick Warren

There are five ways to fill your mind with God’s Word: you can receive it, read it, research it, remember it, and reflect on it. –Rick Warren

There is no such thing as instant spiritual maturity. –Rick Warren

True Christianity involves both believing and behaving the Gospel. –Edmond Hiebert

Unless we are willing to buffet our bodies into submission, to discipline our lives, then we will never truly be effective in leading God’s people in worship.

We are wise if we pray regularly for those whom we lead. We are wise if we pray regularly for ourselves, asking that we might be sensitive to the Holy Spirit. We are wise if we work diligently at our music.

We cannot be complacent; we must discipline our lives. We must submit to the Lord’s will and bring our own wills into submission.

We must be willing to discipline ourselves in many areas—prayer, the study of God’s Word, musical practice time, preparation for leading, the spiritual disciplines, etc.

We need to be still and quiet enough to hear God’s still small voice.

We will not love our salvation if we do not discipline our lives, but we and others may miss our high callings in the Lord’s kingdom if we take lightly the things He has entrusted to us.

When a church realizes it is poor, blind, and naked, and they need help desperately, then the church is ready for God’s renewal (Rev. 3). –Ed Stetzer

A journal is one of the best places for charting your progress in the other spiritual disciplines and for holding yourself accountable to your goals. –Donald Whitney

A journal can be the means by which the Holy Spirit shows us areas of sin or weakness, the emptiness of a path we have chose, insight into our motives, or other things that can transform the journal page into an altar of seeking God. –Donald Whitney

A journal is a place where we can give expression to our thoughts and feelings to the Lord. –Donald Whitney

By slowing down and prompting us to think more deeply about God, journaling helps us feel more deeply about God. –Donald Whitney

Journaling is an effective way of teaching the things of God to our children and transmitting our faith into the future (Deut. 6:4-7; 2 Tim. 1:5). –Donald Whitney

Sitting with pen and paper heightens my expectation of hearing from God as I think on Him and His words in the passage before me. –Donald Whitney

Spiritual growth is intentional—a person must want to grow, decide to grow, and make an effort to grow. –Rick Warren

The task of equipping people with the habits necessary for spiritual maturity is called discipleship. –Rick Warren

The ultimate goal of spiritual growth is to become like Jesus. –Rick Warren

Thoughts disentangle themselves when passed through the lips and across the fingertips. Transferring a desire to paper, channels it, producing power.

Unless we journal, we tend to forget just how many times God has answered specific prayers, made timely provision, and done marvelous things in our lives. –Donald Whitney

Your journal is a place to record the works and ways of God in your life. –Donald Whitney
**Spiritual Gifts**

Spiritual gifts are keys to mobilizing the laity.
Spiritual gifts are keys to significance.

**Spiritual Warfare**

95% of Christian leaders report experiencing intense spiritual attack during their ministry.
95% of Christian leaders report experiencing intense spiritual attack at 3 AM on a regular basis.

All Satan needs to win is for Christians to remain passive.
As a Christian you have the power and authority to resist the devil.
For where God built a church, there the Devil would also build a chapel. –Martin Luther
God is on our side, Satan is a defeated foe, and we are seated in heavenly places (Eph.)
God’s people will face challenges and obstacles just because of who we are, children of God, and because of what we are doing, seeking to build God’s kingdom at the expense of god’s adversary, Satan.

I’m a child of God and the evil one cannot touch me.
In spiritual warfare, prayer is essential.
It is possible that what people refer to as anxiety attack are really spiritual attacks.
Many pastors consider themselves too busy to pray.
Most spiritual warfare revolves around deception—not violence nor gross immorality.
Passivity is cowardice.
Reaching the unchurched is spiritual warfare, attacks and criticisms are to be expected.
Seminaries are inadequately preparing church leaders for spiritual warfare and church discipline.

The church is in the middle of a spiritual battle (Eph. 6:10-20).
The difference between expectations and reality is our anger level.
To put on the armor of God is to put on Christ. –Romans 13
We are commanded to resist the devil—and to run from temptation; we get into trouble when we do the opposite.
We need to replace Satan’s lies with God’s truth.
You don’t have to outshout the devil.

**Stewardship**

A steward is a manager of his master’s belongings.
Because stewardship is a central theme of the Bible, it is important that we pay attention to it on a regular basis.

Crown Financial Ministries
Freely we have received, freely give.
Generosity is an indicator of one’s internal condition—it is a gauge telling us about what is going on in our hearts.
Giving in times of poverty = true obedient generosity
Giving should be an overflow of gratitude for what God has given us.
God owns you and all you own.
God talks about finances in 2350 verses.
Grace always takes you higher—it is a way up; not a lowering of standards.
Grace giving is sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:1-3); spontaneous (2 Cor. 9:7); selfless (2 Cor. 8:4); systematic (2 Cor. 8:6; 1 Cor. 16:1-2); spiritual (2 Cor. 8:7); sincere (2 Cor. 8:8-9); and sharing with others (2 Cor. 8:12-15; 9:7-8).
Grace is health instead of sickness; strength instead of weakness, wealth instead of poverty, love instead of hate, purpose instead of meaninglessness.
Honor the Lord with your possessions.
How a person handles stewardship of his time, talent, and finances is a true barometer of his spiritual heart.
How we handle our money is a barometer of our love for God and others.
I will show you my faith by my works. —James
If God is working in your life, it will show itself with generosity, sacrifice, and an overwhelming desire to give and help others.
In this world there are givers and takers—takers eat well and givers sleep well.
It is not just the action of giving, but the attitude of giving that counts.
It is not just the method of giving, but the motive behind the giving that counts.
Jesus made a connection between material wealth and spiritual health.
Life is an adventure.
Love for God is measured by (1) Generosity with overflowing joy in spite of trials and poverty (2 Cor. 8:2); (2) Sacrificial giving beyond ability (2 Cor. 8:3); (3) An overwhelming desire to help others (2 Cor. 8:4); (4) Submission to the Lord and shepherd (8:5); and (5) Excelling in the grace of giving (8:7).
Put your money where you mouth is.
Something must be given up in order to give.
Stewardship is a priority of Scripture.
Stewardship is a prerequisite for service.
Stewardship is a program for success.
The Bible talks about baptism in 40 verses, prayer in 275 verses, faith in 350 verses, love in 650 verses, and finances in 2350 verses.
Tithing expresses God’s preeminence in our lives (Mal. 1:8,14)...
Tithing embraces God’s promise (Mal. 3:10).
Tithing experiences God’s provision (Mal. 3:10-12).
Tithing expresses God’s place (Prov. 3:9).
Tithing executes God’s plan (1 Cor. 16:1-2).
Tithing extends God’s program.
Tithing results in personal blessing (Mal. 3:10; Luke 6:38; Phil. 4:19; 2 Cor. 9:6,8; Gal. 6:7,9).
Tithing results in material blessing (Mal. 3:11).
Tithing results in spiritual blessing (Mal. 3:12).
Tithing is a spiritual discipline.
Tithing is a decision.
Tithing is giving 10% of your income before taxes.
Tithing is investing in the things of God.
We are not to be reservoirs, we are to be channels of blessing.
Wealth underachieves in producing happiness.
When you give it, remember how you got it.
Where your treasure is there will your heart be also.
You can’t take it with you—but you can send it ahead.
Genesis 1:1 – All creation belongs to God.
Leviticus 25:23 – All property belongs to God.
Deuteronomy 8:18 – All abilities belong to God.
Psalm 24:1 – The earth and all that is in it belongs to God.
Haggai 2:8 – All gold and silver belongs to God.
Ezekiel 18:4 – All souls belong to God.
1 Corinthians 6:19-20 – Our bodies belong to God.
2 Corinthians 8 – If God is working in our lives and we love God and others—then love will show itself in
1 Timothy 6:7 – We brought nothing into this world—and we will bring nothing out of this world.

**Strategic Planning**
Factor God into your plans.
Plans bring people together in teamwork. –Tom Julien

**Stress**
Stress is a part of ministry. –Rick Warren
Stress shows that the ministry is being very effective.
You can’t accomplish anything without stress in your life.
Stress gives you energy, effort, and the ability to actually accomplish what God has called you to do.
Not dealing with stress appropriately can lead to frustration, bitterness, and isolation.

**Success**
Continuous effort—not strength or intelligence—is the key to unlocking our potential. –Sir Winston Churchill
Don’t get stuck on stupid. –Lt. Gen. Russel Honore
Don’t let failure and embarrassment keep you from success. –Gary Woods
Factor God into your plans.
Focus on your potential instead of your limitations. –Alan Loy McGinnis
Is it my goal to complete with other are to complete them?
It is not really tiredness but unsuccessfulness that brings fatigue.
Life is all about leaving a legacy.
Money and success don’t change people; they merely amplify what is already there.
Once significance is sensed nothing else will satisfy.
Satisfaction comes from relationships, not accomplishments.
Selfishness and significance are incompatible words.
Significance is doing something for someone else.
Simplicity is the secret to success.
Sometimes success can be your greatest enemy.
Success comes from doing the things that failures don’t like to do.
Success has many fathers; failure is an orphan.
Success in life consists not so much in marrying the person who will make you happy, as in escaping the many who could make you miserable. –Chuck Swindoll
Success in life is to find the will of God and do it.
Success involves three things: knowing my purpose in life, growing in my maximum potential, sowing seeds that benefit others. –John Maxwell
Success is focusing on self; significance is focusing on others.
Success is when I add value to myself; significance is when I add value to others. –John Maxwell
Successful people count the cost and complete what they start.
The best way to learn to be successful is to surround yourself with successful people.
The differences between success and significance: unselfish motives, values people, cross-generational, other-focused, and reward is the success of others. –John Maxwell
The key to success in life is to put the right prices on the right items.
The key to success is staying in love.
The limitations you accept in your mind establish the boundaries in which you will live your life.
The price of greatness is responsibility. –Sir Winston Churchill
The road to success is always under construction.  
The secret to your success is found in your daily agenda.  
There are no seven easy steps to success.  
There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure. –Colin Powell  
There is no more noble occupation in the world than to assist another human being, to help someone succeed. –Alan Loy McGinnis  
To love what you do and feel that it matters, how could anything be more fun. –Kathrine Graham  
What can I do with others for others?  
What is it that brings a sparkle to your eyes?  
What lies within us is more important than what lies behind us or what lies before us.  
What would I try to do if I had the right perspective on failure?  
What would I try to do if I thought I could succeed?  
What would you do if you knew you could not fail?  
What would you do if you knew you could survive failure?  
When you add value to yourself, you add; when you add value to others, you multiply. –John Maxwell  
When you help others you help yourself.  
Whether we experience failure or success, God can use each situation to teach us that our worth is secure in Him.  
You can be incredibly successful and an abysmal failure. –Henry Blackaby  
Your greatest achievements are those that benefit others. –John Maxwell  
Your habits will either make you or break you.  
http://www.quotedb.com/categories/success

Suffering

A crisis is a terrible thing to waste.  
Adversity makes us better or bitter.  
All of our struggles are temporary.  
An optimist sees an opportunity in every calamity; a pessimist sees a calamity in every opportunity. –Sir Winston Churchill  
As long as we remain neutral and silent, we will be left alone. However, once we draw a line in the sand and align ourselves with the kingdom of God, the battle is on and we are in the fight (John 15:18-19).  
Don’t doubt the light from God’s Word in your dark times. –Emerson Eggerichs  
Emotional bondage results in damaged emotions—painful memories, overreaction, decreased capacity to give and receive love, damaged relationships with those you love, damaged relationship with God, guilty conscience.  
Every day 300 Christians are martyred; worldwide persecution is increasing. –Tom Thompson  
From our greatest conflicts come our greatest victories!  
For the proper perspective, gaze upon God and glace at the problems.  
God allows hard times to accomplish His purposes.  
God allows storms because He wants to see what you do with His Word when He seems to be asleep.  
God does allow believers to suffer the consequences of their sin.  
God does His most profound work in seasons of distress.  
God does not allow His children to suffer needlessly.  
God does not waste suffering; if he plows it is because He purposes a crop. –J.Oswald Sanders

God has to work pride out of us.
God is in control—even when I suffer, even when its midnight, even when my faith is weak, even when the wicked seem to prosper (Acts 12).
God is in the business of turning our trials into testimonies.
God is never closer than in our suffering (Psalm 34, 51).
God is the single greatest economist of all time; He does not waste suffering.
God never wastes our pain.
God often does His work through suffering—even Jesus suffered. –Henry Blackaby
God prepares us for service through His Word (Eph. 6:15).
God prepares us for service through trials (Phil. 4:6-7)
God prepares us for service through changing our thoughts (Rom. 12:2; Gal. 5:16).
God prepares us for service through changing our relationships (Luke 9:23, Phil. 2:3-4; Eph. 5:21
God prepares us for service through changing our focus—heavenward (Col. 3:1, Mat. 6:9).
God prepares us with the expectation that we will practice what we have learned (James 1:22-25).
God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.
God uses adversity to shape us.
God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks to us in our conscience, but shouts in our pains: It is His megaphone to rouse a deaf world” –C.S. Lewis
God will only use people according to their brokenness.
God will turn to good what Satan meant for evil.
Godliness does not protect for suffering.
Helping others helps you get your attention off of self and on to others.
In the face of persecution, we must be convinced of the greater purpose of God at work (Acts 7:54-55; John 15:20-21).
In the face of persecution, we must proclaim Christ with boldness (Acts 8:4; Phil. 1:14).
In the face of persecution, we must keep the compassion of the cross in focus (Acts 7:59-60).
It is doubtful whether God can use a man greatly unless He hurt him deeply. –Tozer
It is difficult to empathize with persecution when we are focused on material blessings.
It is rare that God can use a person greatly until He has hurt him deeply. –Tozer
Let your test become your testimony.
Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone?
No one gets a hall pass from suffering.
No one should have to go through a crisis alone.
Not trusting in God results in anger, fear, and bitterness; focus on the greater purpose of God.
Only through trials do we come to maturity.
Our God is a benevolent, loving, patient Father who loves His children deeply; however, our Father does not always rescue us from the consequences of our behavior.
Pain makes us feel alone—but we are part of the family of God.
Pain plants the flag of reality in the fortress of a rebel heart.
People’s struggles are financial, relational, mental/emotional, physical, addictive, and loss (debts, security, income, expenses, love, friends, family, anxiety, fear, worry, sickness, injuries, aging, compulsiveness, death, empty nest, divorce).
Persecution purifies there church—there are not nominal believers in the persecuted church.
Persecution edifies there church—there are no disputes over minor doctrinal issues in the persecuted church.
Persecution unifies there church—believers in the persecuted church are courageous and bold because they are compelled to take a stand for Jesus Christ every day.

Persecution multiplies there church—in 1950 there were 1 million Christians in China; today there are over 100 million.

Problems we openly acknowledge are solvable.
Suffering brings our shortcomings to the surface.
Suffering is God’s megaphone.
Suffering is temporary.
Sometimes God calms the storm; sometimes He lets the storm rage and calms His child.
Sometimes God puts us under pressure to tenderize our hearts and increase our compassion.
Sometimes God is glorified when sick saints get well; other times God is glorified when sick saints die well.
Sometimes suffering is part of a process designed to draw us away from our sin and back to God (Rev. 3:19).
Sometimes the purpose of our suffering is the story we get to tell. Nothing speaks more powerfully to our faith in Christ than our attitude toward the trials in our lives (John 9:1-5).
Speaking the truth, even in love, is often offensive to a culture built upon a foundation of lies (116).
Struggles are often caused by likes, dislikes, and desires (James 4:2-3).
Suffering creates an unseen bond between the one who has overcome and the one who is going through the suffering. Suffering is a means of strengthening and purifying faith.
Suffering does not equal lack of blessing (Mat. 5:11-12).
Suffering is a by-product of identification with Christ.
Suffering is a tool God uses to shape his children (1 Pet. 4:12-16).
Suffering is an integral part of the Christian life (2 Cor. 1:5-7).
Suffering is part of the cost of discipleship (Mark 8:34; Isa. 53:3).
Suffering is part of our preparation for glory (Phil. 3:7-11).
Suffering is temporary (Rom. 8:16-18).
Suffering prepares believers to comfort others (2 Cor. 1:3-4).
Suffering reveals truth. The divine excellency of real Christianity is best exhibited when it is under the greatest trials (121).
The clay never knows that the Potter is doing.
The greater the difficulty the greater the glory. —Cicero
The highest reward for a man’s toil is not what he gets for it, but what he becomes by it.
The mountaintop is the place we celebrate, but the valley is the place we learn.
The only way you can learn patience is through tribulation.
The Son of God suffered unto the death, not that men might not suffer, but that their sufferings might be like Him. —George Macdonald
The storms of life are designed to make us better people.
The storms of life reveal your beliefs.
The storms of life reveal your foundation.
The suffering that believers endure always has a purpose.
The worst we go through is only God helping us grow up.
There is opportunity in every difficulty.
We all have struggles.
We are going through a refining process—a refining process is not fun. —1 Peter
We do not love suffering; we love the results that suffering brings.
We experience suffering and trials for a reason.
We suffer with Christ so that we may also be glorified with Him. No matter how bleak the circumstances, no matter how dark the night, a day is coming that will bring an end.
to our suffering and the dawn of a new day in a new home, the home for which we were made and in which we will finally find, peace, comfort, and rest.

What are you learning in your time of darkness?
When Christ calls a man, He bids him come and die. –Bonhoeffer
When we respond to hardship the way God wants us to respond—people are impressed.
When you pass the test you go on to the blessing.
When you are out of the will of God those you love will suffer most. –Henry Blackaby
When you stop looking at your problems and fix your eyes on Jesus you will experience God.
When God wants to do an incredible thing, He takes an impossible man and crushes him.
When I am weak, then I am strong.
When you are down to nothing, God is up to something.
Whenever you do something for God, there will be opposition (e.g. Nehemiah, Paul).
You are not alone if your world is upside down.
You are not alone in your depression and in your questions. –Job, Psalms, Elijah, Luther, Spurgeon
You do not need to have all the answers to help someone.
You never learn about yourself until you have been all the way down.
You are either in a storm, just getting out of a storm, or about to enter a storm.

**Sunday School**
Everything rises and falls on leadership. If the teachers are to see of vision for doubling groups, the pastor and staff must cast and model that vision.
The #1 predictor of the growth of any class is the teaching ability of the teacher.
Anders,
Growth spiral

**Teaching**
A good teacher is like a candle—it consumes itself to light the way for others.
A man should never be ashamed to own he has been wrong, which is but saying in other words that he is wiser today than he was yesterday. –Alexander Pope
A master teacher adapts to the learning styles of the students rather than expecting the students to adapt to his learning style.
A rubric is a scale that teachers use to grade an article of writing from their students. Because the student knows the stipulations of the rubric, the student knows how to write the paper.
A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops. –Henry Adams
A teacher is one who makes himself progressively unnecessary. –Thomas Caruthers
A teacher needs to communicate to students: (1) That I know you; (2) I care for you; (3) I value you; (4) You can do this; (5) I can add value to your life.
A teacher who is attempting to teach without inspiring the pupil with a desire to learn is hammering on cold iron. ~Horace Mann
A wise teacher makes learning a joy (Prov. 15:2, TLB).
An excellent plumber is infinitely more admirable than an incompetent philosopher. –John W. Gardner
And if a picture is worth a thousand words, a metaphor is worth a thousand pictures. –Dan Pink
Anyone who stops learning is old, whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young. –Henry Ford
Application is anchoring the abstract to the concrete.
As a teacher I am primarily a student of the Word of God and of my students. Avoid the soft bigotry of low standards. Intentions don't have to be cruel for the results to be cruel. Awaken people's curiosity. It is enough to open minds, do not overload them. Put there just a spark. –Anatole France

Be not angry that you cannot make others as you wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish to be. –Thomas A. Kempis

Bible study by itself will not produce spirituality. In fact, it will produce carnality if it isn’t applied and practiced. –Gene Getz

Blessed is the man who, having nothing to say, abstains from giving us wordy evidence of the fact. –George Eliot (Mary-Ann Evans)

By viewing the old we learn the new. –Chinese Proverb

Camping and retreats are the most effective ministries in the church—think about how and where Jesus taught.

Catch students doing something right. Christlike character is the ultimate goal of all Christian education. –Rick Warren

Convincing is more powerful than coercion when the goal is life-change.

Do not do anything for a student that a student can do for himself.

Education is a painful, continual and difficult work to be done in kindness, by watching, by warning, by praise, but above all—by example. –John Ruskin

Education should turn out the pupil with something he knows well and something he can do well. –Alfred North Whitehead

Einstein thought creatively in pictures.

Einstein was no Einstein when he was a kid. –Walter Isaacson

Every artist was at first an amateur. –Ralph W. Emerson

Every student is a unique profile of strengths and weaknesses; it is the job of the teacher to figure out ways that their strengths can support their weaknesses.

Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not simpler. –Albert Einstein

Focus on student strengths, not their weaknesses.

Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day, but give him a fishing pole and your feed him for life.

Give me a fish and I eat for a day. Teach me to fish and I eat for a lifetime. –Chinese Proverb

God can't bless you if you try to be someone other than who He made you to be.

God's will for every believer is spiritual maturity. –Rick Warren

Good teaching is more a giving of right questions than a giving of right answers. –Josef Albers

Good teaching is one-fourth preparation and three-fourths theater. –Gail Godwin

Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events, small minds discuss people.

He who ceases to learn cannot adequately teach.

How can the teacher’s manner fail to be earnest and inspiring when his subject matter is so rich in radiant reality? –John Milton Gregory

I address you as my fellow students. –Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch

I hear, and I forget. I see, and I remember. I do, and I understand. –Chinese Proverb

I like a teacher who gives you something to take home to think about besides homework.

If I had more time, I would have written a shorter letter. –Marcus T. Cicero

If we desire God’s best in our lives, then we must realize His best for us includes both our strengths and weaknesses.

If you desire to excel for Christ, you must narrow your choices (Philippians 3:13).

If you do not expect it, you will not find the unexpected, for it is hard to find and difficult. –Heraclitus
If you don’t love them, they will know.
If you spend 30 minutes a day reading and 30 minutes reflecting, it will transform your life. – Howard Hendricks

Illustrations can be used to capture attention, for personal identification, for needed clarification, for specific application, for fresh repetition, and to improve retention.

In learning, you only get out of your studies what you put into them.

In the adult world, what really counts is how strong your strengths are. – Mel Levine

In the fields of observation, chance favors only the prepared mind. – Louis Pasteur

Information without application is deadening.

It is difficult to present an interesting lecture every week. It is easy for a discussion to be interesting. Good questions are the best way to create an interesting discussion.

It is easier for students not to think when the teacher gives all the answers.

It is important that students bring a certain barefoot irreverence to their studies; they are not here to worship what is known, but to question it. – Jacob Bronowski

It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge. – Albert Einstein

It is the teacher’s mission… by sympathy, by example, and by every means of influence—by objects for the senses, by facts for the intelligence—to excite the mind of the pupils, to stimulate their thoughts…. The greatest of teachers said: “The seed is the word.” The true teacher stirs the ground and sows the seed. – John Milton Gregory

It’s not what’s taught, but what’s caught that counts.

It’s what you learn after you know it all that counts. -- Harry S. Truman

Knowledge cannot be passed like a material substance from one mind to another, for thoughts are not objects, which may be held and handled…. Ideas must be rethought, experience must be re-experienced. – John Milton Gregory

Knowledge is worthless if it is not applied.

Learning is changing your thinking, feeling, and behavior.

Let us discern for ourselves what is right; let us learn together what is good. – Job 34:4 NIV

Listen and ask questions; don’t lecture.

Little minds are tamed and subdued by misfortune, but great minds rise above it. – Washington Irving

Love is a better teacher than duty. – Albwert Einstein

Make learning interesting through the use of stories.

Many teachers go to their work either partly prepared or wholly unprepared. They are like messengers without a message. They lack entirely the power and enthusiasm necessary to produce the fruits which we have a right to look from their efforts. – John Milton Gregory

Master the five overlooked fundamentals and clear communication (1 Thes. 2:3-6).

Men learn while they teach. – Lucius A. Seneca

Most of what we learn, we learn from people.

Most people who read, read too much and reflect too little. – Howard Hendricks

Motivated people motivate people.

No amount of technology will improve schools until principles can fire bad teachers; teacher unions hurt children. – Steve Jobs Feb. 16, 2007

No matter how good teaching may be, each student must take the responsibility for his own education. – John Carolus S.J.

No one can become really educated without having pursued some study in which he took no interest ... T.S. Eliot
Not only is the learning process exciting and logical, but it’s also a discovery process. Truth is always most profitable and productive when you can see it for yourself. –Howard Hendricks

Now abideth these three: information, understanding and clarity; but the greatest of these is clarity.

Once seen never forgotten.

One can think effectively only when one is willing to endure suspense and to undergo the trouble of searching.

One must learn by doing the thing; for though you think you know it, you have no certainty, until you try. --Sophocles

One real danger of having knowledge without perspective, conviction, skills, and character, is that it produces pride (1 Cor. 8:1). --Rick Warren

One-liners create unforgettable teaching (Deut. 4:9)

Opposites are not contradictory but complementary. --Niels Bohr

Ours is an informational culture. We worship information. But information without application is an empty deity.

People learn by doing, not by listening.

People learn more quickly by doing something or seeing something done. --Gilbert Highet

People’s behavior makes sense if you think about it in terms of their goals, needs, and motives. Thomas Mann

Probably, noting is more tragic than neglecting the strengths of a child.

Praise, like gold and diamonds, owes its values only to its scarcity. --Samuel Johnson

Read not to contradict and confute, nor to believe and take for granted; but to weigh and consider. --Francis Bacon

Reading gives us breadth, but study gives us depth. --Jerry Bridges

Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man and writing an exact man. --Francis Bacon

Real effectiveness is developed through many years of improving just a few steps at a time.

Reinventing the wheel is a process. --Rashid Elisha

Relate principles to biblical characters to cement those principles in people’s minds.

Relate principles to real people to cement those principles in people’s minds.

Relationship is the bridge over which learning crosses from the teacher to the student. --GCW

Since students remember more of what they say and write, than what they read and hear, discussion and essays are vital to memory and life-changing learning. --GCW

Some people see what you mean; others need to hear or feel it (Psalm 34:8).

Students don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.

Students learn more when they talk than when the teacher talks.

Students learn more from honest criticism than from false praise.

Students tend to accept the teacher’s evaluation of their capabilities.

Students usually achieve only to the level of their, or their teachers’ expectations. Learn to expect and encourage the best in each of your students. --Bruce Wilkinson

Study without service produces Christians with judgmental attitudes and spiritual pride. --Rick Warren

Teach according to how students and adults learn—they learn by doing.

Teachers must not let children give up on themselves; we have to focus children on the light at the end of the tunnel, to keep up their hopes, and to let them see the incredibly promising pathways that are in front of them. --Mel Levine

Teachers must convince students that we know you; we value you, we are here to serve you, and we deserve your support.

Teachers must meet children at their need and teach them to their maximum potential.

Teachers should guide without dictating, and participate without dominating. –C.B. Neblette
Teaching does not take place unless the students have learned.
Teaching is not about covering a lesson; it is about setting people free. –Henry Blackaby
Teaching must be full of ideas instead of stuffed with facts.
Teaching that impacts, is not head-to-head, but heart-to-heart.
Teaching without an accompanying experience is like filling a lamp with water. Something has been poured in, but the result is not illuminating.
Telling a person he is doing well, when he is not, is not doing him a favor.
The basic difference between Bible reading and Bible study is simply a pencil and a piece of paper. Write down observations about the text as you read and record questions that come to your mind. –Donald Whitney
The best learning happens in real life with real problems and real people—and not in classrooms.
The best rarely are composed of the people who have the most natural talent, but rather by those few who have a passion to fulfill their God-given talents and reach for the top of their potential.
The best teacher is the one who suggests rather than dogmatizes, and inspires his listener with the wish to teach himself. –Edward Bulwer-Lytton
The best way to become acquainted with a subject is to write a book about it. –Benjamin Disraeli
The best way to show that a stick is crooked is not to argue about it or to spend time denouncing it, but to lay a straight stick alongside it. –D.L. Moody
The critical factor is not class size but rather the nature of the teaching as it affects learning.
–C.B. Neblette
The depth of the teacher's belief in a student's ability determines the depth of the student's success in the classroom.
The empires of the future are the empires of the mind. --Winston Churchill
The essence of the educational process is a teacher helping a learner apply knowledge to a problem.
The four basic skills students need to master are: (1) reading, (2) writing, (3) listening, and (4) speaking. –Howard Hendricks
The function of the teacher is to create the most favorable conditions for self-learning. —John Milton Gregory
The greatest battles are fought in the mind.
The greatest use of life is to spend it for something that will outlast it.
The important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. --Pierre de Coubertin
The job of an educator is to teach students to see discern the Truth.
The Law of the Teacher states that it is the teacher who is responsible to cause the student to learn regardless of the quality of the student.
The limits of your language are the limits of your world. Ludwig Wittgenstein
The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires. --William Arthur Ward
The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be ignited. --Plutarch
The mind is to the soul, what the brain is to the body.
The more the student studies the more he learns.
The most important test of teacher effectiveness is student performance.
The number one problem in education today is the failure to motivate learners—to get them off the dime and into action. –Howard Hendricks
The nature of mind, as far as we can understand it, is that of a power or force actuated by motives. The striking clock may sound in the ear, and the passing object may paint its image in the eyes, but the inattentive mind neither hears nor sees. – John Milton Gregory

The #1 predictor of the growth of any class is the teaching ability of the teacher.
The only bad teaching method is the one used all the time.
The opposite of ignorance in the Scriptures is not knowledge; its obedience.
The problem with the average guy coming out of the university is that he can't read, he can't write, and he can't think. – Howard Hendricks

The purpose of a test is not necessarily to grade a student. The purpose of a test should be to assess what the student has learned so that further learning can be planned. – Harry Wong

The purpose of journaling is to ensure that the heart does not grow cold while the brain is being fed facts about the Bible.
The purpose of learning is doing—not just knowing.
The role of a teacher is not to grade a student. The teacher's main role is to help every student reach the highest possible level of achievement. – Harry Wong

The strengthening of strengths is a very important part of education.
The task of the teacher is to make the complex simple.
The task of the teacher is to collect and summarize the wisdom of the ages; and then to guide the student in explaining, applying, analyzing, synthesizing, evaluating, and articulating it—to pass it on. – Gary Woods

The teacher has not taught until the student has learned

The teacher must know that which he would teach—imperfect knowing must be reflected in imperfect teaching. – John Milton Gregory

The three basic goals of teaching are: (1) Teach people how to think. (2) Teach people how to learn. (3) Teach people how to work. – Howard Hendricks

The true function of the teacher is to create the most favorable conditions for self-learning... True teaching is not that which gives knowledge, but that which stimulates pupils to gain it. – John Milton Gregory

The ultimate goal of spiritual growth is to become like Jesus. – Rick Warren

The way to gain a good reputation is to endeavor to be what you desire to appear. -- Socrates

The wisdom of the wise and the experience of the ages are perpetuated in quotations. -- Benjamin Disraeli

There are two types of education. One should teach us how to make a living. And the other how to live. – John Adams

There are one-story intellects, two-story intellects, and three-story intellects with skylights. All fact collectors, who have no aim beyond their facts, are one-story men. Two-story men compare, reason, generalize, using the labors of the fact collectors as well as their own. Three-story men idealize, imagine, and predict—their best illumination comes from above, through the skylight. – Oliver Wendell Holms

There is no education like adversity. -- Benjamin Disraeli

They know enough who know how to learn. -- Henry Adams

Thinking is the hardest work there is, which is probably the reason why so few engage in it. -- Henry Ford

Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing the ground. – Frederick Douglass

Time plus focus equals learning—It takes 5,000 hours to become a good violinist; it takes 7,000 hours to become a great violinist; it takes 10,000 hours to become an extraordinary violinist. In the same way it takes 5,000 hours of preparation to become a good...
student of the Bible, 7,000 hours to become a great student of the Bible; it take 10,000 hours to become a extraordinary student of the Bible. To do less is to settle for mediocrity and to short-change God (2 Tim. 2:15).

To arrive at the simple is difficult. –Rashid Elisha
To teach is to learn twice. –Joseph Joubert
Tolerating mediocrity from students is a form of soft bigotry.
True education is a bridge between theory and praxis.
Use contrasts to highlight the truth.
Use metaphors to highlight the truth.
We are teaching adults who just happen to be children.
We learn a lot more effectively when we are:
• having fun;
• involved; and
• discovering answers for ourselves.
We think of the effective teachers we have had over the years with a sense of recognition, but those who have touched our humanity we remember with a deep sense of gratitude. –Anonymous student

We think too much about effective methods of teaching and not enough about effective methods of learning. --John Carolus S.J.

What are the needs of students:
• to become Christlike;
• to be discipled;
• to think biblically, to react biblically, to act biblically;
• to know himself; to understand relationships, to understand ministry, to understand servant leadership, to understand respect, to understand life management, to understand time management; to care for the flock, to be a hero, to learn how to read, how to learn, how to work, how to handle finances; how to regain first love; how to make application, develop reflection skills, develop relational skills, develop leadership skills; to develop character, to develop courage; to develop stewardship; to practice discipleship, to practice evangelism, to practice fellowship; to practice stewardship; to practice listening; to practice meditation.

What I do with my potential is my gift back to God.
What we emphasize in education is generally what we get. When we emphasize achievement above all else, then we are likely to produce achievement above all else. High achievement is desirable. But at what cost? When education becomes focused on production — namely, evidence of demonstrable achievement — then we have lost what it means to be educated. Teaching and learning are not just about achievement or quality-assured products. They are about care, compassion, love, hope, joy, passion, grace, relationship, and more. They are about people and how we nurture and are nurtured on our learning journeys.

What we hear we remember a little; what we write we remember much better. –David Jeremiah

When a man ceases to grow he begins to decay.

When it comes to suiting the comfort level of diverse groups of students, it is not my job to make people comfortable, it is to educate them.

When God's Word is taught in an uninteresting way, people don't just think the pastor is boring, they think God is boring! –Rick Warren

When you demand excellence you offer hope.

When words and actions are in opposition, actions always overpower words.

Whenever we learn something new, we pay for it with something old. We must give up ignorance and prejudice and falsehood if we are to gain truth. To add a new idea to the mind, we must eject an old one. So all learning is subtracting as well as adding, dying as well as birthing. —Socrates
Whoso neglects learning in his youth, loses the past and is dead to the future. –Euripides

Why memorize when your eyes can snap a picture you will never forget? Incredibly visual
With only knowledge, I dry up; with only spirit, I blow up; but with a balance, I grow up.
Wonder is the desire for knowledge. –St. Thomas Aquinas
Writing makes a person more precise.
You cannot be proudful and teachable at the same time.
You cannot direct the wind but you can adjust the sails. --Anonymous
You cannot operate on the margins of your knowledge—you have to know ten times as
much as you apply.
You cannot teach a man anything; you can only help him find it within himself. –Galileo

You develop a skill, not by listening to a lecture, but by practice and experience. –Rick

Warren
You do not teach what you do not live.
Your task as a communicator is not to impress people, but to impact them; not just to
convince them, but also to change them. –Howard Hendricks

http://www.quotationspage.com/subjects/teaching/

Team Leadership
Each of us strands taller when we stand together.
Great achievement are a result of teamwork.
Gumbling ruins team spirit.
Gumbling is blaming a teammate/leader for things not going well. –James 5:9
Once you learn how to lead yourself, once you learn how to lead others, the next step is
teaching other how to lead, too. –John Maxwell
One person seeking glory does not accomplish much. –Red Hourbach
Run the race for those who passed the baton to you and pass it on to the next generation.
Synergism = Together Everyone Accomplishes More.
Teamwork is important, but team leadership is even more important—it is the multiplication
of your ministry. –John Maxwell
Teamwork makes the dream work.
The ability to lead is important, but the ability to teach others how to lead is even more
important. –John Maxwell

Temptation
Growth is greater under opposition.
How come opportunity knocks only once when temptation knocks my door down everyday?
It is better to shun the bait than it is to struggle in the snare.
It is easier to avoid the pitfalls of sin if you avoid the paths of temptation.
OVERCOMING TEMPTATION: 1. Refuse to be intimidated. . . . Temptation is a sign that
Satan hates you, not a sign of weakness or worldliness. –Rick Warren
Temptation is a compliment—Satan only messes with those who are doing what they are
supposed to do.
Temptation is an honor.
Temptation is the devil looking through the keyhole. Yielding is opening the door and inviting
him in. –Billy Sunday
Temptation is progressive and persistent.
Temptation is Satan’s lure to draw us away from God.
Temptation is the opportunity to do right.
Purpose Driven Life, p. 205.
The answer to temptation is gratitude.
The key to overcoming temptation is your relationship with Jesus Christ.
The purpose of testing is to strengthen our faith (Job, Abraham, Joseph).
The temptation is to meet God-given needs in ungodly ways.
To battle temptation we have to change the mind by doing something that is more appealing.

**Thanksgiving**
A lack of thanksgiving is the root of a lack of peace.
A thankful spirit will take the bitterness out of life. —Hebrews 12:15, 28
Articulate what you appreciate.
He who forgets the language of gratitude can never be on speaking terms with happiness.
The secret to life is gratitude.

**Theology**
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
Aslan is not a tame lion. —C. S. Lewis
Biblical Counseling - the Capstone Application of Christianity.
Bible Challenges: Is there not a cause? For such a time as this.
Christians will be vindicated before the world.
Christianity is the most manful of all religions. —G. K. Chesterton
Don't use the world's methods to accomplish God's work. —Henry Blackaby
Freedom exists for the sake of love. —Karol Wojtyla (Pope John Paul II)
God became man so that man could become God. —St. Athanasius, On the Incarnation #54
God can't bless you if you try to be someone other than who He made you to be.
God can't give it through you until He gives it to you.
God does not run the world by opinion polls.
God does not accept second-hand glory. —Henry Blackaby
God is always at work; but we miss it if we are following our plans. —Henry Blackaby
God is not a road. He is the end, not the means. —C.S. Lewis
God is not in a hurry because God is God.
God judges at the proper time.
God lets us say “No” so that “Yes” means something.
God loves dependence upon Him—God helps the helpless.
God not only orders our steps but He orders our stops.
God promotes at His discretion.
God will never say to us, “What a great plan!”
God won’t fill a full cup.
God uses the unlikely to do the impossible for His glory.
God’s glory matters.
God’s work done in God’s way will never lack God’s supply —Hudson Taylor
In essentials, unity; In non-essentials, liberty; In all things, charity.
If you are not hearing God, the problem is not God. —Henry Blackaby
If you don’t believe in God, you will believe in anything.
If God is not working there is a reason—unbelief.
If God says “no” He has a reason.
It is not well for God to be alone—hence, the Trinity. —G. K. Chesterton
One with God is a majority. —Billy Graham

Only God can shape our hearts as a Potter fashions the clay. —Henry Blackaby
Only God knows what is best.
Only in Christianity does God experience cruelty, hunger, loneliness.
Only in Christianity is God courageous. —G. K. Chesterton
Only in Christianity is God forsaken. —G. K. Chesterton

Pascal’s wager
Perspective is everything—God measures the universe with the span of His hand
The timing of God; divine appointments.
The evidence for Christianity is sufficient, but not exhaustive.
Too often we exchange the power of God for religious activity.
When God gives a commandment, He is not restricting me; He is freeing me. —Blackaby
When God puts a period, do not change it to a question mark.
We have substituted religion for relationship. —Henry Blackaby
What if there were no Christmas?
We don’t work for God; God words through us.
We exist for God—not the other way around.
We need truth, and we need sound theology. The right information is essential. But above all else, we need relationship. —David Jeremiah, MHD: 168

You cannot deserve forgiveness.
You cannot deserve mercy.
You can’t do spiritual things in the power of the flesh.

Time
Bring eternity into time.
God did not create me for time; He created me for eternity. —Henry Blackaby
You will never find time for anything; if you want time, you must make it.
Nothing is a waste of time if you learn from it.
Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. —Psalm 90:12
Time is precious; don’t waste it—read.
When as a child I laughed and wept, time crept. When as a youth I dreamed and talked, time walked. When I became a full grown man, time ran. And later as I older grew, time flew. Soon I shall find while traveling on, time gone.

Tolerance
I have learned silence from the talkative, tolerance from the intolerant and kindness from the unkind. —Kahlil Gibran
Love refuses to tolerate evil.
Only Christianity can combat terrorism. The only Islamists who renounce terrorism are those who become Christians.
The Natzifobs of the 1930s were correct.
There is a distinction between tolerance and pluralism. Tolerance gives us room to say, "I think you’re wrong, but I’ll defend your right to be wrong." Pluralism strongly suggests that there isn't any such thing as right and wrong—and no such thing as truth and error. As is practiced more and more in America, pluralism tends to require that you not only leave room for your neighbor to believe what he believes, but that you also refrain from disagreeing with it—Joel Belz. “Tolerance vs. Pluralism,” World (Nov/Dec. 2001).
Tolerance is the Boomer virtue. Absolutes are not in their mentality; different morals and religious strokes for different folks is their creed. This is how they cope in a highly pluralistic society. For them, particular religious traditions are seen as spiritual resources, not as ultimate authorities by which they should live their lives.
Tolerance is the virtue of the man without convictions. –Gilbert Keith Chesterton
True love affirms life.
True love does not tolerate evil and lust.
Truth, justice, and the American way by definition do not tolerate evil.
We are not now living in a post-Judeo-Christian era but rather in an anti-Judeo-Christian era. –Josh McDowell

**Trust**

God is in control—even when I suffer, even when it’s midnight, even when my faith is weak,
even when the wicked seem to prosper (Acts 12).
I am not going to leave this world one minute early.
Is what I am doing, thinking, or saying building trust or is it undermining trust.
Without emotional trust, you can’t have emotional intimacy.

**Truth**

Emotion is good when it is a by-product of truth.
Evil is the cause of ignorance—of willfully ignoring the truth.
If you add to the truth, you subtract from it. - *The Talmud*
If you haven’t obeyed past truth, you aren’t open to more truth.
Jesus graciously applied truth to each person’s need.
Not only is the learning process exciting and logical, but it’s also a discovery process. Truth
is always most profitable and productive when you can see it for yourself. –Howard Hendricks
One of the worst things about lying is that no one believes you when you tell the truth.
The truth never changes, only our perspective of truth changes.
Truth is black and white; grace is multicolored.
Truth is not motivational until it is applied.
Truth – Grace = Legalism (Rules – Love)
Truth needs to be spoken—and heard.

**Victory**

Celebration is applause, banners, drama, fairs, fun, food, laughter, praise, singing,
testimonies, team building.

Champions
No victory without suffering; no freedom without sacrifice. Lord of the Rings.
Spiritual victory comes only to those who are prepared for battle.
The victory over mediocrity is found in the search for excellence. We are prone to evaluate
our practice and quality of work on “the bell curve.” If that’s what everybody else is
doing it must be good. So we become comfortable in the middle of the “bell curve”
where most are satisfied to live.
You only get the victory when you surrender.

**Virtue**

A country cannot subsist well without liberty, nor liberty without virtue. –Daniel Webster
Virginity is integrity of the mind which extends also to the body.

**Vision**

All find what they truly seek.
Be not like a bird that sees the seeds but not the trap.
Common to all great men and women is this philosophy to focus their energies to excel in
only a few, well-chosen areas.
Do what you were designed and fashioned to do.
Focus on the indispensable.
God gives us the vision, then takes us into the valley to shape us into that vision. –Oswald chambers
If you’re looking up to God, you won’t be looking down on people.
Let God stretch you.
Obstacles are those frightful things you see when you take your mind off your goals.
Paradigm powers perspective, perspective powers emotion, and emotion powers action.
The Vision that God gives you for the future is rooted in your past. –David Jeremiah
The difference between greatness and mediocrity is vision –Habakkuk 2:2
The vision that God gives you for the future is rooted in your past. –David Jeremiah
Vision is a bridge from the past to the future.
Vision is an outward focus of God’s possibilities.
Vision is the eye of faith to see the invisible and then make it happen.
Vision is the art of seeing things that are invisible.
Vision is the dominant factor that determines your life.
Vision is the power that causes people to make huge sacrifices and become all they can be.
Vision is a clear mental image of a preferable future imputed by God.
Vision is the God-given energy that will make you become a risk-taker.
Vision is adopting an action plan that will enable you to move forward.
Vision springs from the spiritual giftedness of the Body of Christ.
Vision: That every man and woman, boy and girl, have an opportunity to hear and respond to the gospel. –Fermin Whitticker

Urban Wisdom

A leader is a person who has character and a purpose. That purpose has to be something that transcends one’s own particular interest, something that benefits the whole of humanity. –Coretta Scott King
There are leaders who are not visible, and they are making a difference. They are inspiring other people. –Coretta Scott King
I am determined to do what it was that God called me to do. –Coretta Scott King
My father defined fatherhood for me. He did a lot of things with his boys. He loved his boys. We did a lot of hiking and camping, even before we were old enough to be Boy Scouts. And traveled a lot. When I got to be a father, I took my kids all over the United States. We camped together. We made things together. I thoroughly enjoyed all of that. Even with my grandchildren, I did the same kinds of things. –Rev. Henry H. Mitchell
The elders in my family helped to fill in the blacks of who I was, by sharing stories of who and where I had come form. Those stories strengthened me in way I am still discovering, by giving me a sense of the vast, rich African American foundation on which I stood. –Renee Poussaint.
You may encounter many defeats but you must not be defeated. It may even be necessary to encounter the defeats, so you can know who you are, how you can rely upon yourself, where you can pull yourself up form. –Maya Angelou, civil rights activist
Even if a child is not going to be a musician, learning some type of music—piano, violin—instills disciple at a young age. Once they get that discipline, they can approach any subject. They have the built-in discipline. –Keter Betts, jazz bassist
When historians and archeologists find ruins, they always find evidence of four things: art, music, literature, and dance. Form the most advanced civilizations to the most primitive civilizations, they find those four things. This means that human beings
have always wanted entertainment. To provide it, is a human gift. –Keter Betts, jazz bassist

The continuing source of motivation was the sure knowledge that without a good education, I would not be able to contribute anything. –Adolphe A. Birch Jr., Tennessee Supreme Court Justice

Church people have always had me in their hands. Many fed me when I didn’t have good at home. –J. Robert Bradley, Gospel singer

The government should do only those things which men and women can’t do for themselves. –Abraham Lincoln as quoted by Edward Brooke, U.S. Senator from Massachusetts

This is the advice that I would give: try to do something constructive, not to be rich and not to be famous, not to be important or not to have five wives. Make your life important. Give of yourself. It’s not easy. Think about other people. Based what you are on something that has to do with all of us. That is what gave me direction in art. When I decided that I was going to work with the problems of black women, I wanted to make people see them as beautiful, dignified, strong people, instead of invisible. –Elizabeth Catlett, artist and educator

Best advice I can give young artists is have faith in yourself, if you know what you know what you’re doing is good, keep on keeping on. And you know that you’re good when you compare it with what you hear out there. Is your sound unique? If you believe in yourself, don’t let anybody discourage you. And above all, practice. I know that’s a dirty word, but every great musician I know practices. Kids have so many diversions nowadays: they go to ball games; they’ve got this computer, that new electronic toy they sit at all day long. I’m not saying not to do these things, but allocate at last one hour a day to do nothing but practice for yourself. –Ray Charles, composer

Wisdom

A word to the wise ain’t necessary—it’s the stupid ones that need the advice. –Bill Cosby

Doubt is often the beginning of wisdom. —M Scott Peck

Five steps to wisdom: In seeking wisdom the first step is silence, the second: listening, the third: remembering, the fourth: practicing, the fifth: teaching others. –Solomon Ibn Gabirol

Heavenly wisdom for your earthly walk.

Listen to advice and accept instruction, and in the end you will be wise.

Teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. —Moses

The fool doth think he is wise, but the wise man knows himself to be a fool. —William Shakespeare

The only true wisdom is knowing you know nothing. —Socrates

The wisdom of the wise and the experience of the ages are perpetuated in quotations. —Benjamin Disraeli

The wise learn from their trials.

To acquire knowledge, one must study; but to acquire wisdom, not must observe and reflect.

We learn wisdom from failure much more than from success. —Samuel Smiles

Wisdom begins in wonder. —Socrates

Wisdom is doing the right thing without a precedent.

Women

12 things that really make a woman desirable


A good woman has the power to make a bad man god. A bad woman has the power to make a good man bad. Rarely does a good man have the power to make a bad
woman good. Or a bad man have the power to make a good woman bad. –Andrew W. Blackwood

A feminist is a woman who does not know how to love/respect a man.

A woman who understands men is happier than one who hates them.

Anything a man gets points for he is going to do again. –Alison Armstrong

Being desired by your spouse is a blessing.

Christianity accords to the woman the moral dignity worthy of an immortal being belonging to a supernatural world. –C. B. Eavey

Even men are afraid of the power of the male sex drive. –Dennis Preagar

Feminists want men to understand women, but they do not want to bother with understanding men.

If you share your emotional problems with a man expect him to try to solve it analytically—that is what men do. –Dr. Laura

It is more effecting to tell a man what you want rather than what you don’t want. –Alison Armstrong

Men are wired to want to be a hero, to make a woman happy—but they need immediate feedback.

Men know a happy wife is a happy husbands which is why they want to solve your problems.

Never underestimate the power of a woman. A good woman has the power to make a bad man good. A bad woman has the power to make a good man bad. Rarely does a good man have the power to make a bad woman good, or a bad man have the power to make a good woman bad. –Dr. Andrew W. Blackwood

The balance of power is with the woman. She may be thought of as the weaker sex, but God has built into womanhood a strength which no man enjoys and without which no man can be everything he ought to be. –Richard C. Halverson

What if your son grew up and married someone like you?

What if your daughter grew up and married someone like you?

When a wife treats her husband like a girlfriend, he does not know how to react—it drives him crazy.

Wild women = Passive men

Women are great scorekeepers; men keep score too, but they can only count to three. –John Gray

Women change as a result of criticism but resent it; while men reject and resist criticism and as a result do not change.

In the pursuit of equality, women emasculate men, not knowing that it creates distance. –Alison Armstrong

Women have the power to change men by using the keys of the kingdom.

Women not only do not understand men; they do not understand themselves—and that really confuses men. –Alison Armstrong

Women who have had bad relationships in the past usually take it out on those who love them and are safe. –John Gray

You get a lot more out of a man when you make smile first. –Dr. Laura

**World Religions**

Islam is not like most religions that promotes goodness, it is a political-social-economic system wrapped in a religion that advocates the enslavement/subjugation of Jews, Christians, Hindus, women, and all who will not either convert or the death of all who will not submit.
Worry
Don’t live in your rearview mirror.
Every worry just serve to bring to your reality that which you think about. Worry and you will be sorry.
Everything is on schedule—don’t worry.
Focus on the sovereignty of God—Eloheim. God does not take Maalox (Psalm 55).
Focus on the salvation of God—Yahweh.
Focus on the sustaining power of God.
Focusing on God removes worry.
If worry is keeping you up; reading the Word of God will put you to sleep.
It is a mistake to look too far ahead. Only one link in the chain of destiny can be handled at a time. –Sir Winston Churchill
It is unbecoming for a child of God to worry.
Law of Attraction = Whatever you think about, whether it is good or bad, you attract into your life.
Patterns of infidelity often begin in one’s youth.
The word worry comes for the German wergen which means to choke and refers to its ability to choke the life out of a person.
What worries you, masters you. –Haddon Robinson
When I worry, I add more things to an already full schedule.
When I worry, I add pressure by thinking my image and reputation are involved in this.
When I worry, I add expectations to what has not yet happened.
When I worry, I subtract God’s presence from my crisis.
When I worry, I subtract prayer from my day.
When I worry, I subtract perspective from the moment.
When I worry, I multiply my problems by inserting my own solutions too rapidly.
When I worry, I multiply my fears with my imagination.
When I worry, I divide life into the secular and sacred.
When I worry, I divine my day into the Lord’s part and my business.
When you live in a state of anxiety most of life will pass you by.
Whether you want it or not is irrelevant. Think about something you DON’T WANT and you attract it into your life. Worry about getting out of debt and that is what you attract, more debt. Worry about getting old, and you will start experiencing the effects of old age.
Worry is forgetting God.
Worry is like a rocking chair: no matter how much you rock, you get nowhere.
Worry is unhealthy.
Worry states that you don’t trust God’s wisdom, sovereignty, and love.

Worship
A beautiful sky, a friend’s smile, or a completed task is all the reason you should need to take a moment in your day for the wonder of worship. –David Jeremiah
Almost paradoxically, retreating into deep fellowship with God ultimately means having more experience with people. –David Jeremiah, 19
All of life is worship: “Giving thanks always, Praying always, Rejoice in the Lord always, always laboring fervently for you in prayers, Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, peace in always every way, Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord” (Eph. 5:20; 6:18; Phil. 4:4; Col. 4:12; 1 Thess. 5:16-17; 2 Thess. 3:16; 1 Cor. 15:58).
At key moments in their history, the Israelites created songs to commemorate the great works of God: The Red Sea, Deborah, David, Solomon, Temple, Nehemiah, Ezra, Zerubbabel, and Jehoshaphat.

Could it be that we have not because we ask not and that we see no miracles because we expect none? If you’re dead set on the proposition that miracles don’t happen in your life, I can guarantee you that you’ll be right. But if you live your everyday life in the power of faith, expecting God to reach down into the most mundane of activities in the most modern of world, you may begin to see wonderful things. —David Jeremiah

Creation and culmination are the bookends of Scripture. And in the very heart of the book, in its physical center, we find the Book of Psalms. —David Jeremiah

Cynicism is a deadly infection that eats away our childlike ability to be surprised and delighted. It corrodes our channels of worship, and that disease is a terminal one. —David Jeremiah, 17

Despair turns quickly to victory when a broken heart is laid on the altar of worship before God.

Every act of enjoyment becomes an act of worship when you thank God for it. —Rick Warren

Every sin can ultimately be traced to failing to attribute the proper priority and Lordship to God. —David Jeremiah

Every situation is a potential act of worship, a time to magnify the name of the Lord.

Fear is the recognition that we lack the resources for the challenge confronting us.

From the beginning, music has been an essential link between God and His children.

Genuine worship is a powerful witness to unbelievers if it is done in a style that makes sense to them. —Rick Warren

God dwells in our worship.

God makes His home in our worship.

God moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform. —William Cowper

God wants us to find the ultimate joy that is attainable only through an eternal perspective of worship.

God wants us to seek Him, not just His will.

God’s greatest desire is your companionship. —David Jeremiah

Growth in faith comes through doing the things that Jesus would do. —David Jeremiah

Habakkuk means “the one who embraces”; he finally comprehends that the answers will have to wait—at least for the duration of this earthly life. But for now, there is the loving embrace of God.

Heaven is the birthplace of music.

Humility and wonder go hand in hand. —David Jeremiah

Hymns are sung about the Lord, worship songs are sung to the Lord.

Hymns tether us to our tradition, while spiritual songs allow us to speak to the moment.

I believe truly that Satan cannot endure praise and worship, so he slips out of the room, more or less, when there is a true song. —Amy Carmichael

If God never did anything else for you, he would still deserve your continual praise for the rest of your life because of what Jesus did for you on the cross. God’s Son died for you! This is the greatest reason for worship. —Rick Warren

If Jesus is not Lord of all, He’s is not Lord at all. —David Jeremiah, 85

If we treat our bodies poorly in any way—whether through matters of diet, sexuality, exercise, or any other concern—we must realize we are desecrating the temple of God. —David Jeremiah

If we want to worship in spirit and in truth, we need to rediscover the capacity to wonder that God placed within each of us. —David Jeremiah, 16
If you are out of fellowship with a brother, your worship is worthless (Matt. 5:23-24). A Christian cannot be in fellowship with God and out of fellowship with believers at the same time. –Rick Warren

If you want to live your entire life in the wonder of worship, you must begin with your personal time with God. –David Jeremiah

In Revelation 4:10-11 we find the ultimate image of worship. In serving others, we serve Christ, and we do so as acts of perfect worship (Romans 12:1). In worship, we come into God's presence. In worship, you have an audience with the King of kings.

It is impossible to be all that God intends for us if we are not willing to spend the time to get to know Him personally. –David Jeremiah

Joy is the flag you fly from the castle to your heart when the King is in residence there. Life is good when God finds us faithful. –David Jeremiah

Like a proud parent, God especially enjoys watching you use the talents and abilities He has given you... God also gains pleasure in watching you enjoy His creation –Rick Warren

Music helps you transport your spirit from mundane concerns to majestic splendor. –David Jeremiah

Music increases the effectiveness of memory. Music is a channel for the wonder of worship. Music is a precious gift from God, planted in the grounds of our souls, then liberated by our lips to return to its heavenly home. –David Jeremiah

Music is a special channel of divine blessing, comfort, and strength. Music teaches and trains, and it does so with a power that speaks not only to the mind, but also to the heart. –David Jeremiah

No matter how unworthy we may be, God looks upon us, smiles, and urges us to come and help Him carry out His great plan for this world. –David Jeremiah

One of the truly wonderful by-products of worship is that life becomes expansive and beautiful again.

Perhaps the church is losing its influence with the world because we are seldom perceived as having a sense of humor or hearts filled with spirited music. –David Jeremiah

Perhaps this renaissance or worship and praise music has come about because of the times in which we live. –David Jeremiah

Praise is the doorway to the next world. Praise is where God lives. Sacrifice is at the heart of worship. Satan has an allergic reaction whenever there is true worship. Satan trembles at the very thought of your living a passionate, worshipful life of service to the Lord. –David Jeremiah

Serve someone today and tomorrow; and see if you don't encounter God in a more powerful way. –David Jeremiah

Sing for the pleasure of God. Stop holding out on God—He wants it all! Nominal Christianity is of no interest to Him. The Lord wants your body and spirit signed, sealed, and delivered over to their new Landlord. –David Jeremiah, 34

Stumbling blocks of daily life can become stepping stones to a divine encounter when we live with a Romans 8:28 mentality and worship God in the worst of circumstances. –David Jeremiah

The ability to marvel lies at the very center of our identities as human beings created in the divine image. –David Jeremiah

The battle isn't yours—the battle belongs to the Lord. The Christian life is one of unbroken prayer and communion with God.
The deepest level of worship is praising God in spite of pain, thanking God during a trial, trusting him when tempted, surrendering while suffering, and loving him when he seems distant. – Rick Warren

The devil hates music because he can’t stand gaiety. Satan can smirk but he can’t laugh; he can sneer but he can’t sing. – Martin Luther

The entire Bible is structured around humanity standing amazed in the presence of God. – David Jeremiah

The essence of worship is giving.

The forces of hell cannot prevail against the uplifted name of Christ.

The great work of humanity is one of worship and praise, but that doesn’t imply an abandonment of normal life and work; it transforms them to something entirely new.

The greatest weapon in our arsenal is worship.

The heart of the battle is the battle for the heart.

The highest expression of praise our minds can fathom is the expression of singing.

The key word of the entire Book of Revelation is throne.

The Lord longs to bless us when we worship Him truly.

The meaning of worship is to give worthy back to God, to assign Him His true and proper place.

The precise opposite of wonder is cynicism. – David Jeremiah

The pursuit of God has no shortcuts.

The Word of God is essential to the worship of God.

There are 575 references to praise, singing, and music in the Bible.

Think of all the psalms in which David begins in deep depression, lamenting the injustice of his enemies’ success, then he turns his attention and poetry to the praises of God, and his psalm finishes on a note of victory.

Throughout the ages, hymns were written to summarize crucial Christian doctrines.

To truly worship God, you will need to come with clean hands and a clean heart.

True worship simultaneously humbles and uplifts us.

True worship pleases God, and when that happens, He blesses us in the deepest and most gratifying ways the soul can experience. – David Jeremiah

Victorious warfare always requires victorious worship. – David Jeremiah

We are chosen, made priests, and become a holy nation for one reason—that we should show forth the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Pet. 2:9).

We are dust on our way to ashes, yet the Lord Himself counts us worthy of His love. – David Jeremiah

We are here to bring God joy.

We are not great canvases of art, but merely mirrors that reflect the divine life. – David Jeremiah

We are temples on wheels. – David Jeremiah

We become like those we worship.

We never hear about Pharisees having a sing-along. – David Jeremiah

We so easily lose sight of the fact that these aren’t merely songs we are singing—they are songs offered to God.

We worship whom we trust, and we trust whom we know. We build trust when we spend time with God.

When all is in turmoil and when everything has gone wrong and we feel spiritually dry, when we can’t even feel God’s presence, yet still we bow before Him, still we’re obedient and prayerful—that’s the time when God is the most please with us. – C. S. Lewis

When we break out in praise, the devil breaks out in hives. – David Jeremiah

When we come together to show forth His praise, “the powers of Satan are destroyed and his fiery darts urging to sin, fall back ineffectual. For your concord and harmonious faith prove his destruction, and the torment of his assistants. –Ignatius

Worship and worry cannot live in the same heart.
Worship cleanses our hands and hearts, and then we can see how to fight.
Worship has always been a spiritual weapon.
Worship is a moment-by-moment relationship with God.
Worship is a response to God; we are playing to an audience of One—nothing else really matters.
Worship is a stairway on which there is movement in two directions: God comes to man, and man goes to God. –Daniel Baumann

Worship is a verb. –Robert E. Webber
Worship is about encountering God.
Worship is an activity we pursue in obedience to God’s directive.
Worship is giving all of ourselves to God.
Worship is no mere meeting; it’s a rendezvous with the Alpha and the Omega, the great I AM.
Worship is the celebration of all celebrations!
Worship is the one thing for where we have been created.
Worship is the proper recognition and celebration of God, returning to Him the glory that He alone deserves and honoring Him with our lives and our words. –David Jeremiah
Worship is the State of the Union address for your life. It says how you feel about God at this moment in time, and it paves the way for how you will go on to life as a result.
Worship is the submission of all our nature to God.
Worship is turning our eyes heavenward—and celebrating what we see.
Worship isn’t a spectator sport, but a contact sport. –David Jeremiah
Worship must be built on a foundation of sacrifice, of bringing to the altar the best, and only the best, that we have. –David Jeremiah
Worship opens your heart to God and His Word.
Worship places us exactly where we should be, in the realization that we are small, yet a little lower than the angels; we are tiny creatures in the presence of God, but tiny creatures whom He adores. –David Jeremiah
Worship should always be drenched in joy.
Worship the Lord in your work.
Worship unlocks the gates of heaven and floods your world with light. –David Jeremiah
You can worship God through daily opportunities for sacrifice. –David Jeremiah
You must come to know God before you can really, truly, deeply trust Him.
Your bowed head, your humbled heart, and your attentive spirit open the door to heaven. –David Jeremiah
Your heart’s desire, even if you haven’t come to realize it, is to live every moment in the wonder of worship. –David Jeremiah MHD:12
Your music is a leading indicator of your spiritual life.

Youth
71% of Christian youth report being under spiritual attack—and hearing voices.
74% of Christian youth report that Christianity may work for others, but that it does not for them.

If you tell your children they are smart, you will limit their ability to take risks. –Carol Dweck
It’s not intelligence, but how you use it, that counts.
Let them at least have heard of brave knights and heroic courage. –C.S. Lewis
Many youth today are too troubled and distracted to be evangelized using traditional methods.

Our culture overemphasizes the gifts of intelligence rather than the application of intelligence. –Carol Dweck

Our culture overemphasizes intelligence and self-esteem to the detriment of character and commitment. –Carol Dweck

Praising effort, strategy, process, and progress makes children willing to risk more. –Carol Dweck

Praising intelligence backfires as it causes children to think success means I am smart and mistakes mean I am dumb. –Carol Dweck

Praising intelligence causes children to think they are dumb when they make mistakes; it makes children willing to risk less. –Carol Dweck

Praising intelligence causes children to think they will lose your esteem if they slip up. –Carol Dweck

Stories linger in the mind.

The fate of empires depends on the education of youth. –Aristotle

Tolerance is the Boomer virtue. Absolutes are not in their mentality; different morals and religious strokes for different folks is their creed. This is how they cope in a highly pluralistic society. For them, particular religious traditions are seen as spiritual resources, not as ultimate authorities by which they should live their lives.

Teens have a “tank” inside them that must be filled in order for them to combat peer pressure. –Josh McDowell

We are highly susceptible to "visual" stories, image stories. We must counter the myths of our culture: (1) the fittest survive, (2) things = happiness, (3) wealth and power are more important than people, and (4) progress is always good—with the image stories of the Bible.

We must make the most of our short time with people.

We need to not only concentrate on finding the right person, but more important, on becoming the right person. –Joshua Harris

Whoever spends the most time with your children have the greatest influence on their lives. You must stop blaming your parents, even if they made mistakes, and take responsibility for your life.

Youth need praise to grow in courage; but it must be the right kinds of praise.

Youth seek transcendence, personal integrity, and contact with the deeper mysteries of life—for God.

Youth want to know that their lives mean something, that they are connected, that they are loved, and how to relive suffering—they want life.

Zeal

Be excited about everything you do. Enthusiasm is one of the most powerful engines of success. When you do a thing, do it with all your might.... Be active, be energetic, be enthusiastic and faithful, and you will accomplish your objective. –Ralph Waldo Emerson

Expect great things from God, attempt great things for God. –William Carey

Nothing is as contagious as enthusiasm.

You will never do what God wants you to do without passion.

Zeal without knowledge; knowledge without zeal.
Miscellaneous

Are you afraid like Moses, young like David, impetuous like Peter?
As the warden said to the inmates, “The world is a better place because you are here.”
Before you remove a fence, pause long enough to find out why it was put there in the first place.
Catch them doing something right.
Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous.
Confession is agreeing with God that what He said is true.
Depending on what you watch, TV can help your learn or it can suck your brains out through your eyeballs.
Drive a liberal crazy; work hard and be happy.
Everything in your mind will affect your body.
For sleep, riches, and health to be truly enjoyed, they must first be interrupted.
What are the key issues you are facing?
Hate is taking poison and expecting your enemy to die.
Have You Forgotten? http://media.darrylworley.com/hyf01.ram
http://darrylworley.dreamworksnashville.com/
Histories make men wise; poets witty; the mathematics subtle; natural philosophy deep; moral grave; logic and rhetoric able to content. —Francis Bacon

History is not destiny.

How can we help you move from a 2 to a 4?
How will history remember you? —The Emperor’s Club
I am a child of destiny because God is in charge of tomorrow.
I am the way I am because God made me the way I am.
I have cerebral palsy, now what’s your problem? Dr. David Ring
I know the future—God wins.
I must do something“ will always solve more problems than “something must be done.
I was born to attack badgers.
If I try to meet the needs of people I will never complete the work of the Father. —Henry Blackaby
If not us—Who? If not now—when? —Ronald Reagan
If one gives himself to the Lord, all other giving is easy.
If there is no storm you need to wonder if you are in God’s will.
If there is a rhinoceros in the room, it is best to acknowledge that fact.
If we don’t climb on the shoulders of the giants of the past, we will be very shortsighted.
If you always do what you have always done, you will always get what you always have gotten; if you want to get something new you have to do something new.
If you are on the winning team, you are not a loser.
If you can’t fix it—break it.
If you could ask the pastor anything, what would you ask?
If you keep in step with God, you will be out of step with the world.
If you think you can’t—you won’t.
In the essentials, unity; in nonessentials, liberty; and in all things, charity or love —Pascal
Insanity is doing the same thing in the same way and expecting different results.
Instead of asking, why can’t I do this? Ask why should I do this?
Is there a word from the Lord today?
It is amazing what can be accomplished when you don’t care who gets the credit.
It is better for my enemy to see good in me than for me to see evil in him. -Yiddish proverb
It’s never too late to be what you might have been. —George Elliot
It is not about what you think—it’s about what is.
It is well with my soul.
Jesus sent His disciples into the storm.
Law of "unintended consequence: Every act has unforeseen and unintended consequences that may determine its impact far more than the act's intended goal. Friedrich von Hayek
Lay any burden on me, Lord, only sustain me. Sever any tie, but the tie that binds me to Thyself. –David Livingston
Let God give you back your dignity.
Let your heart be broken with the things that break the heart of God.
Let some things remain mysterious.
May desire and opportunity never meet.
My job is to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable.
Never have so many been so wrong about so much.
Never have so many owed so much to so few. –Sir Winston Churchill
Never wrestle with a pig. You'll both get dirty and the pig likes it.
No matter how grouchy you are feeling, you will find a smile more or less healing.
No one can make you feel inferior without your consent. –Eleanor Roosevelt
No pressure is greater than God’s power.
Nothing happens by accident
Of all the things I’ve lost, I miss my mind the most.
Our problem is that we are too easily satisfied; we don’t ask for God’s intervention.
Paint the town by Sam Williams.
People do not lack strength; they lack will.
Power belongs to God—if we had power we would not need to pray.
Process = diagnosis → Treatment Plan → Engage and Energize → Well care phase → After care phase.
Procrastination, forgetfulness, laziness and sleep--these four form the coveted ship that bears men to their destined ruin.
Reading makes a full man, conference a ready man; and writing an exact man. –Francis Bacon
Rejoice when God blesses your brother.
Sandpaper people.
Silence breeds consent.
Sometimes you just have to do the best you can with the information you have.
Stay in the presence of God until He shares His heart and mind. –Henry Blackaby
Strength comes from weakness. –Jeremiah 1:7
Strutting is a characteristic of the wicked.
That which does not kill us makes us stronger.
The absence of vices is not the same as the presence of virtue.
The danger of the downward pull.
The difference between your expectations and reality is your level of frustration.
The difference between your pretending and the real you is your emptiness.
The high cost of low living.
The important thing is not to stop questioning. –Albert Einstein
The key to spiritual growth is spiritual appetite
The kinds of assignments God gives are God-sized. –Henry Blackaby
The light shines brightest in the darkness.
The light shines brightest when the world is the darkest.
The majority of people in the world do not value liberty; they value security (e.g. Europe).
“Give me liberty or give me death” is a distinctively American concept.
The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing.
The masculine soul experiences healing when it realizes that it is not alone.
The most pervasive problems of the modern era are loneliness and a sense of
meaninglessness brought about by depersonalization.
The only person you have any control over is you.
The popularity of the Christian with the world is in inverse ratio with his popularity with
Christ.
The problem with the average guy coming out of the university is that he can’t read, he can’t
write, and he can’t think. And if you can’t read, write, or think, what can you do? —
Howard Hendricks
The self-deceived know but do not do—James 1:22-25
The spirit and the flesh are at war and the one that we let win gets the body.
The story of God is the story of how He uses ordinary men and women to accomplish the
extraordinary.
The tree didn’t fall far from the nut.
The young man knows the rules, but the old man knows the exceptions—Oliver Wendell
Holmes
There are only two types of men: Those who struggle with lust and liars.
There are things worse than death.
There are two types of dissertations: the great ones and those that are completed!
There is a distinct difference between what we can do and what God can do. —Henry
Blackaby
There is a God-shaped vacuum in every one of us.
There is a healing when men realize they are not alone.
There is a right and there is a wrong.
There is no pit so deep that He is not deeper still. —Corrie ten Boom
There is not enough darkness in all the world to put out the light of even one small candle. —
Robert Alden
There is nothing wrong with people possessing riches—the wrong comes when riches
possess people. —Billy Graham
There isn’t much justice in this world; but there is some.
This is not the end.
Those who are kind when they ought to be cruel will be cruel when they ought to be kind. —
Jewish proverb
Though no one can go back and make a brand new start; anyone can start from now and
make a brand new ending.
Throughout last year God was preparing you for this year—did you take notes?
To wish you were someone else is to waste the person you are.
Tyranny flourishes when words have no meaning. —George Orwell, *1984.*
Virtue is more than the absence of vices.
We are all broken pots, but it’s the cracks that let the light out.
We are all of us richer than we think we are.
We are all special, but none is better than the rest.
We are broken.
We are gold in the making.
We are like solar panels—we need the energy of the Son.
We are never free until we are free to be ourselves.
We are no longer mere men (1 Corinthians 3:3), we are supernatural men.
We are responsible not only for what we do but also for what we do not do. —Jean-Baptiste
Molière
We can experience healing only to the degree that we are aware we need it.

We cannot connect with God’s plan until we connect with God.
We don’t need information; we need transformation.
We have met the enemy and he is us.
We only grow when we are uncomfortable.
What do you have that you did not receive?
What I believe about God will determine what I do and how I live. –Henry Blackaby
What is the point of free speech if we are always afraid to speak freely?
What is your greatest vice? I drink way too much coffee.
What you do proves what you believe. Your works demonstrate your beliefs.
When I tell God about my limitation, He responds with, “Tell me something I don’t know.” – Moses
When the internal is connected to the eternal the externals will fall into place.
When the God of the universe tells me something important, I should write it down. –Henry Blackaby
When words and actions are in opposition, actions always overpower words.
Where does your mind go when it is not legitimately occupied?
Where we see weakness, God sees possibilities (e.g. Moses, Gideon, David).
Whether we know it or not, we are all following something or someone.
Why do bad things happen to good people?
With all due respect.
With every opportunity comes responsibility.
While you can’t see the future, you can help shape the future.
You are the pointer—not the Savior; lay your burden down.
You are called to love the Lord your God and your neighbor as yourself, not just to enjoy or suffer. - S.R. Hirsch, "Nineteen Letters," 1836
You can do wonderful things as long as you don’t care who gets the credit.
You don’t see God’s power in the boat.
You have to buy the field to find the treasure.
You have to give a little more than you take.
You need to pour your foundation before the hurricane.
You will most likely discover your greatest moments in the midst of a mundane pursuit of good habits.
Quality is an excuse for lack of quantity.
Experience is the best teacher.
Wise men think alike.

Elementary sartorial techniques initially applied obviate the need for repetitive similar actions to the square of three.
Eat well, stay fit, die anyway.
Opportunity seldom knocks twice.
Happiness is wanting what you have - not having what you want.
If life deals you lemons make lemonade.
A man is known by the company he keeps.
A stumble may prevent a fall.
Doubt is the beginning of wisdom.
Drink waters out of thine own cistern, and running waters out of thine own well.
A calm sea does not make a skilled sailor.
As useful as a chocolate fireguard (or teapot).
An ant may well destroy a whole dam.
Handsome is as handsome does.
What does not kill you makes you stronger.

One of these days is none of these days.
   If anything can go wrong, it will.
Caught between the devil and the deep blue sea.
The best of men are but men at best.
Strangers are just friends you have not met yet.
   A book is like a garden carried in the pocket.
United we stand, divided we fall.
Second place is first loser.
Fools seldom differ.
   If you must choose between two evils, pick the one you've never tried before.
Don't make love at the garden gate, love is blind but the neighbors ain't.
Curiosity killed the cat
   He who is ABSENT is always in the Wrong.
God is alive and well and working on something less ambitious.
Happy the bride who understands men.
Give credit where credit is due.
To receive the instruction of wisdom, justice, and judgment, and equity.
Zeal without knowledge is the sister of folly.
Practice makes permanent.
There will be rubs in the smoothest road.
If you lie down with dogs you will come up with fleas.
All beginning is difficult.
Learn to say no.
It will be of more use to you than to be able to read Latin.
Two Dogs Fight for a Bone, and a Third Runs Away With it.
A new broom sweeps clean, but the old brush knows all the corners.

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