

**TO BELIEVE IN
SOMETHING,
AND NOT TO
LIVE IT,
IS DISHONEST.**

MOHANDAS K. GANDHI

Every act leaves
upon the world a
greater or lesser
impress of God.

Alfred North Whitehead

In the end, it is
important to remember
that we cannot become
what we need to be by
remaining what we are.

Max De Pree

Christianity is not a collection of
truths to be believed, of laws to be
obeyed. Christianity is a person,
one who loved us so much, one
who calls for our love. Christianity
is Christ.

Oscar Romero

Don't ask what the world
needs. Ask what makes
you come alive and go out
and do it. Because what
the world needs is people
who have come alive.

Howard Thurman

*Whatever you do,
begin with God.*

Matthew Henry

*My life helps to,
paint my neighbour's
picture of God.*

Peter Holmes

I do not pray
for success;
I ask for
faithfulness.

Mother Teresa

This is my living faith, an active faith, a faith of verbs: to question, explore, experiment, experience, walk, run, dance, play, eat, love, learn, dare, taste, touch, smell, listen, argue, speak, write, read, draw, provoke, emote, scream, sin, repent, cry, kneel, pray, bow, rise, stand, look, laugh, cajole, create, confront, confound, walk back, walk forward, circle, hide, and seek. To seek: to embrace the questions, be wary of answers.

Terry Tempest Williams

For many of us the great danger is not that we will renounce our faith. It is that we will become so distracted and rushed and preoccupied that we will settle for a mediocre version of it.

John Ortberg

My hope is that the description of God's love in my life will give you the freedom and the courage to discover . . . God's love in yours.

Henri Nouwen

Some tell us that following Jesus is a simple matter of inviting him into our hearts. But when we do that, Jesus always asks, "May I bring my friends?" And when we look at them, we see that they are not the kind of company we like to keep.

The friends of Jesus are the outcasts, the marginalized, the poor, the homeless, the rejected — the lepers of life. We hesitate and ask, "Jesus, must we really have them too?" Jesus replies, "Love me, love my friends!"

Peter Storey

Being a Christian is not about us; it's about Jesus. Spiritual formation is about the life of Jesus being made visible in our bodies; it's about engaging the Spirit because we are hungry for God; it's about being disciples so that Jesus can pour his life into us. It's about learning to love God with our heart, mind, body, and soul. It's about having the courage to actually follow Christ — to place one foot in front of the other; to dare to live a life of grace.

Derek Maul

Someone once said that a rebel attempts to change the past; a revolutionary attempts to change the future. Jesus Christ brought drastic change to the world. Change to humanity's view of God. Change to God's view of humankind.

Change to men's view of women. Our Lord came to bring radical change to the old order of things, replacing it with a new order. He came to bring forth a new covenant—a new kingdom—a new birth—a new race—a new species—a new culture—and a new civilization.

Frank Viola

We must learn to regard people less in light of what they do or omit to do, and more in the light of what they suffer.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

To be a witness for God is to be a living sign of God's presence in the world. What we live is more important than what we say, because the right way of living always leads to the right way of speaking. When we forgive our neighbours from our hearts, our hearts will speak forgiving words. When we are grateful, we will speak grateful words, and when we are hopeful and joyful, we will speak hopeful and joyful words. Henri Nouwen

To endure the cross is not tragedy; it is the suffering which is the fruit of an exclusive allegiance to Jesus Christ.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Discipleship is not limited to what you can comprehend - it must transcend all comprehension. Plunge into the deep waters beyond your own comprehension, and I will help you to comprehend even as I do. Bewilderment is the true comprehension. Not to know where you are going is the true knowledge. My comprehension transcends yours. Thus Abraham went forth from his father and not knowing whither he went. He trusted himself to my knowledge, and cared not for his own, and thus he took the right road and came to his journey's end. Behold, that is the way of the cross.

Martin Luther

Discipleship is the ongoing,
lifelong process of
discerning and living out
God's call to be the person
God created you to be as
you participate in God's
purpose in creation in your
particular time and place.

Jeff Jones

Our deepest calling is to grow into our
own authentic selfhood, whether or not it
conforms to some image of who we ought
to be. As we do so, we will not only find the
joy that every human being seeks, we will
also find our path of authentic service in the
world. True vocation joins self and service,
as Frederick Buechner asserts when he
defines vocation as 'the place where your
deep gladness meets the worlds deep
need.'

Parker Palmer

Christianity without
the living Christ is
inevitably Christianity
without discipleship, and
Christianity without
discipleship is always
Christianity without Christ

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Sometimes we don't need another
chance to express how we feel or to ask
someone to understand our situation.
Sometimes we just need a firm kick in
the pants. An unsmiling expectation
that if we mean all these wonderful
things we talk about and sing about,
then lets see something to prove it.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The alternative to how
the kings of the earth
rule is not "spirituality,"
but servanthood

John Howard Yoder

Suffering, then, is
the badge of true
discipleship.
The disciple is not
above his master.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

The last thing
postmodern young
people need is
something more to
do. They have plenty
to keep them busy,
but precious little to
make them holy.
Kenda Creasy Dean

Orthodoxy and orthopraxy -
faithful belief and faithful practice
are the two lungs of Christian
Discipleship. You can get along
breathing on only one lung, but
you can't breathe very deeply,
and you don't live as long or as
fully as when you use both lungs,
which is clearly what God intends.
Kenda Creasy Dean

The Christian way is different: harder,
and easier. Christ says, "Give me all. I
don't want so much of your time and
so much of your money and so much of
your work: I want you.... Hand over the
whole natural self, all the desires which
you think innocent as well as the ones
you think wicked—the whole outfit. I
will give you a new self instead. In fact,
I will give you Myself: my own will shall
become yours." Both harder and easier
than what we are all trying to do.
C.S. Lewis

Discipleship isn't
something you learn
just by studying it; at
some point you have
to do it.

Kenda Creasy Dean

"There is a term in the ancient churches that
catches the power of the idea that experience
precedes thought. It is *lex orandi*; *lex credendi*; the
rule of prayer is the rule of faith. Another way of
stating this truth is , "show me how you worship
or live and I will tell you what you believe." In the
modern world this axiom got turned around. It was
always "get your theology straight and then your
praxis will flow from it." In the postmodern world
we are rediscovering that experience precedes
reflection. Robert Webber

**Most problems in
contemporary churches
can be explained by the
fact that members have
not yet decided to follow
Christ.**

Dallas Willard.

Working on it, the radical nature of Jesus' teaching hit me as never before, which makes me realize that to be a missional disciple of Jesus means ... not something "nice" or "proper," but something revolutionary, world-changing, uncontainable. It's about social transformation, not social control. It's wild, not tame.

Brian McLaren

Christ did not appoint professors, but followers.

If Christianity ... is not reduplicated in the life of the person expounding it, then he does not expound Christianity, for Christianity is a message about living and can only be expounded by being realized in people's lives.

Soren Kierkegaard

The Gospel teaches us that the bottom line in thinking about discipleship has something to do with staying... what makes you a disciple is not turning up from time to time... It's not an intermittent state; it's a relationship that continues.

Rowan Williams

We are all familiar with the gospel stories where Jesus selects a band of disciples, lives his life with them, ministers with them, and mentors them. This approach to the formation of followers was common in the Israel of Jesus' day. Most rabbis would initiate and develop their schools of thought through similar means. It was this life-on-life phenomenon that facilitated the transfer of information and ideas into concrete historical situations.

Alan Hirsch

Discipleship is about how we live; not just the decisions we make, not just the things we believe, but a state of being.

Rowan Williams

Disciples are expectant in the sense that they take it for granted that there is always something about to break through from the Master, the Teacher, something about to burst through the ordinary and uncover a new light on the landscape.

Rowan Williams

And of course, in the Gospels, where the Master goes is very frequently not where we would have thought of going, or would have wanted to go.

Rowan Williams

The spiritual life invites a process of transformation in the life of a believer. It is a process of growing in gratitude, trust, obedience, humility, compassion, service and joy. As we deepen our relationship with God, we begin to choose God's ways and purposes as our own.

Marjorie Thompson

Practicing the spiritual disciplines does not make us Christians. Instead the practicing teaches us what it means to live as Christians. The ancient disciplines form us to respond to God, over and over always, in gratitude, in obedience, and in faith.

Lauren Winner

The search for how to live aright at this time in history is an extremely urgent one. In all the communities we know, people yearn for deeper understanding of how to order human life in accord with what is true and good.

Craig Dykstra & Dorothy Bass

Every spiritual discipline tutors us in relationship. Words like *disciple* and *discipline* share the root meaning of being taught. Jesus' disciples were taught by his words and example in a living relationship.

Marjorie Thompson

As little people, we all know that there is nothing big we can do to change the world. We can be the change we want to see in the world by simply, persistently doing all the little things we wish others would do, but don't do, ourselves.

Dave Andrews

It is now more
important than ever
that we know how to
redeem each moment
by living with an
intentional connection
to our ultimate
spiritual purpose.

Olive Fleming Drane

*We are called to live
out the passion we have
discovered at the heart
of all being.*

J. Barrie Shepherd

So our quest calls us
first and foremost to
nurture a robust spiritual
life - not only a deep
commitment to serve
God, but also a deep
desire to know and love
God, to make room... for
God to be truly in us and
in our quest.

Brian McLaren

First we must reshape and
redesign the undersong of
our lives - the innerness
of our lives - according to
a form and a framework
that allows us to live
the questions, love the
questions, dance the
questions.

Maria Harris

The steps of our lives are much
better imagined as steps in a dance
where there is movement backward
and forward, turn and return,
bending and bowing, circling and
spiraling, and no need to finish or
move on to the next step, except in
our own good time, and Gods.

Maria Harris

The world that the Church
must serve is the world of
the poor, and the poor are
the ones who decide what
it means for the Church to
really live in the world.

Oscar Romero

Powerlessness is a sacrament, an outward sign of an inward truth, that we are created, sojourners in a land we did not make, that we are totally and utterly dependent upon the God who made us.

Sheila Cassidy

God, of your goodness, give me yourself; you are enough for me, and anything less that I could ask for would not do you full honor. And if I ask anything that is less, I shall always lack something, but in you alone I have everything.

Julian of Norwich

Whereas the blood of kinship is thick, the blood of Christ is thicker still. The members of God's household are bound together through the practice of faith, the sacrament of grace, and the experience of the Spirit. And it is a big household.

Diana Butler Bass

The greatest honor we can give Almighty God is to live gladly because of the knowledge of his love.

Julian of Norwich

We cannot live in a world that is interpreted for us by others. An interpreted world is not a hope. Part of the terror is to take back our own listening. To use our own voice. To see our own light.

Hildegard of Bingen

We have struggled to know our lives as sacred texts, to perceive the ways that god has written God's own story within us, to understand how the Word still seeks to take flesh in and through us.

Jan Richardson

We humans can
tolerate suffering but
we cannot tolerate
meaninglessness.

Desmond Tutu

Each of us is a word
spoken by God, a part of
a greater Word, the story
of God's love poured
out into creation and
welcomed back into
waiting arms.

Wendy M. Wright

The greatest
challenge of the day
is: how to bring about
a revolution of the
heart, a revolution
which has to start
with each one of us?

Dorothy Day

We can love others
with their failures
when we stop
despising ourselves
because of our failures.

Desmond Tutu

Everybody can
be great. Because
anybody can serve.
You don't have to have
a college degree to be
great... You only need
a heart full of grace. A
soul generated by love.

Martin Luther King Jr

We have all known the
long loneliness and we
have learned that the
only solution is love
and that love comes
with community.

Dorothy Day

***Don't worry about
being effective.
Just concentrate
on being faithful
to the truth.
Dorothy Day***

You will know your
vocation by the
joy that it brings
you. You will know.
You will know
when it's right.
Dorothy Day

A pebble cast into a pond
causes ripples that spread
in all directions. Each one
of our thoughts, words
and deeds is like that. No
one has a right to sit down
and feel hopeless. There is
too much work to do.
Dorothy Day

*I really only love God
as much as I love the
person I love the least.
Dorothy Day*

*My strength returns
to me with my cup of
coffee and the reading
of the Psalms.
Dorothy Day*