

Articles and Sermons :: Mother Teresa on Love begins at Home - Thirsting for God

Mother Teresa on Love begins at Home - Thirsting for God - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2012/12/6 16:46

The following passages are quotations of Mother Teresa from the book "Thirsting for God," compiled by Father Angelo D. Scolozzi.

1. FEBRUARY 9

Let us make our homes real places of love so that we can overcome any hatred. Love begins at home—everything depends on how we love one another at home. Do not be afraid to love until it hurts because this is how Jesus loved. Our homes will be what we make them, fervent or tepid, fruitful branches or dry branches. Help one another live in God's love and you will spread the fragrance of his love everywhere.

2. NOVEMBER 23

We forget, sometimes, that we are called to give God's love and compassion first to our families, those are the very life of our life. So often, in our heart, there is bitterness; on our tongue, there are ugly words; in our attitude, there is pride. To think that in that very heart Jesus comes; so on that very tongue we receive Jesus; and that attitude is so unworthy of us who are called to belong to Christ.

3. JULY 22

Much of the hurt in our homes comes from uncontrolled use of words, said anywhere, in front of other people. Let us open our eyes to the harm we do.

4. DECEMBER 9

Very often, small misunderstandings repeated over and over—become the cause of so much suffering. Bring love to all you do and you will fulfill your vocation.

5. JANUARY 27

Find at least one good point in the other person and build from there. In the family, you should thank each other, mentioning the good you have seen others do. In short, an understanding love—a love that sees the good in others—will be our goal.

6. JUNE 10

More and more, make your homes places of love and peace. Don't let the devil cheat you by his evil ways, tempting you to be unkind and harsh to one another. Enjoy each other. Love one another as Jesus has loved you. "See how they love each other," Jesus said. Let us be faithful to his teaching. Do not spoil the work of God by your unkindness. How can you love Jesus in others unless you love him in your own family? We must make a real effort to make our families one heart of love. This is really the sign of Jesus with us.

7. APRIL 7

Jesus wants us to love each other as the Father has loved him. There is no greater love than the love for one another in our families but there is so much hurt instead of love, so much bitterness instead of sweetness, so much noise instead of silence.

If there is no love in our home, first let us examine our prayer life. Is it faithful, is it true, is it constant, is it full, is it so real that in the silence of our hearts we can hear him speak? If we only knew the art, the joy, the fruitfulness of silence, our homes would become the sunshine of God's love, the burning flame of God's love in action.

8. DECEMBER 19

We are called to live the love of God, not to feel the love of God. We live this love through prayer and action. Our work is the fruit of our prayer, so that if our work is not going well, we must examine our prayer life. If we neglect our work or are harsh, proud, moody, and angry, then we should examine our prayer life. We will see that something has gone wrong there.

9. MAY 18

The beginning of holiness is found in faithfulness to prayer. May each of us grow in holiness through prayer.

If we pray—we will believe.

If we believe—we will love.

If we love—we will serve.

Only then will we put our love for God into action, through service to Christ in the distressing disguise of the poor.

10. DECEMBER 17

Today, we see that all the suffering in the world has started from the home. Today, we have not time even to look at each other, to talk to each other, to enjoy each other, and still less to be what our children expect from us, what the husband expects from the wife, what the wife expects from the husband. And so more and more we are homeless at home because less and less are in touch with each other.

11. DECEMBER 27

St. John said, "How can you say that you love God whom you do not see, when you do not love your neighbor whom you do see?" He uses a very strong word. He says, "You are a liar if you say you love God and you don't love your neighbor." I think this is something we must all understand, that love begins at home.

12. MARCH 11

We are commanded to love God and our neighbor equally, without difference. We don't have to look for the opportunities to fill this command, they're all around us, twenty-four hours a day. You must open your eyes wide so that you can see the opportunities to give wholehearted free service right where you are, in your family. If you don't give such service in your family, you will not be able to give it to those outside your home.

13. OCTOBER 8

Our first great responsibility is to be a family. We are to reveal first, to one another, something of God's own love and concern and tenderness. When others see us, they should say, "See how they love one another."

14. DECEMBER 15

The thoughtfulness of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph was so great that it made Nazareth the abode of the Most High. If we have that thoughtfulness for each other, our homes will really become the abode of God, Most High. The quickest and surest way to that goal is to tame the tongue, using it to speak well of others. From the abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks. If your heart is full of love, you will speak of love.

15. DECEMBER 13

Let us ask Our Lady and St. Joseph to make our families what their family was for Jesus at Nazareth. Love does not live on words nor can it be explained by words. This is especially true of that love that is in Jesus and comes from Jesus and finds Jesus—touches him, serves him, loves him—in others. Such love is true, burning, pure, free from fear and doubt. There is no greater love than the love Christ himself has shown us. We must love one another with the same love.

16. AUGUST 29

We must reach the heart. To reach the heart, we must do—love is proven in deeds. People are attracted more by what they see than by what they hear. Therefore, our sisters should not spend their time in meetings and committees. If people wish to help, let them come and see. The reality is more attractive than the abstract idea. Try to put into the hearts of your older children a love for home. Make them long to be with their families. So much sin could be avoided if people really loved their home.

17. DECEMBER 4

Jesus wants us to prepare the way for his coming for there are so many blocks in the way of his becoming all in all for us. Give him whatever he takes and take from him whatever he gives with a big smile.

Be a cause of joy to others.

Speak well of everybody

Smile at all you meet.

Deliberately make three acts of loving kindness every day

Confess any sin against charity.

If you offend anyone—even a small child—ask forgiveness before going to bed.

Read about, meditate on, and speak of this love.

18. JUNE 22

Criticism is nothing less than dressed up pride. It eats up all the love of God. A truly generous soul must never stoop to c

criticism. As a rule, people who criticize never do it openly, but go about doing it in a whisper. Refrain from prejudice, which means to set your mind against somebody. It is very sad when it becomes a part of our lives.

19. FEBRUARY 15

We must cultivate that sacred silence which makes people remember the words of Jesus: See how they love one another. How often we find ourselves speaking of the faults of another. How often our conversation is about someone who is not present. Yet see the compassion of Christ toward Judas, the man who received so much love yet betrayed his own master. But the master kept the sacred silence and did not betray Judas. Jesus could have easily spoken in public—as we often do—telling the hidden intentions and deeds of Judas to others. But he didn't. Instead, he showed mercy and charity. Rather than condemning Judas, he called him his friend.

20. APRIL 17

When are we truly humble?
When we refuse to judge and criticize others.
When we foster kindly thoughts toward others.
When we rejoice in the good others accomplish for Jesus.
When we find an excuse for the failures of others.
When we are happy and cheerful with the poor, the sick, and the dying.
When we have joy in the hour of humiliation.
Then we are truly humble after the heart of Jesus.

21. FEBRUARY 14

Loving trust in God implies trust in his almightiness, his infinite wisdom, and his unfailing love. He loves me. I'm not here just to fill a place, just to be a number. He has made me for a purpose. He will fulfill it if I don't put any obstacle in his way.

22. FEBRUARY 4

What is the Good News? The Good News is that God still loves the world through each one of you. You are God's Good News, you are God's love in action. Jesus cannot walk in the streets of Calcutta and in the streets of the world now, so what he does—through me, through you—he walks and touches the poor. Today, God loves the world so much by sending us.

23. JANUARY 16

In each of our lives, Jesus comes as the Bread of Life—to be eaten, to be consumed by us. This is how he loves us. Then Jesus comes in our human life as the hungry one, the other, hoping to be fed by the love of our heart, by the service of our hands.
Doing so, we prove that we have been created in the image and likeness of God. God is love, and when we love we are like God. This is what Jesus meant when he said, "Be perfect as your Father is perfect."

24. MARCH 8

Each one of us should enter into the passion of Christ with greater love. He looks for one to console him, to comfort him. Do you try enough to be that one? Today, Christ suffers in many ways in the despised: hungry for love, he looks to you; thirsty for kindness, he begs from you; longing for loyalty, he hopes in you. Sick and in prison, he looks for your friendship. Homeless, he asks for shelter in your heart.
Will you be that one to him?

25. MARCH 10

Jesus loved us to the end, to the very limit, dying on the cross. We must have this same love which comes from within, from our union with Christ. Such love must be as normal to us as living and breathing. St. Thérèse of Lisieux said: "When I act and think with charity, I feel it is Jesus who works within me. The closer I am united with him, the more I love all the other dwellers in Carmel."

Our works of charity are nothing but the overflow of our love for God. Therefore, the one who is most united to God loves others the most. To understand and practice this, we need to pray, for prayer unites us with God and overflows upon others.

26. MARCH 12

Be kind and loving with each other, for you cannot love Christ in his distressing disguise if you cannot love Jesus in the

heart of your neighbors. Love, to be truly love, must be fed on sacrifice. Be generous in accepting (and making) all the sacrifices that come every day on your way. Then you will be able to say in all sincerity, "My God and my all."

27. APRIL 8

May the joy and the love of the risen Jesus be always with you, in you, and among you so that you become the true witnesses of the Father's love for the world. Remember: "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son." Let us also love God so much that we give ourselves to him in each other and in the poor.

We can do this only by fidelity to Christ, by belonging to him alone, and by tender and thoughtful love for each other. How beautiful it is to see this love for each other be a living reality. Young sisters, have this deep love and respect for your elder sisters. Older sisters, treat your younger sisters with respect and love for they, like you, belong to Jesus. He has chosen each one of you for himself, to be his light and his love in the world. The simplest way to become his light is to be kind and loving, thoughtful and sincere with each other. As Jesus said: "By this they will know that you are my disciples."

28. APRIL 11

The joy of the risen Lord is the sunshine of our Father's love. The joy of Jesus is the hope of eternal happiness. The joy of Jesus is the flame of burning love. Easter is this joy. However, you cannot have joy without sacrifice. That is why Good Friday comes before Easter.

29. APRIL 22

Jesus said: "Whatever you do to the least of my brethren you do it to me." If in my name you give a glass of water, you gave it to me. If in my name you receive a little child, you received me. I was hungry, I was naked, I was homeless, you did it to me. So this is what Jesus came to teach us: how to love one another. Not big things, small things, but great love.

30. JUNE 15

I pray that you will understand the words of Jesus, "Love one another as I have loved you." Ask yourself, "How has he loved me? Do I really love others in the same way?" Unless this love is among us, we can kill ourselves with work and it will only be work, not love. Work without love is slavery.

31. JUNE 25

Be faithful in little things for in them lies our strength. To the good God, nothing is little. He is so great and we are so small but he stoops down and sends those little things to us to give us the chance to prove our love for him. Since he makes them, they are very great, they are infinite. So be faithful in little practices of love for they will build within you a life of holiness and make you Christlike.

32. JULY 24

Our holy faith is nothing but a gospel of love. It reveals to us God's love for us and in return our love for God, who is love. A missionary must be a missionary of love. We must spread God's love on earth in order to help souls repent wholeheartedly from sin. Strengthen others against temptation, increase their generosity, reinforce their desire to suffer for Christ.

Let us "act" Christ's love among mankind, remembering the words of the Imitation of Christ, which tells us that love feels no burden, values no labors, would willingly do more than it can, and doesn't complain of impossibilities because it perceives that it can do all things. When weary, love is not tired; when strained, love is not constrained; when frightened, love is not disturbed. Like a living flame, like a torch on fire, love mounts upward and securely passes through all opposition.

33. DECEMBER 30

The following quotation is taken from the last general letter Mother Teresa wrote on the day of her death:

"Let our gratitude be our strong resolution to quench the thirst of Jesus by lives of real charity. Love for Jesus in prayer, love for Jesus in your brothers and sisters, love for Jesus in the poorest of the poor. Nothing else."

34. DECEMBER 20

Radiate and live the life of Christ. Be an angel of comfort to a sick friend. Be a friend to little children. Love others as God loves each of us, with a special, intense love. Be kind to each other, speak kindly to each other. It is better to make a mistake while acting kindly than to work a miracle while acting unkindly.

Re: Mother Teresa on Love begins at Home - Thirsting for God - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2012/12/6 18:30

Quote:
-----Love begins at home—everything depends on how we love one another at home. Do not be afraid to love until it hurts because this is how Jesus loved.

I have found this to be true. If our Christianity isn't real in the home it isn't real anywhere else. It is absolutely amazing the work that God does in a man's heart through the simple everyday things that go on in his home.

In Christ,

Ron

Re: Mother Teresa on Love begins at Home - Thirsting for God, on: 2012/12/6 19:29

Just curious...why are you posting quotes by Mother Theresa, a Catholic who believed Mary was a Co-Redeemer, who prayed the Rosary and encouraged others to do so, who testified to having no assurance of salvation, who saw the Pope as Christ representative on earth, who believed that Christ was re-sacrificed week after week in the mass and the breaking of the bread, AND who encouraged Hindu's to become better Hindu's, Buddhist better Buddhist, Muslims better Muslims, and who believe people could find their way to God through other means than Christ.

Here is an article I wrote title:

ECUMENICAL APOSTASY:
The Catholic Church and the Emergent Social Justice Gospel

<http://www.preachingjesuschrist.com/ecumenical-apostasy.html>

It will show the absurdity of what the Catholic church teaches AND some of Mother Theresa's insane quotes.

Don't be deceived. Just because someone has some good quotes does not mean they are worth quoting and encouraging the saints with.

Should we start posting some of Muhammad's good quotes? What about Gandhi's? Maybe Joseph Smith has some good ones too; after all he believed in Jesus right? No...he actually believed in "another Jesus", just like the Catholic's do.

Re: , on: 2012/12/6 19:40

More inspiration from mother Theresa—...

1 How to make all things well in the family

"Again that great crowd—I could see great sorrow and suffering in their faces—I was kneeling near Our Lady, who was facing them.—I did not see her face but I heard her say Take care of them—they are mine.—Bring them to Jesus—carry Jesus to them.—Fear not. Teach them to say the Rosary—the family Rosary and all will be well."

2 For those having trouble with family relations

"If you ever feel distressed during your day — call upon our Lady — just say this simple prayer: 'Mary, Mother of Jesus, please be a mother to me now.' I must admit — this prayer has never failed me."

"Mary, give me your Heart: so beautiful, so pure, so immaculate; your Heart so full of love and humility that I may be able to receive Jesus in the Bread of Life and love Him as you love Him and serve Him in the distressing guise of the poor."

— "So let us ask the help of our Lady! She is a Mother full of grace, full of God, full of Jesus. Let us ask her to be our Mother, guiding us and protecting us. ... It is true that we are already being helped by our tremendous devotion to Mary."

She is our patroness and our Mother, and she is always leading us to Jesus

3 How to bring families together as a community to pray

"There is only one God and He is God to all; therefore it is important that everyone is seen as equal before God. I've always said we should help a Hindu become a better Hindu, a Muslim become a better Muslim, a Catholic become a better Catholic. We believe our work should be our example to people. We have among us 475 souls - 30 families are Catholics and the rest are all Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs—all different religions. But they all come to our prayers."

4 Further helps to holiness

"At the word of a priest, THAT LITTLE PIECE OF BREAD BECOMES THE BODY OF CHRIST, the Bread of Life. Then you give this living Bread to us, so that we too might live and become holy"

"I was so struck with the thought that ONLY WHEN THE PRIEST IS THERE CAN WE HAVE OUR ALTAR AND OUR TABERNACLE AND OUR JESUS. ONLY THE PRIEST CAN PUT JESUS THERE FOR US"

"THIS IS ONE OF THE REASONS YOU ARE CALLED 'ANOTHER CHRIST'"

Re: Mother Teresa on Love begins at Home - Thirsting for God, on: 2012/12/6 20:00

Wow Greg. I'm floored.

Coming soon, Ghandi on how to love your neighbor?

And by the way, that guy is no "Father", for how can he have kids if his false religion forbids marriage, when scripture/Christ expressly says "call no man 'Father'!!!!"

What spirit compels brethren to look to and defend Catholics lost in a false religion which damns men to hell. You are exposing sheep to wolves. In love brother, you have been warned & the Lord will hold you accountable. I say that with much sorrow of heart

Re: , on: 2012/12/6 20:09

The Lord sovereignly led me lately into a Catholic church at the time of mass (I sell janitorial supplies). I wondered if I was "too hard" on the Catholic thing. I had been praying about it. The Lord confirmed I had NOT. It is serious and demonic deceptive "doctrines of devils". Not to warn it as such is shamefully leading the sheep to the slaughter

Re: , on: 2012/12/6 20:26

jeffmar said "Coming soon, Ghandi on how to love your neighbor?"

"I came to the conclusion long ago ... that all religions were true and also that all had some error in them, and whilst I hold by my own, I should hold others as dear as Hinduism. So we can only pray, if we are Hindus, not that a Christian should become a Hindu ... But our innermost prayer should be a Hindu should be a better Hindu, a Muslim a better Muslim, a Christian a better Christian." -Ghandi

Re: - posted by joliboy11, on: 2012/12/6 20:30

Matthew 8:8-10

The centurion answered and said,

"Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my boy will be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, Go! And he goes; and to another, Come! And he comes; and to my servant, Do this! And he does it."

When Jesus heard, He marvelled and said to those who followed, "Truly I say to you, I have not found such great faith, no, not in Israel."

Well, I don't know if that Roman soldier got converted but he is quoted in the Bible and Jesus commends him.

Re: , on: 2012/12/6 21:05

Jesus also had mercy on the woman caught in the act of adultery, so does that mean we defend adultery or not preach against that sin? No. He said, "go and sin no more". To not call false religion, a false gospel, & a false Jesus as such is to "give place to false teachers". Scripture says those who do so are "partakers with them in their evil deeds". This all-inclusive "love" spoken of to not expose these lies was unknown to Paul, Peter, John, & even Christ.

How we can in one breath say we aren't giving credence to a false religion, & then quoting it in a good light is baffling. It is a self-imposed self-deceiving blindness which lacks discernment & shouldn't be steering the Body towards these wolves.

Before anyone tells me about love and being judged for every idle word, let me agree. I say these things because I love the Body & because I want to be faithful for the things I will be accountable for saying (as I would be for things I didn't say that I should have).

Re: , on: 2012/12/6 21:33

Also remember that "not many of you should presume to be teachers, for we know those who teach will incur stricter judgement". We need to be careful with what we teach and post. We will incur stricter judgement if we lead others astray

Re: Mother Teresa on Love begins at Home - Thirsting for God - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2012/12/6 22:13

Quote:
-----"Let our gratitude be our strong resolution to quench the thirst of Jesus by lives of real charity. Love for Jesus in prayer, love for Jesus in your brothers and sisters, love for Jesus in the poorest of the poor. Nothing else."-----

Quote:
-----Our works of charity are nothing but the overflow of our love for God. Therefore, the one who is most united to God loves others the most. To understand and practice this, we need to pray, for prayer unites us with God and overflows upon others.-----

I agree with her focus on prayer and love as exemplified in these quotes. And she didn't just write about this, she lived it.

I wonder if those who commented so negatively in this post even bothered to read any of this. Yes we're all aware of the problems of Catholicism, but have you read this?

In Christ,

Ron

Re: , on: 2012/12/6 22:15

Jeff-

There has been a ecumenical spirit at work on the message board for some time, even by dear brothers and I am shocked too. I suppose it may be a counter-reaction to the often carnal division like the CAL/ARM debate and such. Either way your warning should be taken in all seriousness and humility as this is not a game. There is error on both sides of the highway of holiness!

Jesus help us in this day where God is pouring out His strong delusions on professing Christians and the very elect will be deceived if it were possible. Ecumenicism will never bring about revival in this day marked by apostasy any only seeks to leaven those who lack discernment like the young man in Proverbs 7. The worse part is it destroys any notion of true Christian unity and love that is founded in the light. The only common ground is found when Catholics flee from that great whore, coming out from among it, renouncing it for all of its satanic evil, and embracing the truth that is in Christ. I have watched Rome send so many people I love to hell that blood would be on my hands if I did not cry aloud against it. Of course she has many harlot daughters too.

God bless you Jeff - keep preaching even if they stone you and throw you into a well (Gods professing people do this to day by claiming you are unloving or intolerant no matter how humble or full of the love of Christ you may be). They kill the prophetic spirit thinking that they do God a favor.

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.

Re: - posted by TMK (), on: 2012/12/6 22:20

if 1% of christians were as good of "christians" as Mother Teresa and Gandhi the world would be a very different place.

Re: , on: 2012/12/6 22:35

Ron, would you say the same thing if the quotes were from Gandhi or say Joseph Smith? I mean Joseph Smith said he believed in Jesus right?

What does it matter if someone says something good on prayer, the family, or any other topic, if they believe that Jesus alone doesn't save, or they believe there are many ways to God? Why would anyone pollute the saints by promoting someone who had essential beliefs that contradicted the truth in Christ? People seemed to be so easily deceived by "good works". May God have mercy.

Re: , on: 2012/12/6 22:57

I am shocked, but we have lost the Gospel itself. If we don't have the Gospel, we only have filthy rags. We are trying to "clean up" with these filthy rags (maxi-pads & toilet paper). I am truly speechless. If 1% of Christians were as "good" as a deceived Hindu & Catholic? Where/what is our compass anymore? It's not the Word/Spirit of God, but "each one does what is right in his own eyes". Wow. I can't even believe what I'm hearing

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2012/12/6 23:05

Quote:

-----if 1% of christians were as good of "christians" as Mother Teresa and Gandhi the world would be a very different place.

Saints,

There were many reasons why I posted this article. I do not agree with all that was posted and any believer who reads this would agree that the prayer to Mary and other statements are wrong in the article. Yet there are statements that show some of her devotion to Christ and it is challenging as brother Ron pointed out to read some of these things and consider our walks with the Lord.

Mother Theresa is not an example for doctrine in anyway but for servitude she is a wonderful example. To say that every catholic is not saved or born-again is a misnomer for there have always been a remnant in the catholic system that were truly regenerate. Many of these would be in convents or other auxiliary arms of the catholic system. Even the charismatic catholic movement where some came to faith in Jesus Christ, some of these groups still meet in catholic church basements but are in some ways separate from the church. To state all are damned to an eternal hell who belong to the catholic church or any of the Orthodox churches is a belief I wanted to challenge. I would say that some of those godly remnant believers throughout Church history under the Catholic system lived very godly lives and were powerful examples of Christian discipleship.

Modern evangelicals applaud Henri Nouwen, Shane Claiborne and others who champion loving the poor and servitude but in some ways their theology and beliefs have just as many errors that are grievous to the faith. One way to consider these things is when one emphasizes so much a calling on their life to love the poor everything revolves around this and they are not as exacting or desiring to be perfect in their doctrinal theology. Some of the harshest critics of Mother Theresa and others are those who have never helped the poor or suffered to do so and Matthew 25 seems like a scary condemnation on their lives.

The bar for godliness is very low in Christendom and the examples of even those in false religions should shame the true believer in Jesus Christ who has the Spirit of God then and can trust God to live as Christ.

I do hope this article provokes us in this way. Just as looking at the zeal of mormon missionaries should provoke us to evangelism, something godly men such as Ravenhill and others lamented at.

I am not endorsing the Roman Catholic system for as a whole it is anti-christ and apart from God's purposes for His true Church.

I am locking this thread so further misunderstandings will not prevail.

Re: - posted by SteveHale (), on: 2012/12/6 23:39

To me: Jesus is my God.
Jesus is my spouse.
Jesus is my life.
Jesus is my only love.
Jesus is my all in all.
Jesus is my everything.

These words were written by Mother Teresa. These words and the life she lived doesn't come across as someone who is deceived. Maybe on that great day we will all see Mother Teresa called forth and we will hear the King say "Come you blessed by my Father, take your inheritance, the Kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the World. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothing and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

For the King will say "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these, you did for me."

Then we will look to a great multitude on His left and we will hear them say." I know all the doctrines of the Bible, I never left my particular denomination for as you know Lord it is the one true denomination, and in my spare time as I had much I got on the internet and told everyone who was an apostate and who wasn't." And we will hear that great voice say," Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels."