

RUHI INSTITUTE • BOOK 1 • REFLECTIONS ON THE LIFE OF THE SPIRIT

Passages for Memorization

UNIT 1 • UNDERSTANDING THE BAHÁ'Í WRITINGS

SECTION 5

Study the following quotations and try to learn them by heart. Memorizing quotations from the Writings is highly rewarding, and you should make every effort to do so. Yet there are some people who, for various reasons, find memorization almost impossible. If you happen to have such a difficulty, then you should try to learn the quotations so well that you can express the ideas with words as close to the original text as possible.

A kindly tongue is the lodestone of the hearts of men. It is the bread of the spirit, it clotheth the words with meaning, it is the fountain of the light of wisdom and understanding.

Bahá'u'lláh • Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh • CXXXII • p. 289

O ye beloved of the Lord! In this sacred Dispensation, conflict and contention are in no wise permitted. Every aggressor deprives himself of God's grace.

'Abdu'l-Bahá • Bahá'í World Faith • 'Abdu'l-Bahá Section • p. 445

Nothing whatever can, in this Day, inflict a greater harm upon this Cause than dissension and strife, contention, estrangement and apathy, among the loved ones of God.

Bahá'u'lláh • Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh • V • p. 9

Do not be content with showing friendship in words alone, let your heart burn with loving kindness for all who may cross your path.

'Abdu'l-Bahá • Paris Talks • p. 16

When a thought of war comes, oppose it by a stronger thought of peace. A thought of hatred must be destroyed by a more powerful thought of love.

'Abdu'l-Bahá • Paris Talks • p. 29

SECTION 7

Study the quotations below and memorize them:

...backbiting quencheth the light of the heart, and extinguisheth the life of the soul.

Bahá'u'lláh • Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh • CXXV • p. 265

Breathe not the sins of others so long as thou art thyself a sinner.

Bahá'u'lláh · The Hidden Words · Arabic no. 27

Speak no evil, that thou mayest not hear it spoken unto thee, and magnify not the faults of others that thine own faults may not appear great...

Bahá'u'lláh · The Hidden Words · Persian no. 44

O Son of Being! How couldst thou forget thine own faults and busy thyself with the faults of others? Whoso doeth this is accursed of Me.

Bahá'u'lláh · The Hidden Words · Arabic no. 26

UNIT 2 · PRAYER

SECTION 6

Memorize the following passages from the Long Obligatory Prayer revealed by Bahá'u'lláh:

O God, my God! Look not upon my hopes and my doings, nay rather look upon Thy will that hath encompassed the heavens and the earth. By Thy Most Great Name, O Thou Lord of all nations! I have desired only what Thou didst desire, and love only what Thou dost love.

Bahá'u'lláh · Bahá'í Prayers · pp. 8-9

Make my prayer, O my Lord, a fountain of living waters whereby I may live as long as Thy sovereignty endureth, and may make mention of Thee in every world of Thy worlds.

Bahá'u'lláh · Bahá'í Prayers · p. 9

Too high art Thou for the praise of those who are nigh unto Thee to ascend unto the heaven of Thy nearness, or for the birds of the hearts of them who are devoted to Thee to attain to the door of Thy gate. I testify that Thou hast been sanctified above all attributes and holy above all names. No God is there but Thee, the Most Exalted, the All-Glorious.

Bahá'u'lláh · Bahá'í Prayers · p. 12