

— Never to be forgotten **SCRIPTURES, POEMS, and QUOTES** —

MEMORIZATIONS

Elementary



MEMORIZATIONS

Great power can come from memorizing scriptures. To memorize a scripture is to forge a new friendship. It is like discovering a new individual who can help in time of need, give inspiration and comfort, and be a source of motivation for needed change. —Elder Richard G. Scott

Dear Parents,

Many hours have gone into gathering and publishing this memorization collection, which features many passages that American Heritage School teachers and students memorize together in grades K–6. Celebrating memorization is an emphasis on American Heritage School's campus, and we invite you to consider how memorization can become a tradition in your home could help maximize your family's divine potential. Please enjoy this wonderful resource of American Heritage School.

A few thoughts on the purposes and blessings of memorization follow below.

Memorization is the art of recording in our minds an understanding and exact articulation of any principle or idea. The purpose of memorization is to engrave and store up for later memory scriptures, poems, quotes, or other information that will become useful to us in building the kingdom of God on earth.

In his 1828 *American Dictionary of the English Language*, Noah Webster defined memorization as

1. to record, to commit to memory...
2. to cause to be remembered...

The process of memorizing, of placing truths upon "the fleshy tables of our hearts" (2 Corinthians 3:3) changes us just as consuming a nutritious meal changes us. We become different people because of what has nourished our minds and hearts. We are better prepared to serve in the Lord's kingdom, we are more secure in mortality because of that which fills us, we are better able to discern between right and wrong because of the "internal property" which becomes the foundation of our thinking, and we have the "internal equipment" to sustain us in serving mankind.

Many LDS Church leaders have taught the importance and value of memorization.

President Ezra Taft Benson said, "I have a vision of thousands of missionaries going into the mission field with hundreds of passages memorized from the Book of Mormon so that they might feed the needs of a spiritually famished world" ("Flood the Earth with the Book of Mormon," General Conference, Oct. 1988).

Elder Gene R. Cook of the Seventy said: "I have discovered that many times you don't fully understand a scripture until you memorize it. And sometimes I have memorized a passage because it seemed important and valuable to me—then afterwards I discovered deeper meanings that I hadn't even known were there" (*Searching the Scriptures: Bringing Power to Your Personal and Family Study* [1997], 114).

Susan Tanner, former president of the General Young Women's organization taught: Learning by heart...means to learn something so deeply that it becomes part of our core: it fills us; it changes us.... Learning by heart in its richest sense is a gospel duty. It is a twin commandment to remembering. We are to learn spiritual truth by heart and then retain in remembrance what we have placed deep in our hearts.

Memorization can be accomplished through a regular routine of reciting a noteworthy passage a few times in a row, personally or in a group setting. The passage can be recited a few times per week until the passage is mastered. Long-term memory is enhanced when a learned passage is reviewed and recited occasionally.

Memorization should always be a cherished part of our curriculum and our activities; it is our privilege and our duty. May the passages in this collection bring joy and light to you and your family.

Sincerely,

The Family School Team at American Heritage School

Memorizations: Never to be forgotten scriptures, poems, and quotes

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Kindergarten Memorization

Starting with Me

God made me special—
Like no one else you see.
God made me a witness
To His diversity.

—Rosalie Slater

I'm a Child of Royal Birth

I'm a child of royal birth.

My Father is king of heaven and
earth.

My spirit was born in the courts
on high;

A child beloved, a princess
(prince) am I.

—Anna Johnson

Clouds

White sheep, white sheep,
On a blue hill
When the wind stops
You all stand still
When the wind blows
You walk away slow.
White sheep, white sheep,
Where do you go?

—Christina Rosetti

The Wind

Who has seen the wind?

Neither I nor you;

But when the leaves hang
trembling

The wind is passing through.

Who has seen the wind?

Neither you nor I;

But when the trees bow down
their heads

The wind is passing by.

—Christina Rosetti

What Can I Give Him?

What can I give Him,
 Poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd,
 I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man,
 I would do my part;
Yet, what can I give Him?
 Give my heart.

—Christina Rosetti

Columbus

Columbus was a dreamer,
A boy who watched the sea
And thought, as ships sailed out
of sight.

How round the earth must be!
Columbus was a doer,
A man who went to sea
And proved the thoughts he had
were right,
His dreams reality.

—Margaret Hillert

Kind Deeds

Little drops of water,
Little grains of sand.
Make the mighty ocean,
And the pleasant land.
Thus the little minutes,
Humble though they be,
Make the mighty ages of eternity.
Little deeds of kindness,
Little words of love,
Make this earth an Eden
Like the heaven above.

—Isaac Watt

Precious Stones

An emerald is as green as grass,
A ruby red as blood,
A sapphire shines as blue as
 heaven,
But flint lies in the mud.
A diamond is a brilliant stone,
To catch the world's desire,
An opal holds a rainbow light,
But a flint holds fire.

—Christina Rossetti

Hearts Like Doors

Hearts, like doors, will open with
ease

To very, very, little keys,
And don't forget that two of these
Are "Thank you, Sir," and "If you
please."

—Robert Louis Stevenson

Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye
lands,

Serve the Lord with gladness:

Come before His presence with singing.

Know ye that the Lord He is God:

It is He that hath made us, and not we
ourselves;

We are His people, and the sheep of His
pasture.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving,

And into His courts with praise:

Be thankful unto Him, and bless His
name.

For the Lord is good;

His mercy is everlasting;

And his truth endureth to all
generations.

The First Article of Faith

We believe in God, the Eternal
Father,
and in His Son, Jesus Christ,
and in the Holy Ghost.

The Second Article of Faith

We believe that men
will be punished for
their own sins, and not
for Adam's transgression.

The Third Article of Faith

We believe that through
the atonement of Christ,
all mankind may be saved,
by obedience to the laws
and ordinances of the
Gospel.

James 1:5

“If any of you lack wisdom,
let him, ask of God,
that giveth to all men liberally,
and upbraideth not;
and it shall be given him.”

I Nephi 3:7

“...I will go and do the things
which the Lord hath
commanded....”

Alma 32:21

“...therefore if ye have faith ye
hope for things which are not
seen, which are true.”

Mosiah 2:17

“...when ye are in the service of
your fellow beings, ye are only
in the service of your God.”

1st Grade Memorization

The Swing

How do you like to go up in a swing,
Up in the air so blue?
Oh, I do think it the pleasantest thing
Ever a child can do!

Up in the air and over the wall,
Till I can see so wide,
River and trees and cattle and all
Over the countryside—

Till I look down on the garden green,
Down on the roof so brown—
Up in the air I go flying again,
Up in the air and down!

—Robert Louis Stevenson

Praise for Creation and Providence

I sing the mighty power of God,
 that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad,
 and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained
 the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God's command,
 and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord,
 who filled the earth with food,
Who formed the creatures through the Word,
 and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,
 wherever I turn my eye,
If I survey the ground I tread,
 or gaze upon the sky.

There's not a plant or flower below,
 but makes Thy glories known,
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,
 by order from Thy throne;
While all that borrows life from Thee
 is ever in Thy care;
And everywhere that we can be,
 Thou, God art present there.

The Children's Hour

Between the dark and the daylight,
 When the night is beginning to lower,
Comes a pause in the day's occupations,
 That is known as the Children's Hour.

I hear in the chamber above me
 The patter of little feet,
The sound of a door that is opened,
 And voices soft and sweet.

From my study I see in the lamplight,
 Descending the broad hall stair,
Grave Alice, and laughing Allegra,
 And Edith with golden hair.

A whisper, and then a silence:
 Yet I know by their merry eyes They are plotting
 and planning together
 To take me by surprise.

A sudden rush from the stairway,
 A sudden raid from the hall!
By three doors left unguarded
 They enter my castle wall!

They climb up into my turret
 O'er the arms and back of my chair;

If I try to escape, they surround me;
They seem to be everywhere.

They almost devour me with kisses,
Their arms about me entwine,
Till I think of the Bishop of Bingen
In his Mouse-Tower on the Rhine!

Do you think, O blue-eyed banditti,
Because you have scaled the wall,
Such an old mustache as I am
Is not a match for you all!

I have you fast in my fortress,
And will not let you depart,
But put you down into the dungeon
In the round-tower of my heart.

And there will I keep you forever, Yes, forever and a
day,
Till the walls shall crumble to ruin, And moulder in
dust away!

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

The Lamb

Little lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee,
Gave thee life, and bid thee feed
By the stream and o'er the mead;
Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing, woolly, bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice?
Little lamb, who made thee?
Dost thou know who made thee?

Little lamb, I'll tell thee;
Little lamb, I'll tell thee:
He is called by thy name,
For He calls Himself a Lamb.
He is meek, and He is mild,
He became a little child.
I a child, and thou a lamb,
We are called by His name.
Little lamb, God bless thee!
Little lamb, God bless thee!

—William Blake

2nd Grade Memorization

2 Nephi 32:3

“Wherefore..., feast upon
the words of Christ, for behold,
the words of Christ will tell you
all things what ye should do.”

The Creation Poem

First, came the light and the darkness.

Second, came heaven and earth.

Third, came the water and dry land and every good
seed of worth.

Fourth, came the sun, the moon and the stars.

Fifth, came the fish and the birds.

Sixth, came the beasts, ruled by Adam and Eve.

God's power is too great for words.

Day Seven? God blessed it and then He rested!

Psalm 23

“The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:
He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul:
He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his
names sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow
of death, I will fear no evil:
For thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they
comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of
mine enemies:
Thou annointest my head with oil; my cup runneth
over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the
days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.”

Christopher Columbus

Christopher Columbus, the Admiral of the Sea.
Discoverer of America, the homeland of the free.
Persistent in his vision, he made his dream come
true,
When he bravely sailed the ocean in 1492;

Although he faced a mutiny, he courageously sailed
on.
Never turning back, not even when all hope was
gone.
And when his dream of finding land became reality,
He changed the future of the world and shaped our
Destiny....

—Laurie Stephens

Song

Why do the bells of Christmas ring?
Why do little children sing?

Once a lovely shining star,
Seen by shepherds from afar,
Gently moved until its light
Made a manger's cradle bright.

There a darling baby lay,
Pillowed soft upon the hay;
And its mother sung and smiled:
"This is Christ, the holy Child!"

Therefore bells for Christmas ring.
Therefore little children sing.

—Eugene Field

I Am a Child of Royal Birth

(Girls)

I am a child of royal birth
My Father was King of heaven and earth.
My spirit was born in the courts on high;
A child beloved, a princess am I.

(Boys)

I grew to the stature that spirits grow
I gained the knowledge I needed to know.
I was taught the truth and I knew the plan
That God and Christ laid out for man.

(All)

I waited my turn and I came to earth
Through the wonderful blessing of human birth.
Then the curtains were closed and the past was gone;
On the future too, the curtains were drawn.

(All)

Someday I'll go back; I will answer the call,
I'll return with my record to the Father of all;
The books will be opened and so will my heart.
There will be rejoicing if I've done my part.

—Anna Johnson

Prayer

Prayer is so simple
It is like quietly opening a door
And slipping into the very presence
 Of God,
There in the stillness
To listen for his voice.
Perhaps to petition
Or only to listen,
It matters not;
Just to be there,
In his presence,
Is Prayer!
Each prayer is answered,
That is so;
But for our good
It may be, “No!”

I Samuel 16:7

“...for the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart.”

Hiawatha

By the shores of Gitche Gumee,
By the shining Big-Sea-Water,
Stood the wigwam of Nokomis,
Daughter of the Moon, Nokomis....

There the wrinkled Nokomis
Nursed the little Hiawatha,
Rocked him in his linden cradle,
Bedded soft in moss and rushes,
Safely bound with reindeer sinews;
Stilled his fretful wail by saying,
“Hush! The Naked Bear will hear thee!”

Lulled into slumber singing,
“Ewa-yea! My little owlet!”
Who is this that lights the wigwam?
With his great eyes lights the wigwam Ewa-yea!
My little owlet!”

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Preamble to the Constitution

We the people of the United States,
in order to form a more perfect Union,
establish justice, insure domestic
tranquility, provide for the common
defense, promote the general welfare, and
secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves
and our posterity, do ordain and establish
this Constitution for the United States of
America.

Amos 3:7

“Surely the Lord God will do nothing,
but he revealeth his secrets unto
his servants the prophets.”

I Never Saw a Moor

I never saw a moor,
I never saw the sea,
Yet know I how the heather looks,
And what a wave must be.

I never spoke with God,
Nor visited in heaven,
Yet certain am I of the spot
As if the chart were given.

—Emily Dickinson

How Doth the Little Crocodile

How doth the little crocodile
Improve his shining tail,
And pour the waters of the Nile
On every golden scale!

How cheerfully he seems to grin,
How neatly spreads his claws,
And welcomes little fishes in
With gently smiling jaws!

—Lewis Carroll

D&C 89: 18–20

“And all saints who remember to keep and do these sayings, walking in obedience to the commandments, shall receive health in their navel and marrow to their bones; And shall find wisdom and great treasures of knowledge, even hidden treasures; And shall run and not be weary, and shall walk and not faint.”

Shakespeare (King Richard III)

God bless thee,
And put meekness in thy breast;
Love, charity, obedience,
And true duty.

Job 19:25

“For I know that my redeemer
liveth, and that he shall stand at
the latter day upon the earth.”

Doctrine and Covenants 130:18

“Whatever principle of intelligence
we attain unto in this life,
if will rise with us in
the resurrection.”

3rd Grade Memorization

Ways to Be

Be Grateful

Be Clean

Be Smart

Be True

Be Humble

Be Prayerful

Be Positive

Be Still

Be Involved

—Gordon B. Hinckley

Doctrine and Covenants 4:4–7

“For behold the field is white
already to harvest; and lo, he that thrusteth
in his sickle with his might, the same layeth
up in store that he perisheth not, but
bringeth salvation to his soul; And faith,
hope, charity, love, with an eye single to the
glory of God, qualify him for the work.

Remember faith, virtue,
knowledge, temperance, patience, brotherly
kindness, godliness,
charity, humility, diligence.

Ask, and ye shall receive; knock,
and it shall be opened unto you.”

Doctrine and Covenants 136:28

If thou art merry, praise the Lord with singing, with music, with dancing, and with a prayer of praise and thanksgiving.

Isaiah 9:6

For unto us a child is born,
unto us a son is given:
and the government shall be
upon his shoulder:
and his name shall be called
Wonderful, Counsellor,
The mighty God,
The everlasting Father,
The Prince of Peace.

Chinese Proverb

If there is righteousness in the heart,
There will be beauty in the
character.

If there is beauty in the character,
There will be harmony in the home.

If there is harmony in the home,
There will be order in the nation.

If there is order in the nation,
There will be peace in the world.

2 Nephi 31:20

“Wherefore, ye must press forward with a
steadfastness in Christ,
having a perfect brightness of hope, and a
love of God and of all men.

Wherefore, if ye shall press forward,
feasting upon the word of Christ,
and endure to the end, behold,
thus saith the Father:
Ye shall have eternal life.”

Take What God Gives

Take what God gives, o heart of mine, and
build your house of happiness. Perchance
some have been given more, but many have
been given less. The treasure lying at thy
feet, whose value you but faintly guess,
another builder, looking on, would barter
Heaven to possess.

Mosiah 2:41

“And moreover, I would desire that ye should consider on the blessed and happy state of those that keep the commandments of God. For behold, they are blessed in all things, both temporal and spiritual; and if they hold out faithful to the end they are received into heaven, that thereby they may dwell with God in a state of never ending happiness. O remember, remember that these things are true; for the Lord God hath spoken it.”

God Has Saved

God has saved for the final inning some of his strongest most valiant children who will help bear off the kingdom triumphantly.

You are the generation that must be prepared to meet your God. Rise up, O youth of Zion! You hardly realize the great potential that lies within you.

—President Ezra Taft Benson

4th Grade Memorization

Moroni 10:4–6

“And when ye shall receive these things, I would exhort you that ye would ask God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, if these things are not true; and if ye shall ask with a sincere heart, with real intent, having faith in Christ, he will manifest the truth of it unto you, by the power of the Holy Ghost.

And by the power of the Holy Ghost ye may know the truth of all things.

And whatsoever thing is good is just and true; wherefore, nothing that is good denieth the Christ, but acknowledgeth that he is.”

I Shall Pass through this World but Once

I shall pass through this world but
once.

Any good therefore that I can do,
Or any kindness that I can show to
any human being,

Let me do it now.

Let me not defer or neglect it, For I
shall not pass this way again.

I Have Wept in the Night

I have wept in the night
For the shortness of sight
That to somebody's need made me blind;
But I never have yet
Felt a tinge of regret,
For being a little too kind.

—Author Unknown

The Highwayman

PART ONE

The wind was a torrent of darkness among the gusty trees.
The moon was a ghostly galleon tossed upon cloudy seas.
The road was a ribbon of moonlight over the purple moor,
And the highwayman came riding—

Riding—riding—

The highwayman came riding, up to the old inn-door.

He'd a French cocked-hat on his forehead, a bunch of lace at his
chin,

A coat of the claret velvet, and breeches of brown doe-skin.
They fitted with never a wrinkle. His boots were up to the thigh.
And he rode with a jewelled twinkle,

His pistol butts a-twinkle,
His rapier hilt a-twinkle, under the jewelled sky.

Over the cobbles he clattered and clashed in the dark inn-yard.
He tapped with his whip on the shutters, but all was locked and
barred.

He whistled a tune to the window, and who should be waiting there
But the landlord's black-eyed daughter,

Bess, the landlord's daughter,
Plaiting a dark red love-knot into her long black hair.

And dark in the dark old inn-yard a stable-wicket creaked
Where Tim the ostler listened. His face was white and peaked.
His eyes were hollows of madness, his hair like mouldy hay,
But he loved the landlord's daughter,

The landlord's red-lipped daughter.
Dumb as a dog he listened, and he heard the robber say—
“One kiss, my bonny sweetheart, I'm after a prize to-night,

But I shall be back with the yellow gold before the morning light;
Yet, if they press me sharply, and harry me through the day,
Then look for me by moonlight,
 Watch for me by moonlight,
I'll come to thee by moonlight, though hell should bar the way."

He rose upright in the stirrups. He scarce could reach her hand,
But she loosened her hair in the casement. His face burnt like a
 brand
As the black cascade of perfume came tumbling over his breast;
And he kissed its waves in the moonlight,
 (O, sweet black waves in the moonlight!)
Then he tugged at his rein in the moonlight, and galloped away to
 the west.

PART TWO

He did not come in the dawning. He did not come at noon;
And out of the tawny sunset, before the rise of the moon,
When the road was a gypsy's ribbon, looping the purple moor,
A red-coat troop came marching—
 Marching—marching—
King George's men came marching, up to the old inn-door.

They said no word to the landlord. They drank his ale instead.
But they gagged his daughter, and bound her, to the foot of her
 narrow bed.
Two of them knelt at her casement, with muskets at their side!
There was death at every window;
 And hell at one dark window;
For Bess could see, through her casement, the road that he would
 ride.

They had tied her up to attention, with many a sniggering jest.
They had bound a musket beside her, with the muzzle beneath her

breast!

“Now, keep good watch!” and they kissed her. She heard the doomed
man say—

Look for me by moonlight;

Watch for me by moonlight;

I'll come to thee by moonlight, though hell should bar the way!

She twisted her hands behind her; but all the knots held good!

She writhed her hands till her fingers were wet with sweat or blood!

They stretched and strained in the darkness, and the hours crawled
by like years

Till, now, on the stroke of midnight,

Cold, on the stroke of midnight,

The tip of one finger touched it! The trigger at least was hers!

The tip of one finger touched it. She strove no more for the rest.

Up, she stood up to attention, with the muzzle beneath her breast.

She would not risk their hearing; she would not strive again;

For the road lay bare in the moonlight;

Blank and bare in the moonlight;

And the blood of her veins, in the moonlight, throbbed to her love's
refrain.

Tlot-tlot; tlot-tlot! Had they heard it? The horsehoofs ringing clear;

Tlot-tlot; tlot-tlot, in the distance? Were they deaf that they did not
hear?

Down the ribbon of moonlight, over the brow of the hill,

The highwayman came riding—

Riding—riding—

The red coats looked to their priming! She stood up, straight and
still.

Tlot-tlot, in the frosty silence! Tlot-tlot, in the echoing night!

Nearer he came and nearer. Her face was like a light.

Her eyes grew wide for a moment; she drew one last deep breath,

Then her finger moved in the moonlight,
Her musket shattered the moonlight,
Shattered her breast in the moonlight and warned him—with her
death.

He turned. He spurred to the west; he did not know who stood
Bowed, with her head o'er the musket, drenched with her own blood!
Not till the dawn he heard it, and his face grew grey to hear
How Bess, the landlord's daughter,
The landlord's black-eyed daughter,
Had watched for her love in the moonlight, and died in the darkness
there.

Back, he spurred like a madman, shouting a curse to the sky,
With the white road smoking behind him and his rapier brandished
high.
Blood red were his spurs in the golden noon; wine-red was his velvet
coat;
When they shot him down on the highway,
Down like a dog on the highway,
And he lay in his blood on the highway, with a bunch of lace at his
throat.

...

*And still of a winter's night, they say, when the wind is in the trees,
When the moon is a ghostly galleon tossed upon cloudy seas,
When the road is a ribbon of moonlight over the purple moor,
A highwayman comes riding—
Riding—riding—
A highwayman comes riding, up to the old inn-door.*

Over the cobbles he clatters and clangs in the dark inn-yard.

*He taps with his whip on the shutters, but all is locked and barred.
He whistles a tune to the window, and who should be waiting there
But the landlord's black-eyed daughter,
 Bess, the landlord's daughter,
Plaiting a dark red love-knot into her long black hair.*

—Alfred Noyes

The Flag Goes By

HATS off!

Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums,
A flash of color beneath the sky:

Hats off!

The flag is passing by!

Blue and crimson and white it shines,
Over the steel-tipped, ordered lines.

Hats off!

The colors before us fly;
But more than the flag is passing by.

Sea-fights and land-fights, grim and great,
Fought to make and to save the State:
Weary marches and sinking ships;
Cheers of victory on dying lips;

Days of plenty and years of peace;
March of a strong land's swift increase;
Equal justice, right and law,
Stately honor and reverend awe;

Sign of a nation, great and strong
To ward her people from foreign wrong:
Pride and glory and honor,—all
Live in the colors to stand or fall.

Hats off!
Along the street there comes
A blare of bugles, a ruffle of drums;
And loyal hearts are beating high:
Hats off!
The flag is passing by!

—Henry Holcomb Bennett

The Charge of the Light Brigade

Half a league, half a league,
Half a league onward,
All in the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.
“Forward, the Light Brigade!
“Charge for the guns!” he said:
Into the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

“Forward, the Light Brigade!”
Was there a man dismay’d?
Not tho’ the soldier knew
Someone had blunder’d:
Theirs not to make reply,
Theirs not to reason why,
Theirs but to do and die:
Into the valley of Death
Rode the six hundred.

Cannon to right of them,
Cannon to left of them,
Cannon in front of them
Volley’d and thunder’d;
Storm’d at with shot and shell,
Boldly they rode and well,
Into the jaws of Death,
Into the mouth of Hell
Rode the six hundred.

Flash’d all their sabres bare,
Flash’d as they turn’d in air,
Sabring the gunners there,

Charging an army, while
All the world wonder'd:
Plunged in the battery-smoke
Right thro' the line they broke;
Cossack and Russian
Reel'd from the sabre stroke
Shatter'd and sunder'd.
Then they rode back, but not
Not the six hundred.

Cannon to right of them,
Cannon to left of them,
Cannon behind them
Volley'd and thunder'd;
Storm'd at with shot and shell,
While horse and hero fell,
They that had fought so well
Came thro' the jaws of Death
Back from the mouth of Hell,
All that was left of them,
Left of six hundred.

When can their glory fade?
O the wild charge they made!
All the world wondered.
Honor the charge they made,
Honor the Light Brigade,
Noble six hundred.

—Alfred, Lord Tennyson

The Village Blacksmith

Under a spreading chestnut-tree
The village smithy stands;
The smith, a mighty man is he,
With large and sinewy hands;
And the muscles of his brawny arms
Are strong as iron bands.

His hair is crisp, and black, and long,
His face is like the tan;
His brow is wet with honest sweat,
He earns whate'er he can,
And looks the whole world in the face,
For he owes not any man.

Week in, week out, from morn till night,
You can hear his bellows blow;
You can hear him swing his heavy sledge,
With measured beat and slow,
Like a sexton ringing the village bell,
When the evening sun is low.

And children coming home from school
Look in at the open door;
They love to see the flaming forge,
And hear the bellows roar,
And catch the burning sparks that fly
Like chaff from a threshing-floor.

He goes on Sunday to the church,
And sits among his boys;
He hears the parson pray and preach,
He hears his daughter's voice,
Singing in the village choir,
And it makes his heart rejoice.

It sounds to him like her mother's voice,
Singing in Paradise!
He needs must think of her once more,
How in the grave she lies;
And with his hard, rough hand he wipes
A tear out of his eyes.

Toiling,—rejoicing,—sorrowing,
Onward through life he goes;
Each morning sees some task begin,
Each evening sees it close
Something attempted, something done,
Has earned a night's repose.

Thanks, thanks to thee, my worthy friend,
For the lesson thou hast taught!
Thus at the flaming forge of life
Our fortunes must be wrought;
Thus on its sounding anvil shaped
Each burning deed and thought.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Beautiful

Beautiful faces are they that wear
The light of a pleasant spirit there;
Beautiful hands are they that do
Deeds that are noble, good, and true;
Beautiful feet are they that go
Swiftly to lighten another's woe.

Autumn Fires

In the other gardens
And all up the vale
From the autumn bonfires
See the smoke trail!

Pleasant summer over
And all the summer flowers,
The red fire blazes,
The gray smoke towers.

Sing a song of seasons!
Something bright in all!
Flowers in the summer,
Fires in the fall!

—Robert Louis Stevenson

The Arrow and the Song

I shot an arrow into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;
For, so swiftly it flew, the sight
Could not follow it in its flight.

I breathed a song into the air,
It fell to earth, I knew not where;
For who has sight so keen and strong,
That it can follow the flight of song?

Long, long afterward, in an oak
I found the arrow, still unbroke;
And the song, from beginning to end,
I found again in the heart of a friend.

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

A Prayer in Spring

Oh, give us pleasure in the flowers to-day;
And give us not to think so far away
As the uncertain harvest; keep us here
All simply in the springing of the year.

—Robert Frost

A Bag of Tools

Isn't it strange how princes and kings,
and clowns that caper in sawdust rings,
and common people, like you and me,
are builders for eternity?

Each is given a list of rules;
a shapeless mass; a bag of tools.
And each must fashion, ere life is flown,
A stumbling block, or a Stepping-Stone.

—RL Sharpe

All Thing Bright and Beautiful

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.
Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings.
The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset, and the morning,
That brightens up the sky;
The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one.
He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell,
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.

—Cecil Frances Alexander

5th Grade Memorization

D&C 1:37–38

“Search these commandments,
for they are true and faithful, and
the prophecies and promises which are
in them shall all be fulfilled.

What I the Lord have spoken, I have
spoken, and I excuse not myself;
and though the heavens and
the earth pass away, my word shall
not pass away, but shall all be fulfilled,
whether by mine own voice or by
the voice of my servants, it is the same.”

D&C 8:2–3

“Yea, behold, I will tell you
in your mind and in your heart,
by the Holy Ghost, which
shall come upon you and
which shall dwell in your heart.
Now, behold, this is the spirit
of revelation; behold, this is
the spirit by which Moses brought
the children of Israel through
the Red Sea on dry ground.”

D&C 10:5

“Pray always,
that you may come off conqueror;
yea, that you may conquer Satan,
and that you may escape
the hands of the servants of Satan
that do uphold his work.”

D&C 14:7

“And, if you keep my commandments
and endure to the end you
shall have eternal life,
which gift is the greatest of all
the gifts of God.”

D&C 18:10, 15–16

“Remember the worth of souls is great
in the sight of God;

And if it so be that you should labor
all your days in crying repentance
unto this people, and bring, save it
be one soul unto me, how great
shall be your joy with him in the
kingdom of my Father!

And now, if your joy will be great with
one soul that you have brought
unto me into the kingdom of my
Father, how great will be your joy if
you should bring many souls unto
me!”

D&C 19:16–19

“For behold, I, God, have suffered
these things for all, that they might
not suffer if they would repent;
But if they would not repent they
must suffer even as I;
Which suffering caused myself, even
God, the greatest of all, to tremble
because of pain, and to bleed at
every pore, and to suffer both body
and spirit—and would that I might
not drink the bitter cup, and
shrink—
Nevertheless, glory be to the Father,
and I partook and finished my
preparations unto the children of
men.”

D&C 25:12

“For my soul delighteth in
the song of the heart;
yea, the song of the righteous
is a prayer unto me,
and it shall be answered
with a blessing upon their heads.”

D&C 58:26–27

“For behold, it is not meet that I should command in all things; for he that is compelled in all things, the same is a slothful and not a wise servant; wherefore he receiveth no reward.

Verily I say, men should be anxiously engaged in a good cause, and do many things of their own free will, and bring to pass much righteousness;”

D&C 58:42–43

“Behold, he who has repented of his sins, the same is forgiven, and I, the Lord, remember them no more. By this ye may know if a man repenteth of his sins—behold, he will confess them and forsake them.”

D&C 59:9–10

“And that thou mayest more fully
keep thyself unspotted from the
world, thou shalt go to the house of
prayer and offer up thy sacraments
upon my holy day;
For verily this is a day appointed unto
you to rest from your labors, and to
pay thy devotions unto the Most
High;”

D&C 64:23

“Behold, now it is called today
until the coming of the Son of Man,
and verily it is a day of sacrifice,
and a day for the tithing of my people;
for he that is tithed shall
not be burned at his coming.”

D&C 64:9–11

“Wherefore, I say unto you, that ye ought to forgive one another; for he that forgiveth not his brother his trespasses standeth condemned before the Lord; for there remaineth in him the greater sin.

I, the Lord, will forgive whom I will forgive, but of you it is required to forgive all men.

And ye ought to say in your hearts—let God judge between me and thee, and reward thee according to thy deeds.”

D&C 76:22–24

“And now, after the many testimonies which have been given of him, this is the testimony, last of all, which we give of him: That he lives!

For we saw him, even on the right hand of God; and we heard the voice bearing record that he is the Only Begotten of the Father—
That by him, and through him, and of him, the worlds are and were created, and the inhabitants thereof are begotten sons and daughters unto God.”

D&C 82:3

“For of him unto whom
much is given
much is required;
and he who sins
against the greater light
shall receive
the greater condemnation.”

D&C 82:10

“I, the Lord, am bound
when ye do what I say;
but when ye do not what I say,
ye have no promise.”

D&C 84:33–39

“For whoso is faithful unto the obtaining these two priesthoods of which I have spoken, and the magnifying their calling, are sanctified by the Spirit unto the renewing of their bodies. They become the sons of Moses and of Aaron and the seed of Abraham, and the church and kingdom, and the elect of God. And also all they who receive this priesthood receive me, saith the Lord; For he that receiveth my servants receiveth me; And he that receiveth me receiveth my Father; And he that receiveth my Father receiveth my Father’s kingdom; therefore ball that my Father hath shall be given unto him. And this is according to the oath and covenant which belongeth to the priesthood.”

D&C 88:123–124

“See that ye love one another; cease to be covetous; learn to impart one to another as the gospel requires. Cease to be idle; cease to be unclean; cease to find fault one with another; cease to sleep longer than is needful; retire to thy bed early, that ye may not be weary; arise early, that your bodies and your minds may be invigorated.”

D&C 89:18–21

“And all saints who remember to keep
and do these sayings, walking in
obedience to the commandments,
shall receive health in their navel
and marrow to their bones;
And shall find wisdom and great
treasures of knowledge, even
hidden treasures;
And shall run and not be weary, and
shall walk and not faint.
And I, the Lord, give unto them a
promise, that the destroying angel
shall pass by them, as the children
of Israel, and not slay them.
Amen.”

D&C 121:34–36

“Behold, there are many called, but few are chosen. And why are they not chosen?

Because their hearts are set so much upon the things of this world, and aspire to the honors of men, that they do not learn this one lesson—
That the rights of the priesthood are inseparably connected with the powers of heaven, and that the powers of heaven cannot be controlled nor handled only upon the principles of righteousness.”

D&C 130:18–19

“Whatever principle of intelligence we attain unto in this life, it will rise with us in the resurrection.

And if a person gains more knowledge and intelligence in this life through his diligence and obedience than another, he will have so much the advantage in the world to come.”

D&C 130:20–21

“There is a law, irrevocably decreed in heaven before the foundations of this world, upon which all blessings are predicated—
And when we obtain any blessing from God, it is by obedience to that law upon which it is predicated.”

D&C 130:22–23

“The Father has a body of flesh and bones as tangible as man’s; the Son also; but the Holy Ghost has not a body of flesh and bones, but is a personage of Spirit. Were it not so, the Holy Ghost could not dwell in us.

A man may receive the Holy Ghost, and it may descend upon him and not tarry with him.”

D&C 131:1–4

“In the celestial glory there are three heavens or degrees;

And in order to obtain the highest, a man must enter into this border of the priesthood [meaning the new and everlasting covenant of marriage];

And if he does not, he cannot obtain it.

He may enter into the other, but that is the end of his kingdom; he cannot have an increase.”

D&C 137:7–10

“Thus came the voice of the Lord unto me, saying: All who have died without a knowledge of this gospel, who would have received it if they had been permitted to tarry, shall be heirs of the celestial kingdom of God;

Also all that shall die henceforth without a knowledge of it, who would have received it with all their hearts, shall be heirs of that kingdom;

For I, the Lord, will judge all men according to their works, according to the desire of their hearts.

And I also beheld that all children who die before they arrive at the years of accountability are saved in the celestial kingdom of heaven.”

Joseph Smith History 1:15–20

“After I had retired to the place where I had previously designed to go, having looked around me, and finding myself alone, I kneeled down and began to offer up the desires of my heart to God. I had scarcely done so, when immediately I was seized upon by some power which entirely overcame me, and had such an astonishing influence over me as to bind my tongue so that I could not speak. Thick darkness gathered around me, and it seemed to me for a time as if I were doomed to sudden destruction.

But, exerting all my powers to call upon God to deliver me out of the power of this enemy which had seized upon me, and at the very moment when I was ready to sink into despair and abandon myself to destruction—not to an imaginary ruin, but to the power of some actual being from the unseen world, who had such marvelous power as I had never before felt in any being—just at this moment of great alarm, I saw a pillar of light exactly over my head, above the brightness of the sun, which descended gradually until it fell upon me.

It no sooner appeared than I found myself delivered from the enemy which held me bound. When the light rested upon me I saw two Personages, whose brightness and glory defy all description, standing above me in the air. One of them spake unto me, calling me by name and said, pointing to the other—This is My Beloved Son. Hear Him!

My object in going to inquire of the Lord was to know which of all the sects was right, that I might know which to join. No sooner, therefore, did I get possession of myself, so as to be able to speak, than I asked the Personages who stood above me in the light, which of all the sects was right (for at this time it had never entered into my heart that all were wrong)—and which I should join.

I was answered that I must join none of them, for they were all wrong; and the Personage who addressed me said that all their creeds were an abomination in his sight; that those professors were all corrupt; that: “they draw near to me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me, they teach for doctrines the commandments of men, having a form of godliness, but they deny the power thereof.”

He again forbade me to join with any of them; and many other things did he say unto me, which I cannot write at this time.

When I came to myself again, I found myself lying on my back, looking up into heaven. When the light had departed, I had no strength; but soon recovering in some degree, I went home. And as I leaned up to the fireplace, mother inquired what the matter was. I replied, “Never mind, all is well—I am well enough off.” I then said to my mother, “I have learned for myself that Presbyterianism is not true.” It seems as though the adversary was aware, at a very early period of my life, that I was destined to prove a disturber and an annoyer of his kingdom; else why should the powers of darkness combine against me? Why the opposition and persecution that arose against me, almost in my infancy?”

The Road Not Taken

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim
Because it was grassy and wanted wear,
Though as for that the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

—Robert Frost

To Be a Pilgrim

He who would valiant be 'gainst all disaster,
Let him in constancy follow the Master.
There's no discouragement shall make him once
 relent
His first avowed intent to be a pilgrim.

Who so beset him round with dismal stories
Do but themselves confound—his strength the more
 is.
No foes shall stay his might; though he with giants
 fight,
He will make good his right to be a pilgrim.

Since, Lord, Thou dost defend us with Thy Spirit,
We know we at the end, shall life inherit.
Then fancies flee away! I'll fear not what men say,
I'll labor night and day to be a pilgrim.

—Paul Bunyan

States and Capitals

Alabama—Montgomery

Alaska—Juneau

Arizona—Phoenix

Arkansas—Little Rock

California—Sacramento

Colorado—Denver

Connecticut—Hartford

Delaware—Dover

Florida—Tallahassee

Georgia—Atlanta

Hawaii—Honolulu

Idaho—Boise

Illinois—Springfield

Indiana—Indianapolis

Iowa—Des Moines

Kansas—Topeka

Kentucky—Frankfort

Louisiana—Baton Rouge

Maine—Augusta

Maryland—Annapolis

Massachusetts—Boston

Michigan—Lansing

Minnesota—St. Paul

Mississippi—Jackson

Missouri—Jefferson City

Montana—Helena
Nebraska—Lincoln
Nevada—Carson City
New Hampshire—Concord
New Jersey—Trenton
New Mexico—Santa Fe
New York—Albany
North Carolina—Raleigh
North Dakota—Bismarck
Ohio—Columbus
Oklahoma—Oklahoma City
Oregon—Salem
Pennsylvania—Harrisburg
Rhode Island—Providence
South Carolina—Columbia
South Dakota—Pierre
Tennessee—Nashville
Texas—Austin
Utah—Salt Lake City
Vermont—Montpelier
Virginia—Richmond
Washington—Olympia
West Virginia—Charleston
Wisconsin—Madison
Wyoming—Cheyenne

A Little Kingdom I Possess

A little kingdom I possess,
Where thoughts and feelings dwell,
And very hard I find the task
Of governing it well;
For passion tempts and troubles me,
A wayward will misleads,
And selfishness its shadow casts,
On all my will and deeds.

How can I learn to rule myself,
To be the child I should,
Honest and brave, nor ever tire
Of trying to be good?
How can I keep a sunny soul
To shine along life's way?
How can I tune my little heart,
To sweetly sing all day?

Dear Father, help me with the love
That castest out my fear!
Teach me to lean on Thee and feel
That thou art very near.
That no temptation is unseen,
No childish grief too small,
Since Thou, with patience infinite,
Dost soothe and comfort all.

I do not ask for any crown
But that which all may win;
Nor try to conquer any world
Except the one within.
Be Thou my Guide until I find,
Led by a tender hand,
Thy happy kingdom in myself
And dare to take command.

—Louisa May Alcott

Preamble to the Constitution

We the People of the United States,
in Order to form a more perfect Union,
establish Justice,
insure domestic Tranquility,
provide for the common defence,
promote the general Welfare,
and secure the Blessings of Liberty
to ourselves and our Posterity,
do ordain and establish this Constitution
for the United States of America.

Christmas Bells

I HEARD the bells on Christmas Day
Their old, familiar carols play,
 And wild and sweet
 The words repeat
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
 Had rolled along
 The unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Till ringing, singing on its way,
The world revolved from night to day,
 A voice, a chime,
 A chant sublime
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

Then from each black, accursed mouth
The cannon thundered in the South,
 And with the sound
 The carols drowned
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

It was as if an earthquake rent
The hearth-stones of a continent,
 And made forlorn
 The households born
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!

And in despair I bowed my head;
“There is no peace on earth,” I said;
 “For hate is strong,
 And mocks the song
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!”

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
“God is not dead, nor doth He sleep;
 The Wrong shall fail,
 The Right prevail,
With peace on earth, good-will to men.”

—Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Gettysburg Address

Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate—we can not consecrate—we can not hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.

—Abraham Lincoln

6th Grade Memorization

A Little Knowledge

“A little knowledge that acts is worth infinitely more than much knowledge that is idle.”

—Kahlil Gibran

A Stanza on Freedom

They are slaves who fear to speak
For the fallen and the weak;
They are slaves who will not choose
Hatred, scoffing, and abuse,
Rather than in silence shrink
From the truth they needs must
 think;
They are slaves who dare not be
In the right with two or three.

—James Russell Lowell

Allie's Quotations

“Go confidently in the direction of your dreams!
Live the life you’ve imagined!”
—Thoreau

“Study scriptures only on the days you eat!”

“What would you attempt to do if
you knew you could not fail?”

“Do one thing every day that scares you!”

“What ever you can do,
Or dream you can, Begin it.
Boldness has genius,
Power and magic in it.”
—Goethe

“Remember nothing is so bad
that it can’t be made worse
by murmuring about it.”
—Elder Jeffrey R. Holland

D&C 88:122

... and let not all be spokesmen at once; but let one speak at a time and let all listen unto his sayings, that when all have spoken that all may be edified of all...”

Helaman 5:12

“And now my sons, remember, remember that it is upon the rock of our Redeemer, who is Christ, the Son of God, that ye must build your foundation; that when the devil shall send forth his mighty winds, yea his shafts in the whirlwind, yea, when all his hail and his mighty storm shall beat upon you, it shall have no power over you to drag you down to the gulf of misery and endless wo, because of the rock upon which ye are built, which is a sure foundation, a foundation whereon if men build they cannot fall.”

Be Strong

Be strong!

We are not here to play, to dream, to drift;
We have hard work to do and loads to lift;
Shun not the struggle—face it; 'tis God's gift.

Be strong!

Say not, "The days are evil. Who's to blame?"
And fold the hands in acquiesce—oh, shame!
Stand up, speak out, and bravely, in God's name.

Be strong!

It matters not how deep entrenched the wrong,
How hard the battle goes, the day how long;
Faint not—fight on! Tomorrow comes the song.

—Maltbie D. Babcock

Benjamin Franklin Quotes

“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”

“Any society that would give up a little liberty to gain a little security, will deserve neither and lose both.”

“Life’s tragedy is that we get old too soon and wise too late.”

“All mankind is divided into three classes: those that are immoveable, those that are moveable, and those that move.”

“Words may show a man’s wit but actions his meaning.”

“Take time for all things: great haste makes great waste.”

“He does not possess wealth; it possesses him.”

“Never leave that till tomorrow which you can do today.”

“Be slow in choosing a friend, slower in changing.”
“Well done is better than well said.”

Builder

I watched them tearing a building down;
A group of men in a busy town
With a ho-heave-ho and a lusty yell,
They swung a beam and a sidewall fell.

I asked the foreman, "Are these men skilled?
Would you hire these men if you were going to
build?"

He smiled and said, "No, indeed,
Common labor is all I need.
I can easily wreck in a day or two,
That which takes builders years to do."

I thought to myself as I walked away;
Which of these roles do I want to play?

Am I a builder who builds with care,
Who measures life with a compass and square,
Who follows life with a straight laid plan,
And patiently does the best he can?

Or am I a wrecker who walks the town,
Content on the labor of tearing down?

Character that Moves Hearts and Minds

“I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has had to overcome while trying to succeed.

Character is power.”

—Booker T. Washington

“Ninety-nine percent of the failures come from people who have the habit of making excuses. Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom.”

—George Washington Carver

“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.

I had reasoned this out in my mind, there was one of two things I had a right to, liberty or death; if I could not have one, I would have the other.”

—Harriet Tubman

Character

You are the person who has to decide
Whether you'll do it or toss it aside
You are the person who makes up your mind
Whether you'll lead or linger behind
Whether you'll try for the goal that's afar
Or just be contented to stay where you are.
Take it or leave it, Here's something to do.
Just think it over. It's all up to you.

What do you want? To be known as a shirk?
Or known as a good man who's willing to work?
Scorned as a loafer or praised by your chief?
Rich man or poor man or beggar or thief?
Eager and earnest, or dull through the day
Honest or crooked? It's you who must say.
You must decide in the face of the test
Whether you'll shirk or give it your best.

Nobody here will compel you to rise.
No one will force you to open your eyes.
No one will answer for you, yes or now,
Whether to stay there or whether to go.
Life is a game but it's you who must say
Whether as cheat or as sportsman you'll play
Fate may betray you but you settle first
Whether to live to your best or your worst.

So whatever it is you are wanting to be,
Remember, in reason and choice you are free.
Kindly or selfish, or gentle or strong
Keeping the right way or taking the wrong.
Careless of honor or guarding your pride—
All these are questions which you must decide.
Yours the selection, whichever you do.
The thing men call character, is all up to you.

—Edgar A. Guest

Daily Choices

“Character is distilled out of our daily confrontation with temptation, out of our regular response to the call of duty. It is formed as we learn to cherish principles and to submit to self- discipline. Character is the sum total of all the little decisions, the small deeds, the daily reactions to the choices that confront us. Character is not obtained instantly. We have to mold and hammer and forge ourselves into character. It is a distant goal to which there is no shortcut.”

—Sidney Greenberg

Conscience

“I would sooner have the approval of my own conscience and know that I had done my duty than to have the praise of all the world and not have the approval of my own conscience. A man’s own conscience when he is living as he should live, is the finest monitor and the best judge in all the world. Men can accuse you of wrong-doing and it has no effect at all if you know they lie and you have done that which is right.”

—Heber J. Grant

Quotes on Courage

Courage is reckoned the greatest of all virtues; because, unless a man has that virtue, he has no security for preserving any other.

—Samuel Johnson

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

—Winston Churchill

Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow.

—Mary Anne Radmacher

It is curious that physical courage should be so common in the world and moral courage so rare.

—Mark Twain

People are made of flesh and blood and a miracle fibre called courage.

—Mignon McLaughlin

Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear—not absence of fear. Except a creature be part coward it is not a compliment to say it is brave.

—Mark Twain

It was times like these when I thought my father, who hated guns and had never been to any wars, was the bravest man who ever lived.

—Harper Lee

Courage is being afraid but going on anyhow.

—Dan Rather

Courage is doing what you're afraid to do. There can be no courage unless you're scared.

—Edward Vernon Rickenbacker

Coward: A man in whom the instinct of self-preservation acts normally.

—Sultana Zoraya

Courage can't see around corners, but goes around them anyway.

—Mignon McLaughlin

Sometimes the biggest act of courage is a small one.
—Lauren Raffo

Cowardice, as distinguished from panic, is almost always simply a lack of ability to suspend the functioning of the imagination.
—Ernest Hemingway,

Fear and courage are brothers.
—Proverb

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

True courage is not the brutal force of vulgar heroes, but the firm resolve of virtue and reason.
—Alfred North Whitehead

Courage

“Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important than fear.

The brave may not live forever, but the cautious do not live at all.

From now on you’ll be traveling the road between what you think you are and what you can be.
The key is to allow yourself to make the journey.”
—Ambrose Redmoon

“Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear —not absence of fear.

Except a creature be part coward it is not a compliment to say it is brave.”
—Mark Twain

Daffodils

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced; but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company:
I gazed—and gazed—but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

—William Wordsworth

Daniel 2:20–22

Daniel answered and said,
Blessed be the name of God
for ever and ever:
For wisdom and might are his:

And he changeth
The times and the seasons:
He removeth kings,
And setteth up kings;
He giveth wisdom to the wise,
And knowledge to them that know understanding:

He revealeth the deep and secret things:
He knoweth what is in the darkness,
And the light dwelleth with him.

The Destruction of Sennacherib

The Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold,
And his cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold;
And the sheen of their spears was like stars on the sea,
When the blue wave rolls nightly on deep Galilee.

Like the leaves of the forest when Summer is green,
That host with their banners at sunset were seen:
Like the leaves of the forest when Autumn hath blown,
That host on the morrow lay withered and strown.

For the Angel of Death spread his wings on the blast,
And breathed in the face of the foe as he passed;
And the eyes of the sleepers waxed deadly and chill,
And their hearts but once heaved, and for ever grew still!

And there lay the steed with his nostril all wide,
But through it there rolled not the breath of his pride;
And the foam of his gasping lay white on the turf,
And cold as the spray of the rock-beating surf.

And there lay the rider distorted and pale,
With the dew on his brow, and the rust on his mail:
And the tents were all silent, the banners alone,
The lances unlifted, the trumpet unblown.

And the widows of Ashur are loud in their wail,
And the idols are broke in the temple of Baal;
And the might of the Gentile, unsmote by the sword,
Hath melted like snow in the glance of the Lord!

—Lord Byron

Disappointment—His Appointment

“Disappointment—His Appointment”

Change one letter, then I see
That the thwarting of my purpose
Is God’s better choice for me.
His appointment must be blessing, Tho’ it
may come in disguise,
For the end from the beginning
Open to His wisdom lies.

“Disappointment—His Appointment”

Whose? The Lord, who loves me best,
Understands and knows me fully,
Who my faith and love would test;
For, like loving earthly parent,
He rejoices when He knows
That His child accepts,
UNQUESTIONED,
All that from His wisdom flows.

“Disappointment—His Appointment”
“No good thing will He withhold,” From
denials oft we gather
Treasures of His love untold,
Well He knows each broken purpose Leads
to fuller, deeper trust,
And the end of all His dealings
Proves our God is wise and just.

“Disappointment—His Appointment” Lord,
I take it, then, as such.
Like the clay in hands of potter,
Yielding wholly to Thy touch.
All my life’s plan in Thy moulding,
Not one single choice be mine;
Let me answer, unrepining—
“Father, not my will, but Thine.”

—Edith Lillian Young

Don't Quit!

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

Life is hard with its twists and turns
As everyone of us sometimes learns;
And many a fellow turns about
When he might have won had he stuck it out;
Don't give up though the pace seems slow
You may succeed with another blow.

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

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

—Author Unknown

Freedom from Bondage

“Freedom from the bondage and guilt of individual sin and transgression is the highest form of liberty and it only comes from Christ. Only Christianity offers a Savior. One of the amazing things about pure Christianity is that it requires no force to bring about change. It is so silent, so gentle, so calming and yet so persuasive that without the use of force it proves to be the most powerful means to change the hearts of men. It is revolutionary in nature, not because it uses force of arms, but because converted souls will embrace it at the cost of their lives ... (“And now, as the preaching of the word had a great tendency to lead the people to do that which was just—yea, it had had more powerful effect upon the minds of the people than the sword, or anything else, which had happened unto them....”

(Alma 31:5)

—From the National Center for Constitutional Studies, Dec., 2001 Newsletter

God Asks about Availability

God does not begin by asking us about our
ability,
but only about our availability,
and if we then prove our dependability,
he will increase our capability!

—Neal A. Maxwell

Do What Is Necessary

Start by doing what is necessary,
then do what is possible, and suddenly
you are doing the impossible.

—St. Francis of Assisi

Our Sacred Allotment

“I have a conviction deep down in my heart that we are exactly what we should be, each one of us...I have convinced myself that we all have those peculiar attributes, characteristics, and abilities which are essential for us to possess in order that we may fulfill the full purpose of our creation here upon the earth.... That allotment which has come to us from God is a sacred allotment. It is something of which we should be proud, each one of us in our own right, and not wish that we had somebody else’s allotment. Our greatest success comes from being ourselves.”

—Henry D. Moyle

History Is Not an Accident

History is not an accident.
Events are foreknown to God.
His superintending influence is behind
righteous men's actions.
And though mortal eyes and
minds cannot fathom
the end from the beginning,
God does.”

—President Ezra Taft Benson

Be Honest

“Be honest with yourself, others,
and the Lord. Do not rationalize
that dishonesty is right.

Honesty is more than not lying.
It is truth telling, truth speaking,
truth living, and truth loving.”

—James E. Faust

Joshua 1:9

“Have I not commanded thee,
Be strong and of a good courage;
Be not afraid,
neither be thou dismayed:
for the Lord thy God is with thee
whithersoever thou goest.”

I Am Only One

I am only one

But I am one.

I cannot do everything

But I can do something.

What I can do, I ought to do;

And what I ought to do

By the grace of God

I will do.

—Edward Everett Hale

If We Had No Winter

“If we had no winter, the spring would
not be so pleasant: if we did not
sometimes taste of adversity,
prosperity would not be so welcome.”

—Anne Bradstreet

If You Think You Are Beaten...

If you think you are beaten, you are,
If you think you dare not, you don't
If you like to win, but you think you can't,
It is almost certain you won't.
If you think you'll lose, you're lost
For out of the world we find,
Success begins with a fellow's will—
It's all in the state of mind.
If you think you are outclassed, you are,
You've got to think high to rise,
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win a prize.
Life's battles don't always go
To the stronger or faster man,
But soon or late the man who wins
Is the man WHO THINKS HE CAN!

—Unknown

In the End

In the end,
we will conserve only what we love,
we will love only what we understand,
and we will understand only
what we are taught.

—Baba Dioum

Indwelling

If thou couldst empty all thyself of self,
Like to a shell dishabited,
Then might He find thee on the Ocean shelf,
And say—"This is not dead,"—
And fill thee with Himself instead.

But thou art all replete with very thou,
And hast such shrewd activity,
That, when he comes, He says—"This is enow
Unto itself—"Twere better let it be:
It is so small and full, there is no room for Me."

—Thomas Edward Brown

Old Chinese Proverb

If there is righteousness in the heart,
There will be beauty in the
character.

If there is beauty in the character,
There will be harmony in the home.

If there is harmony in the home,
There will be order in the nation.
If there is order in the nation,
There will be peace in the world.

—Confucius

It Couldn't Be Done

Somebody said that it couldn't be done,
But he with a chuckle replied
That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.
So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin
On his face. If he worried he hid it.
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;
At least no one ever has done it";
But he took off his coat and he took off his hat,
And the first thing we knew he'd begun it.
With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,
Without any doubting or quiddit,
He started to sing as he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,
There are thousands to prophesy failure;
There are thousands to point out to you, one by one,
The dangers that wait to assail you.
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,
Just take off your coat and go to it;
Just start to sing as you tackle the thing
That "cannot be done," and you'll do it."

—Edgar A. Guest

Every Man

Every man gives his life for what he believes.
Every woman gives her life for what she believes.
Sometimes people believe in little or nothing,
And yet they give their lives to that little or nothing.
One life is all we have to live,
And we live it as we believe in living it and then it is gone.
But to surrender what you are and live without belief
Is more terrible than dying,
More terrible than dying young

—Joan of Arc

Death Is a Comma

“In Gospel grammar,
Death is not an exclamation point,
Merely a comma.”

—Elder Neal A. Maxwell

Learning by Heart

Learning by heart...
means to learn something so deeply
that it becomes part of our core:
it fills us;
it changes us...

Learning by heart
in its richest sense is a gospel duty.
It is a twin commandment to remembering.
We are to learn spiritual truth by
heart and then retain in
remembrance what we have placed
deep in our hearts.

—Susan W. Tanner

Abraham Lincoln Quotes

“Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith, let us, to the end, dare to do our duty as we understand it.”

“...I know that the Lord is always on the side of the right. But it is my constant anxiety and prayer that I and this nation should be on the Lord’s side.”

“Stand with anybody that stands RIGHT. Stand with him while he is right and PART with him when he goes wrong.”

—Abraham Lincoln

Living What We Pray For

I knelt to pray when day was done
And prayed, "O Lord, bless everyone;
Lift from each saddened heart the pain,
And let the sick be well again."
And then I woke another day
And carelessly went on my way;
The whole day long, I did not try
To wipe a tear from any eye.
I did not try to share the load
Of any brother on the road;
I did not even go to see
The sick man, just next door to me.
Yet, once again, when day was done,
I prayed, "O Lord, bless everyone."
But as I prayed, into my ear
There came a voice that whispered clear:
"Pause now, my son, before you pray;
Whom have you tried to bless today?
God's sweetest blessings always go
By hands that serve Him here below."
And then I hid my face and cried,
"Forgive me, God, I have not tried.
Let me but live another day,
And I will live the way I pray."

—Whitney Montgomery

Love of Country

Breathes there a man with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said:
“This is my own, my native land”
Whose heart hath ne’er within him burned
As home his footsteps he hath turned,
From wandering in a foreign land?
If such there breathe go mark him well;
For him no minstrel raptures swell;
High though his titles, proud his name
Boundless his wealth as wish can claim;
Despite those titles, power and pelf,
The wretch concentrated all in self,
Living shall forfeit fair renown
And doubly dying shall go down
To the vile dust from whence he sprung
Unwept, unhonored, and unsung.”

—Sir Walter Scott

Luke 6:38

“Give and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.”

Man-Making

We are all blind, until we see
That in the universal plan
Nothing is worth the making if
It does not make the man.

Why build these kingdoms glorious
If man unbuilted goes?
In vain we build the world
Unless the builder grows.

—Edwin Markham

The Sun

“The sun shines through pollution
without taint.”

—Sir Francis Bacon

My Little Kingdom

A little kingdom I possess
Where thoughts and feelings dwell;
And very hard the task I find
Of governing it well.
For passion tempts and troubles me,
A wayward will misleads,
And selfishness its shadow casts
On all my words and deeds.

How can I learn to rule myself,
To be the child I should,
Honest and brave nor ever tire,
Of trying to be good?
How can I keep a sunny soul
To shine along life's way?
How can I tune my little heart
To sweetly sing all day?

Dear Father, help me with the love
That casteth out my fear!
Teach me to lean on Thee and feel,
That Thou art very near;
That no temptation is unseen
No childish grief too small,
Since Thou, with patience infinite
Doth soothe and comfort all.

I do not ask for any crown
But that which all may win:
Nor seek to conquer any world
Except the one within.
Be Thou my guide until I find
Led by a tender hand,
Thy happy kingdom in myself,
And dare to take command.

—Louisa May Alcott

Nothing Touches the Soul

Nothing touches the soul
But leaves its impress,
And thus, little by little
We are fashioned into the image
Of all we have seen, heard,
Known and meditated.
And if we learn to live
With all that is the fairest
And the purest and the best,
The love of it all will,
In the end,
Become our very lives.

—David B. Haight

Obedience

When obedience ceases to be an irritant and becomes our quest, in that moment God will endow us with power.

Ezra Taft Benson

Our Deepest Fear

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

—Marianne Williamson

Ozymandias

I met a traveler from an antique land,
Who said: Two vast and trunkless legs of stone
Stand in the desert. Near them, on the sand,
Half shrunk, a shattered visage lies, on whose frown,
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read,
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed:
And on the pedestal these words appear:
“My name is Ozymandias, King of Kings:
Look on my works, ye Mighty, and despair!”
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal wreck, boundless and bare
The lone and level sands stretch far away.

—Percy Bysshe Shelley

Principles of History

“The more we read of history, and particularly of sacred history, ... the more we can establish a pattern by which to guide our own lives which will lead us into productive living. He has set the way. That’s the road to progress, and whether it be in matters of theology or day-to-day living as part of the society in which we live, the principles which are set forth in the scriptures become principles which can make for happiness and understanding, lofty ideals by which to guide our lives, and the faith by which to move through the problems which we will inevitably confront as we go forward with our lives.”

—Gordon B. Hinckley

Sheri Dew Quote

“While life is meant to test, challenge, and strengthen [me], if [I am] attempting to negotiate the twists and turns and ups and downs of mortality alone, [I’m] doing it all wrong. Mortality is a test, but it is an open book test.

[I] have access not only to the divine text but to Him who authored it.”

Someone is Watching

Someone is watching
And that is a fact.
Someone will copy
The way that I act;
So make this your motto
And put it to use:
Be someone's example
And not his excuse.

—Kathy McDonald

The Book of Life

“The Book of Life is the record of the acts of man as such record is written in their own body. It is the record engraven in the very bones, sinews and flesh of the mortal body. That is every thought, word and deed has an effect on the human body. All these leave their marks, marks which can be read by Him who is eternal as easily as the words in a book can be read.”

—Bruce R. McConkie

The Carpenter of Nazareth

In Nazareth, the narrow road,
That tires the feet and steals the breath,
Passes the place where once abode
The Carpenter of Nazareth.

And up and down the dusty way
The village folk would often wend;
And on the bench, beside Him, lay
Their broken things for Him to mend.

The maiden with the doll she broke,
The woman with the broken chair,
The man with broken plough, or yoke,
Said, "Can you mend it, Carpenter?"

And each received the thing he sought,
In yoke, or plough, or chair, or doll;
The broken thing which each had brought
Returned again a perfect whole.

So, up the hill the long years through,
With heavy step and wistful eye,
The burdened souls their way pursue,
Uttering each the plaintive cry:

“O Carpenter of Nazareth,
This heart, that’s broken past repair,
This life, that’s shattered nigh to death,
Oh, can You mend them, Carpenter?”

And by His kind and ready hand,
His own sweet life is woven through
Our broken lives, until they stand
A New Creation—”all things new.”

“The shattered [substance] of [the] heart,
Desire, ambition, hope, and faith,
Mould Thou into the perfect part,
O, Carpenter of Nazareth!”

—George Blair

The Difference

I got up early one morning
and rushed right into the day;
I had so much to accomplish
that I didn't have time to pray.
Problems just tumbled about me,
and heavier came each task;
"Why doesn't God help me?" I wondered.
He answered, "You didn't ask."
I wanted to see joy and beauty,
but the day tolled on gray and bleak;
I wondered why God didn't show me.
He said, "But you didn't seek."
I tried to come into God's presence;
I used all my keys at the lock.
God gently and lovingly chided,
"My child, you didn't knock."
I woke up early this morning
and paused before entering the day;
I had so much to accomplish
that I had to take time to pray.

—Author Unknown

The Family

“The family is ordained of God. Marriage between man and woman is essential to His eternal plan. Children are entitled to birth within the bonds of matrimony, and to be reared by a father and a mother who honor marital vows with complete fidelity. Happiness in family life is most likely to be achieved when founded upon the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ. Successful marriages and families are established and maintained on principles of faith, prayer, repentance, forgiveness, respect, love, compassion, work, and wholesome recreational activities. By divine design, fathers are to preside over their families in love and righteousness and are responsible to provide the necessities of life and protection for their families. Mothers are primarily responsible for the nurture of their children.”

—The Family: A Proclamation to the World

The Living Christ

Week 1—As we commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ two millennia ago, we offer our testimony of the reality of His matchless life and the infinite virtue of His great atoning sacrifice. None other has had so profound an influence upon all who have lived and will yet live upon the earth.

Week 2—He was the Great Jehovah of the Old Testament, the Messiah of the New. Under the direction of His Father, He was the creator of the earth. “All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made”. Though sinless, He was baptized to fulfill all righteousness. He “went about doing good”, yet was despised for it. His gospel was a message of peace and goodwill.

Week 3—He entreated all to follow His example. He walked the roads of Palestine, healing the sick, causing the blind to see, and raising the dead. He taught the truths of eternity, the reality of our pre-mortal existence, the purpose of our life on earth, and the potential for the sons and daughters of God in the life to come.

Week 4—He instituted the sacrament as a reminder of His great atoning sacrifice. He was arrested and condemned on spurious charges, convicted to satisfy a mob, and sentenced to die on Calvary’s cross. He gave His life to atone for the sins of all mankind. His was a great vicarious gift in behalf of all who would ever live upon the earth.

Week 5—We solemnly testify that His life, which is central to all human history, neither began in Bethlehem nor concluded on Calvary. He was the Firstborn of the Father, the Only Begotten Son in the flesh, the Redeemer of the world.

Week 6—He rose from the grave to “become the first-fruits of them that slept”. As Risen Lord, He visited among those He had loved in life. He also ministered among His “other sheep” in ancient America. In the modern world, He and His Father appeared to the boy Joseph Smith, ushering in the long-promised “dispensation of the fullness of times”.

Week 7—Of the Living Christ, the Prophet Joseph wrote: “His eyes were as a flame of fire; the hair of his head was white like the pure snow; his countenance shone above the brightness of the sun; and his voice was as the sound of the rushing of great waters, even the voice of Jehovah, saying:

Week 8—“I am the first and the last; I am he who liveth, I am he who was slain; I am your advocate with the Father”. Of Him the Prophet also declared: “And now, after the many testimonies which have been given of him, this is the testimony, last of all, which we give of him: That he lives!

Week 9—“For we saw him, even on the right hand of God; and we heard the voice bearing record that he is the Only Begotten of the Father—“That by him, and through him, and of him, the worlds are and were created, and the inhabitants thereof are begotten sons and daughters unto God”.

Week 10—We declare in words of solemnity that His priesthood and His Church have been restored upon the earth—”built upon the foundation of... apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone”.

Week 11—We testify that He will someday return to earth. “And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together”. He will rule as King of Kings and reign as Lord of Lords, and every knee shall bend and every tongue shall speak in worship before Him. Each of us will stand to be judged of Him according to our works and the desires of our hearts.

Week 12—We bear testimony, as His duly ordained Apostles—that Jesus is the Living Christ, the immortal Son of God. He is the great King Immanuel, who stands today on the right hand of His Father. He is the light, the life, and the hope of the world. His way is the path that leads to happiness in this life and eternal life in the world to come. God be thanked for the matchless gift of His divine Son.

The Only Real Treasure

“It takes courage and commitment to follow the promptings of the Spirit because they may frighten us as they lead us to walk along new paths, sometimes paths that no one has walked before, paths of the second mile, of acting totally different from how worldly people act. For instance, we may be prompted to smile when someone offends us, to give love where others give hate, to say thank you where others would not find anything to be thankful for, to accept jobs that others would be too proud to do, to apologize where others would defend themselves, and to do all the seemingly crazy things that the Spirit prompts a righteous, honest, listening heart to do.”

—F. Enzo Busche

The Lord's Territory

“There is a division line well defined that separates the Lord's territory from Lucifer's. If we live on the Lord's side of the line Lucifer cannot come there to influence us, but if we cross the line into his territory we are in his power. By keeping the commandments of the Lord we are safe on His side of the line, but if we disobey His teachings we voluntarily cross into the zone of temptation and invite the destruction that is ever present there. Knowing this, how anxious we should always be to live on the Lord's side of the line.”

—George Albert Smith

D&C 123:17

“Therefore, dearly beloved..., let us cheerfully do all things that lie in our power; and then may we stand still, with the utmost assurance, to see the salvation of God, and for his arm to be revealed.”

D&C 128:22

“...shall we not go on in so great a cause?
Go forward and not backward. Courage,
brethren; and on, on to the victory!”

Unless You Let It In

All the water in the world,
However hard it tries,
Can never sink the smallest ship
Unless it gets inside.

And all the evil in the world,
The blackest kind of sin,
Can never hurt you in the least
Unless you let it in.

—Author unknown

Vice Is a Monster

Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,
As to be hated needs but to be seen;
Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face,
We first endure, then pity, then embrace.”

—Alexander Pope

We Must Stand Firm

We must stand firm. We must hold back the world. If we do so, the Almighty will be our strength and our protector, our guide and our revelator. We shall have the comfort of knowing that we are doing what he would have us do. Others may not agree with us, but I am confident that they will respect us. We will not be left alone.

We cannot be arrogant. We cannot be self-righteous. The very situation in which the Lord has placed us requires that we be humble as the beneficiaries of his direction.

While we cannot agree with others on certain matters, we must never be disagreeable. We must be friendly, soft-spoken, neighborly, and understanding.

—President Gordon B. Hinckley

We are Sowing

We sow our thoughts and we reap our actions;
We sow our actions and we reap our habits;
We sow our habits and we reap our character;
We sow our character and we reap our destiny.

We Will Speak Out

We will speak out, we will be heard,
 Though all the earth's systems crack;
We will not bate a single word,
 Nor take a letter back.
Let liars fear, let cowards shrink,
 Let traitors turn away;
Whatever we have dared to think
 That dare we also say.
We speak the truth, and what care we
 For hissing and for scorn,
While some faint gleamings we can see
 Of Freedom's coming morn?

—James Russell Lowell

Shortness of Sight

I have wept in the night
For the shortness of sight
That to somebody's need
Made me blind
But I never have yet
Felt a twinge of regret
For being a little too kind!

—Anonymous

Words are Wonderful Things

Keep a watch on your words, my darling,
For words are wonderful things;
They are sweet like bees' fresh honey,
Like the bees they have terrible stings;
They can bless like the warm, glad sunshine,
And brighten a lonely life;
They can cut in the strife of anger,
Like an open two-edged knife.

—Mrs. E. R. Miller

Would You Judge

Would you judge to the
lawfulness or unlawfulness
of pleasure?

Take this rule, now note:
Whatever weakens your reason,
impairs the tenderness of your
conscience, obscures your sense
of God, takes off your relish for
spiritual things; whatever
increases the authority of the
body over the mind; that thing is
sin to you, however innocent it
may seem in itself.

—Susannah Wesley

When We Choose to Follow Christ

“When we choose to follow Christ, we choose to be changed. The Lord works from the inside out; the world works from the outside in. The world would take the people out of the slums. Christ takes the slums out of the people and then they take themselves out of the slums. The world would mold men by changing their environment. Christ changes men—who then change their environment. The world would shape human behavior, but Christ can change human nature. Christ changes men and changed men can change the world.”

—Pres. Ezra Taft Benson

You That Have Faith

You that have faith to look with fearless eyes upon
the tragedy of world at strife
And know that out of death and night shall rise the
dawn of ampler life,
Rejoice whatever anguish rend your heart, that God
has given you the priceless power
To live in these great times and have your part in
freedom's crowning hour,
That you may tell your sons, who see the light high
in the heavens their heritage to take,
"I saw the powers of darkness take their flight. I saw
the morning break!"

—Anonymous