

# Joseph Campbell

## Quotes

*Inspirational, Life, Hero, People, Thinking, Adventure, Men, Dream, World, Art,  
Spiritual, Bliss, Way, Giving, Heart, Real, Fall, God, Mean, Artist*

We must let go of the life we have planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us.

~Joseph Campbell

Life has no meaning. Each of us has meaning and we bring it to life. It is a waste to be asking the question when you are the answer.

~Joseph Campbell

If the path before you is clear, you're probably on someone else's.

~Joseph Campbell

I don't believe people are looking for the meaning of life as much as they are looking for the experience of being alive.

~Joseph Campbell

The privilege of a lifetime is being who you are.

~Joseph Campbell

Find a place inside where there's joy, and the joy will burn out the pain.

~Joseph Campbell

Life is but a mask worn on the face of death. And is death, then, but another mask? 'How many can say,' asks the Aztec poet, 'that there is, or is not, a truth beyond?'

~Joseph Campbell

A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself.

~Joseph Campbell

Life is not a problem to be solved but a mystery to be lived. Follow the path that is no path, follow your bliss.

~Joseph Campbell

It is by going down into the abyss that we recover the treasures of life. Where you stumble, there lies your treasure.

~Joseph Campbell

When you are on your path, and it is truly your path, doors will open for you where there were no doors for someone else.

~Joseph Campbell

Your sacred space is where you can find yourself again and again.

~Joseph Campbell

All the gods, all the heavens, all the hells, are within you.

~Joseph Campbell

One way or another, we all have to find what best fosters the flowering of our humanity in this contemporary life, and dedicate ourselves to that.

~Joseph Campbell

The goal of life is to make your heartbeat match the beat of the universe, to match your nature with Nature.

~Joseph Campbell

When you make the sacrifice in marriage, you're sacrificing not to each other but to unity in a relationship.

~Joseph Campbell

At the darkest moment comes the light.

~Joseph Campbell

Follow your bliss and the universe will open doors where there were only walls.

~Joseph Campbell

Suddenly you're ripped into being alive. And life is pain, and life is suffering, and life is horror, but my god you're alive and its spectacular.

~Joseph Campbell

You've got to say yes to this miracle of life as it is, not on condition that it follow your rules.

~Joseph Campbell

No one in the world was ever you before, with your particular gifts and abilities and possibilities.

~Joseph Campbell

I think of compassion as the fundamental religious experience and, unless that is there, you have nothing.

~Joseph Campbell

When we quit thinking primarily about ourselves and our own self-preservation, we undergo a truly heroic transformation of consciousness.

~Joseph Campbell

I think the person who takes a job in order to live - that is to say, for the money - has turned himself into a slave.

~Joseph Campbell

Is the system going to flatten you out and deny you your humanity, or are you going to be able to make use of the system to the attainment of human purposes?

~Joseph Campbell

God is a metaphor for that which transcends all levels of intellectual thought. It's as simple as that.

~Joseph Campbell

We must be willing to get rid of the life we've planned, so as to have the life that is waiting for us. The old skin has to be shed before the new one can come. -

~Joseph Campbell

The old skin has to be shed before the new one can come.

~Joseph Campbell

Opportunities to find deeper powers within ourselves come when life seems most challenging.

~Joseph Campbell

Our demons are our own limitations, which shut us off from the realization of the ubiquity of the spirit . . . each of these demons is conquered in a vision quest.

~Joseph Campbell

Eternity is not future or past. Eternity is a dimension of now.

~Joseph Campbell

Computers are like Old Testament gods; lots of rules and no mercy.

~Joseph Campbell

Marriage is not a simple love affair, it's an ordeal, and the ordeal is the sacrifice of ego to a relationship in which two have become one.

~Joseph Campbell

You don't ask what a dance means. You enjoy it. You don't ask what the world means. You enjoy it. You don't ask what you mean. You enjoy it.

~Joseph Campbell

Your life is the fruit of your own doing. You have no one to blame but yourself.

~Joseph Campbell

Art is the set of wings to carry you out of your own entanglement.

~Joseph Campbell

The dark night of the soul comes just before revelation.

~Joseph Campbell

If you are on the right path you will find that invisible hands are helping.

~Joseph Campbell

Myth is much more important and true than history. History is just journalism and you know how reliable that is.

~Joseph Campbell

All we really want to do is dance.

~Joseph Campbell

If you can see your path laid out in front of you step by step, you know it's not your path. Your own path you make with every step you take. That's why it's your path.

~Joseph Campbell

The demon that you can swallow gives you it's power, and the greater life's pain, the greater life's reply.

~Joseph Campbell

We're so engaged in doing things to achieve purposes of outer value that we forget the inner value, the rapture that is associated with being alive, is what it is all about.

~Joseph Campbell

When everything is lost, and all seems darkness, then comes the new life and all that is needed.

~Joseph Campbell

The ultimate aim of the quest must be neither release nor ecstasy for oneself, but the wisdom and the power to serve others.

~Joseph Campbell

Follow your bliss. The heroic life is living the individual adventure. There is no security in following the call to adventure. Nothing is exciting if you know what the outcome is going to be.

~Joseph Campbell

The key to the Grail is compassion, 'suffering with,' feeling another's sorrow as if it were your own. The one who finds the dynamo of compassion is the one who's found the Grail.

~Joseph Campbell

It is the function of art to carry us beyond speech to experience.

~Joseph Campbell

I think of mythology as the homeland of the muses, the inspirers of art, the inspirers of poetry. To see life as a poem and yourself participating in a poem is what the myth does for you.

~Joseph Campbell

Life is without meaning. You bring the meaning to it. The meaning of life is whatever you ascribe it to be. Being alive is the meaning.

~Joseph Campbell

Myths are public dreams, dreams are private myths.

~Joseph Campbell

Midlife is when you reach the top of the ladder and find that it was against the wrong wall.

~Joseph Campbell

It takes courage to do what you want. Other people have a lot of plans for you... Follow your bliss.

~Joseph Campbell

Nothing is exciting if you know what the outcome is going to be.

~Joseph Campbell

You know, when real trouble comes your humanity is awakened. The fundamental human experience is that of compassion.

~Joseph Campbell

People forget facts, but they remember stories.

~Joseph Campbell

God is the experience of looking at a tree and saying, 'Ah!

~Joseph Campbell

Poets are simply those who have made a profession and a lifestyle of being in touch with their bliss.

~Joseph Campbell

The goal of life is rapture. Art is the way we experience it.

~Joseph Campbell

If you follow your bliss...the life that you ought to be living is the one you are living.

~Joseph Campbell

In the absence of an effective general mythology, each of us has his private, unrecognized, rudimentary, yet secretly potent pantheon of dreams.

~Joseph Campbell

The warrior's approach is to say 'yes' to life: 'yes' to it all.



~Joseph Campbell

Where you stumble and fall, there you will find gold.

~Joseph Campbell

The function of the society is to cultivate the individual. It is not the function of the individual to support society.

~Joseph Campbell

â€ž"Make your god transparent to the transcendent, and it doesn't matter what his name is."

~Joseph Campbell

For we have not even to risk the adventure alone, for the heroes of all time have gone before us.

~Joseph Campbell

It's a shame to waste [the uniqueness that is you], by doing what someone else has done.

~Joseph Campbell

The world is full of people who have stopped listening to themselves.

~Joseph Campbell

The hero journey is inside of you; tear off the veils and open the mystery of your self.

~Joseph Campbell

Regrets are illuminations come too late.

~Joseph Campbell

Whatever the hell happens, say, 'This is what I need.'

~Joseph Campbell

It is within you that the divine lives.

~Joseph Campbell

The big question is whether you are going to be able to say a hearty yes to your adventure.

~Joseph Campbell

The Fates guide those who will and drag those who won't!

~Joseph Campbell

Questing... is not an ego trip; it is an adventure to bring into fulfillment your gift to the world, which is yourself.

~Joseph Campbell

Passion will move men beyond themselves, beyond their shortcomings, beyond their failures.

~Joseph Campbell

People who don't have a concept of the whole can do very unfortunate things.

~Joseph Campbell

The god you worship is the one you're capable of becoming.

~Joseph Campbell

If you want resurrection, you must have crucifixion... The hoarder, the one in us that wants to keep, to hold on, must be killed.

~Joseph Campbell

There is perhaps nothing worse than reaching the top of the ladder and discovering that you're on the wrong wall.

~Joseph Campbell

Sit in a room and read--and read and read. And read the right books by

the right people. Your mind is brought onto that level, and you have a nice, mild, slow-burning rapture all the time.

~Joseph Campbell

When you follow your bliss a kind of track opens up, that's always been there, waiting for you. And the life that you should be living, is the one that you will be living.

~Joseph Campbell

Gods suppressed become devils, and often it is these devils whom we first encounter when we turn inward.

~Joseph Campbell

It's only when a man tames his own demons that he becomes the king of himself if not of the world.

~Joseph Campbell

Participate joyfully in the sorrows of the world. We cannot cure the world of sorrows, but we can choose to live in joy.

~Joseph Campbell

If you want the whole thing, the gods will give it to you. But you must be ready for it.

~Joseph Campbell

Don't do anything that isn't play

~Joseph Campbell

The Greeks, it will be recalled, regarded Eros, the god of love, as the eldest of the gods; but also as the youngest, born fresh and dewy-eyed in every living heart.

~Joseph Campbell

The less there is of you, the more you experience the sublime.

~Joseph Campbell

If marriage isn't a first priority in your life, you're not married.

~Joseph Campbell

Perhaps some of us have to go through dark and devious ways before we can find the river of peace or the highroad to the soul's destination.

~Joseph Campbell

The goal is to live with God like composure on the full rush of energy, like Dionysus riding the leopard, without being torn to pieces.

~Joseph Campbell

Love your enemies, for they determine who you are.

~Joseph Campbell

Follow your inner heart and the world moves in and helps.

~Joseph Campbell

Every act has both good and evil results. The best we can do is lean to the light.

~Joseph Campbell

Survival is the second law of life. The first is that we are all one.

~Joseph Campbell

If you are falling....dive.

~Joseph Campbell

The very cave you are afraid to enter turns out to be the source of what you are looking for.

~Joseph Campbell

You become mature when you become the authority of your own life.

~Joseph Campbell

Life is a guy trying to play a violin solo in public, while learning the music and his instrument at the same time.

~Joseph Campbell

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