

# Neal A. Maxwell

## Quotes

*Jesus, People, Soul, Giving, Adversity, Real, Spiritual, Men, Life, Father, Home,  
World, Time, Self, Heart, Children, Generosity, Thinking, Needs, Light*

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

The soul is like a violin string: it makes music only when it is stretched.

~Neal A. Maxwell

If, in the end, you have not chosen Jesus Christ it will not matter what you have chosen.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The more seriously we work on our own imperfections, the less we are judgemental of the imperfections of others.

~Neal A. Maxwell

We should certainly count our blessings, but we should also make our blessings count.

~Neal A. Maxwell

No love is ever wasted. Its worth does not lie in reciprocity.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The submission of one's will is really the only uniquely personal thing we have to place on God's altar. The many other things we 'give' are actually the things He has already given or loaned to us.

~Neal A. Maxwell

We should not assume; however, that just because something is unexplainable by us, it is unexplainable.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Trials and tribulations tend to squeeze the artificiality out of us, leaving the essence of what we really are and clarifying what we really yearn

for.

~Neal A. Maxwell

You rock a sobbing child without wondering if today's world is passing you by, because you know you hold tomorrow tightly in your arms.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The winds of tribulation, which blow out some men's candles of commitment, only fan the fires of faith of others.

~Neal A. Maxwell

When we rejoice in beautiful scenery, great art, and great music, it is but the flexing of instincts acquired in another place and another time.

~Neal A. Maxwell

It is our job to lift others up, not to size them up.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The hardest work you and I will ever do is to put off our selfishness. It is heavy lifting!

~Neal A. Maxwell

A society which permits anything will eventually lose everything.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Never give up what you want most for what you want today.

~Neal A. Maxwell

How could there be refining fires without our enduring some heat?

~Neal A. Maxwell

When great individuals move so marvelously along the straight and narrow path, it is unseemly of us to call attention to the fact that one of their shoelaces is untied as they make the journey.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Let us have integrity and not write checks with our tongues which our conduct cannot cash.

~Neal A. Maxwell

If we spent as much time lifting our children as we do criticizing them, how effectively we could help them to see themselves in a more positive light!

~Neal A. Maxwell

Thus worshiping, serving, studying, praying, each in its own way squeezes selfishness out of us; pushes aside our preoccupations with the things of the world.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Each of us is an innkeeper who decides if there is room for Jesus!

~Neal A. Maxwell

Many of those engaged in a lemming-like march to the sea are proud of their individualism.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Joshua didn't say choose you next year whom you will serve; he spoke of "this day," while there is still daylight and before the darkness becomes more and more normal.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Though we live in a failing world, we have not been sent here to fail.

~Neal A. Maxwell

If the kingdom of God is not first, it doesn't matter what's second.

~Neal A. Maxwell

We cannot repent for someone else. But we can forgive someone else, refusing to hold hostage those whom the Lord seeks to set free!

~Neal A. Maxwell

In contrast to the path of selfishness, there is no room for road rage on the straight and narrow way.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Faith in God includes Faith in God's timing.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Listening is one of the forms of love.

~Neal A. Maxwell

What we insistently desire, over time, is what we become.

~Neal A. Maxwell

God's extraordinary work is most often done by ordinary people in the seeming obscurity of a home and family.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Love, patience, and meekness can be just as contagious as rudeness and crudeness.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Consecration thus constitutes the only unconditional surrender which is also a total victory!

~Neal A. Maxwell

Good homes are still the best source of good humans.

~Neal A. Maxwell

All crosses are easier to carry when we keep moving.

~Neal A. Maxwell

In Gospel grammar, death is not an exclamation point, merely a comma.

~Neal A. Maxwell

We are often not only slow to get on our knees, but quick to rise from them.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Coming unto the Lord is not a negotiation, but a surrender.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The imperfections of others never release us from the need to work on our own shortcomings.

~Neal A. Maxwell

On the straight and narrow path, there are simply no corners to be cut.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The Lord doesn't ask about your ability, only your availability; and, if you prove your dependability, the Lord will increase your capability.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Do not let the future be held hostage by the past

~Neal A. Maxwell

Real hope is much more than wishful musing. It stiffens, not slackens, the spiritual spine.

~Neal A. Maxwell

It is better to trust and sometimes be disappointed than to be forever mistrusting and be right occasionally.

~Neal A. Maxwell

It is extremely important for you to believe in yourselves, not only for

what you are now, but for what you have the power to become.

~Neal A. Maxwell

You must not mistake passing local cloud cover, for general darkness.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Men and Women of Christ magnify their callings without magnifying themselves.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The more quickly we loosen our grip on the things of the world the more firmly we can take hold of the things of eternity.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Sometimes the best people... have the worst experiences... because they are ready to learn

~Neal A. Maxwell

We cannot improve the world if we are conformed to the world.

~Neal A. Maxwell

We cannot lead or draw others to Christ unless we stand closer to Him than they do.

~Neal A. Maxwell

If we are serious about our discipleship, Jesus will eventually request each of us to do those very things which are most difficult for us to do.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Discouragement is not the absence of adequacy but the absence of courage.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Let the scriptures refresh you.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Perfect love is perfectly patient.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The cavity which suffering carves into our souls will one day also be the receptacle of joy.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Defectors often cause more difficulty than disinterested disbelievers.

~Neal A. Maxwell

For the faithful, our finest hours are sometimes during or just following our darkest hours.

~Neal A. Maxwell

In one degree or another we all struggle with selfishness. Since it is so common, why worry about selfishness anyway? Because selfishness is really self-destruction in slow motion.

~Neal A. Maxwell

I am as I am, And so is a stone; Them that don't like me, Must leave me alone.

~Neal A. Maxwell

In the economy of Heaven, God does not send thunder if a still, small voice is enough, or a prophet if a priest can do the job.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Sometimes we are so busy being the hammer or the anvil, that we forget who really needs the shaping.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Don't fear, just live right.

~Neal A. Maxwell

It is so easy to be confrontive without being informative; indignant without being intelligent; impulsive without being insightful.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Daily hope is vital, since the "Winter Quarters" of our lives are not immediately adjacent to our promised land either. An arduous trek still awaits, but hope spurs weary disciples on.

~Neal A. Maxwell

A friend of mine who passed through a most severe trial, when I discussed it with him, he said simply, if it's fair, it isn't a trial.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Anger should never be an overnight guest.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Meekness, the subtraction of self, reduces the multiplication of words.

~Neal A. Maxwell

I testify that He is utterly incomparable in what He is, what He knows, what He has accomplished and what He has experienced. Yet, movingly, He calls us His Friends

~Neal A. Maxwell

Each day I see all about me the fruits of commandment-keeping.

~Neal A. Maxwell

We are so busy constantly checking our own temperatures, we fail to notice the burning fevers of others.

~Neal A. Maxwell

If another person only had in his storehouse of deserved self-esteem

what you had put there, what would he have to draw upon and to sustain him?

~Neal A. Maxwell

How good you and I get at repenting will determine how good life is.

~Neal A. Maxwell

In a very real sense, all we need to know is that God knows all.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Power is most safe with those who are not in love with it!

~Neal A. Maxwell

Pure religion is having the courage to do what is right and let the consequence follow.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Beware not to get caught up in the thick of thin things.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The great challenge is to refuse to let the bad things that happen to us do bad things to us. That is the crucial difference between adversity and tragedy.

~Neal A. Maxwell

God will facilitate, but He will not force.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Within what is allotted to us, we can have spiritual contentment.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Conscience warns us not to sink our cleats too deeply in mortal turf, which is so dangerously artificial.

~Neal A. Maxwell

A new calling can beckon us away from comfortable routine and from competencies already acquired.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Patience stoutly resists pulling up the daisies to see how the roots are doing!

~Neal A. Maxwell

Clearly, when we baptize, our eyes should gaze beyond the baptismal font to the holy temple. The great garner into which the sheaves should be gathered is the holy temple.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The mortal experience . . . is not like a college course which we can passively audit. Instead, we are taking life's course for credit and there are no summers off - not even semester breaks.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The Book of Mormon is to be feasted upon, not nibbled.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Though we have rightly applauded our ancestors for their spiritual achievements ... those of us who prevail today will have done no small thing.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The laughter of the world is merely loneliness pathetically trying to reassure itself.

~Neal A. Maxwell

We are vulnerable if we can be taken by a wave of emotion, invaded by an invidious impulse, roughed up by resentment, or engulfed by a surge of selfishness.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The issue for us is trusting God enough to trust also His timing. If we can truly believe He has our welfare at heart, may we not let His plans unfold as He thinks best?

~Neal A. Maxwell

Trying to observe the slow shift from self-centeredness to empathy is like trying to watch grass grow.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Do not write a check with your tongue that your actions cannot cash.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Any assessment of where we stand in relationship to Him tells us that we do not stand at all. We kneel.

~Neal A. Maxwell

We may never become accustomed to untrue and unjust criticism of us but we ought not to be immobilized by it.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The gross size of our talent inventories is less important than the net use of our talents?

~Neal A. Maxwell

God's anger is kindled not because we have harmed him but because we have harmed ourselves.

~Neal A. Maxwell

Love is never wasted, even if it is not reciprocated.

~Neal A. Maxwell

The dues of discipleship are high indeed, and how much we can take so often determines how much we can then give.

~Neal A. Maxwell

When our minds really catch hold of the significance of Jesus' atonement, the world's hold on us loosens.

~Neal A. Maxwell

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