

Philip Yancey

Quotes

*Jesus, Christian, Grace, People, Prayer, World, Church, Religious, Thinking,
Believe, Pain, Mean, Way, Faith, Doe, Heart, Fall, Giving, Needs, Views*

When I pray for another person, I am praying for God to open my eyes so that I can see that person as God does, and then enter into the stream of love that God already directs toward that person.

~Philip Yancey

I have learned that faith means trusting in advance what will make sense only in reverse.

~Philip Yancey

Yet as I read the birth stories about Jesus I cannot help but conclude that though the world may be tilted toward the rich and powerful, God is tilted toward the underdog.

~Philip Yancey

In a nutshell, the Bible from Genesis 3 to Revelation 22 tells the story of a God reckless with desire to get his family back.

~Philip Yancey

Grace, like water, flows to the lowest part.

~Philip Yancey

The proof of spiritual maturity is not how pure you are but awareness of your impurity. That very awareness opens the door to grace.

~Philip Yancey

Any discussion of how pain and suffering fit into God's scheme ultimately leads back to the cross.

~Philip Yancey

No one ever converted to Christianity because they lost the argument.

~Philip Yancey

In the stories of extravagant grace given to us by Jesus, there are no loopholes disqualifying us from God's love.

~Philip Yancey

I doubt God keeps track of how many arguments we win; God may indeed keep track of how well we love.

~Philip Yancey

I rejected the church for a time because I found so little grace there. I returned because I found grace nowhere else.

~Philip Yancey

Christians get very angry toward other Christians who sin differently than they do.

~Philip Yancey

The giants of the faith all had one thing in common: neither victory nor success, but passion.

~Philip Yancey

Grace means that God already loves us as much as an infinite God can possibly love.

~Philip Yancey

Doubt always coexists with faith, for in the presence of certainty who would need faith at all?

~Philip Yancey

When I am tempted to complain about God's lack of presence, I remind myself that God has much more reason to complain about my lack of presence.

~Philip Yancey

Jesus reserved his hardest words for the hidden sins of hypocrisy, pride, greed and legalism.

~Philip Yancey

Prayer is not a means of removing the unknown and predictable elements in life, but rather a way of including the unknown and unpredictable in the outworking of the grace of God in our lives.

~Philip Yancey

The problem of pain meets its match in the scandal of grace.

~Philip Yancey

The Bible never belittles human disappointment ... but it does add one key word: temporary.

~Philip Yancey

I go to church as an expression of my need for God and for God's family.

~Philip Yancey

Whenever faith seems an entitlement, or a measuring rod, we cast our lots with the Pharisees and grace softly slips away.

~Philip Yancey

For me, prayer is not so much me setting out a shopping list of requests for God to consider as it is a way of keeping company with God.

~Philip Yancey

Prayer is to the skeptic a delusion, a waste of time. To the believer it represents perhaps the most important use of time.

~Philip Yancey

People who think they are free eventually end up slaves to their own desires, and those who give their freedom away to the only One you can trust with that freedom eventually get it back.

~Philip Yancey

At the heart of the gospel is a God who deliberately surrenders to the

wild, irresistible power of love.

~Philip Yancey

The more we love, and the more unlikely people we love, the more we resemble God - who, after all, loves ornery creatures like us.

~Philip Yancey

There is but one true Giver in the universe; all else are debtors.

~Philip Yancey

Whatever makes us feel superior to other people, whatever tempts us to convey a sense of superiority, that is the gravity of our sinful nature, not grace.

~Philip Yancey

The promise of pleasures so alluring that we may devote our lives to their pursuit, and then the haunting realization that these pleasures ultimately do not satisfy.

~Philip Yancey

Human beings do not readily admit desperation. When they do, the kingdom of heaven draws near

~Philip Yancey

The surgery of life hurts. It helps me, though, to know that the surgeon himself, the Wounded Surgeon, has felt every stab of pain and every sorrow.

~Philip Yancey

Jesus' response to suffering people and to "nobodies" provides a glimpse into the heart of God. God is not the unmoved Absolute, but rather the Loving One who draws near.

~Philip Yancey

I would far rather convey grace than explain it.

~Philip Yancey

Be still. In that focus, all else comes into focus. In that rift in my routine, the universe falls into alignment.

~Philip Yancey

Christian faith is... basically about love and being loved and reconciliation. These things are so important, they're foundational and they can transform individuals, families.

~Philip Yancey

Imperfection is the prerequisite for grace. Light only gets in through the cracks.

~Philip Yancey

... the core problem with Christians communicating faith: we do not always do so in love. That is an indispensable point to presenting faith in a grace-full way.

~Philip Yancey

Prayer is the act of seeing reality from God's point of view.

~Philip Yancey

We grow up hungry for love, and in ways so deep as to remain unexpressed we long for our Maker to love us.

~Philip Yancey

The deadening part of Bible study is when you think you've already got it all figured out.

~Philip Yancey

Rather, God has commissioned us as agents of intervention in the midst of a hostile and broken world.

~Philip Yancey

Grace is the most perplexing, powerful force in the universe, and, I believe, the only hope for our twisted, violent planet.

~Philip Yancey

Love deems this world worth rescuing.

~Philip Yancey

I have yet to find any support in the Bible for an attitude of smugness: Ah, they deserve their punishment; watch them squirm.

~Philip Yancey

The world thirsts for grace. When grace descends, the world falls silent before it.

~Philip Yancey

God loves people because of who God is, not because of who we are.

~Philip Yancey

Christ bears the wounds of the church, his body, just as he bore the wounds of crucifixion. I sometimes wonder which have hurt worse.

~Philip Yancey

Prayer unfolds in the stillness of the soul.

~Philip Yancey

Grace is a free gift of God, but to receive a gift you must have open hands.

~Philip Yancey

Faith in God offers no insurance against tragedy.

~Philip Yancey

The uncommitted share many of our core values, but if we do not live out those values in a compelling way, we will not awaken a thirst for their ultimate Source.

~Philip Yancey

We're concerned with how things turn out; God seems more concerned with how we turn out.

~Philip Yancey

At Calvary, God accepted his own unbreakable terms of justice.

~Philip Yancey

I do not get to know God and then do His will. I get to know Him by doing His will.

~Philip Yancey

Jesus did not give the parables to teach us how to live. He gave them, I believe, to correct our notions about who God is and who God loves.

~Philip Yancey

I have found that living with faith in an unseen world requires constant effort.

~Philip Yancey

By focusing too myopically on what we want God to do on our behalf, we may miss the significance of what he has already done.

~Philip Yancey

Grace is heartfelt, tinged with love, a spillover gift of the God who extended undeserved favor toward us.

~Philip Yancey

Jesus announced a great reversal of values in His Sermon on the Mount, elevating not the rich or attractive, but rather the poor, the

persecuted, and those who mourn.

~Philip Yancey

Misunderstanding must be nakedly exposed before true understanding can begin to flourish.

~Philip Yancey

Prayer enters the pool of God's love and widens outward.

~Philip Yancey

And perhaps, exhibiting the fruit of the Spirit may be our very best defense against a materialist view of mankind here on earth.

~Philip Yancey

True healing, of deep connective tissue, takes place in community. Where is God when it hurts? Where God's people are.

~Philip Yancey

Sometimes I feel like the most liberal person among conservatives, and sometimes like the most conservative among liberals.

~Philip Yancey

The Cross of Christ may have overcome evil, but it did not overcome unfairness. For that, Easter is required.

~Philip Yancey

In no other arena is the church at greater risk of losing its calling than in the public square

~Philip Yancey

True faith does not so much attempt to manipulate God to do our will as it does to position us to do his will.

~Philip Yancey

Some things just have to be believed to be seen.

~Philip Yancey

The rubber hits the road when we try to show grace to a person most unlike us, even someone morally offensive.

~Philip Yancey

If prayer stands as the place where God and human beings meet, then I must learn about prayer.

~Philip Yancey

The Gospels and the rest of the New Testament reflect the life of Jesus, what it means for us & what it means for the world.

~Philip Yancey

We admit that we will never reach our ideal in this life, a distinctive the church claims that most other human institutions try to deny.

~Philip Yancey

If God doesn't want something for me, I shouldn't want it either. Spending time in meditative prayer, getting to know God, helps align my desires with God's.

~Philip Yancey

Some who attempt prayer never have the sense of anyone listening on the other end. They blame themselves for doing it wrong.... Prayer requires the faith to believe that God listens.

~Philip Yancey

Grace is everywhere, like lenses that go unnoticed because you are looking through them.

~Philip Yancey

God does not seem impressed by size or power or wealth. Faith is what

he wants, and the heroes who emerge are heroes of faith, not strength or wealth.

~Philip Yancey

We deserve punishment and get forgiveness; we deserve God's wrath and get God's love.

~Philip Yancey

The church is, above all, a place to receive grace: it brings forgiven people together with the aim of equipping us to dispense grace to others.

~Philip Yancey

Unless we love natural goods - sex, alcohol, food, money, success, power - in the way God intended, we become their slaves, as any addict can attest.

~Philip Yancey

We do well to remember that the Bible has far more to say about how to live during the journey than about the ultimate destination.

~Philip Yancey

Prayer is a declaration of dependence upon God.

~Philip Yancey

Homeless people bear God's image too.

~Philip Yancey

What a nation needs more than anything else is not a Christian ruler in the palace but a Christian prophet within earshot.

~Philip Yancey

Parents learn the uses of power and its limits. They can insist on certain outward behavior but cannot change inner attitudes. They can

require obedience but not goodness - and certainly not love.

~Philip Yancey

The only thing harder than forgiveness is the alternative.

~Philip Yancey

If my activism, however well-motivated, drives out love, then I have misunderstood Jesus' gospel. I am stuck with law, not the gospel of grace.

~Philip Yancey

Grace is free only because the giver himself has borne the cost.

~Philip Yancey

The world says you gain your life by getting more and more and more and more, but Jesus says, 'No, that leads to death. You get it back by giving it away and when you give it away you get it back.'

~Philip Yancey

We, Jesus' followers, are the agents assigned to carry out God's will on earth. Too easily we expect God to do something for us when instead God wants to do it through us.

~Philip Yancey

Prayer is - keeping company with God.

~Philip Yancey

For me, the world of nature bears spectacular witness to the imaginative genius of our Creator.

~Philip Yancey

Across time and generations, books carry the thoughts and feelings, the essence, of the human spirit.

~Philip Yancey

When I don't know the answer to something, I write a book about it because it gives me a chance to explore it and go to some people who do have the answers.

~Philip Yancey

The presence of another caring person doubles the amount of pain a person can endure.

~Philip Yancey

Goodness cannot be imposed externally, from the top down; it must grow internally, from the bottom up.

~Philip Yancey

A God wise enough to create me and the world I live in is wise enough to watch out for me.

~Philip Yancey

All too often the church holds up a mirror reflecting back the society around it, rather than a window revealing a different way.

~Philip Yancey

[Jesus] invoked a different kind of power: love, not coercion.

~Philip Yancey

Whatever else we may say about it, the atonement fulfills the Jewish principle that only one who has been hurt can forgive. At Calvary, God chose to be hurt.

~Philip Yancey

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