

# Phillips Brooks Quotes

*Men, Life, Prayer, Christian, Easter, Thinking, Inspirational, Christmas, Jesus,  
Children, God, Giving, May, Friday, Light, Heaven, Soul, Flower, Dark,  
Greatness*

Be patient and understanding. Life is too short to be vengeful or malicious.

~Phillips Brooks

Character may be manifested in the great moments, but it is made in the small ones.

~Phillips Brooks

Pray the largest prayers. You cannot think a prayer so large that God, in answering it, will not wish you had made it larger. Pray not for crutches but for wings.

~Phillips Brooks

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.

~Phillips Brooks

Jesus Christ, the condescension of divinity, and the exaltation of humanity.

~Phillips Brooks

I do not pray for a lighter load, but for a stronger back.

~Phillips Brooks

Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers. Pray for powers equal to your tasks.

~Phillips Brooks

Charity should begin at home, but should not stay there.

~Phillips Brooks

The ideal life is in our blood and never will be still.

~Phillips Brooks

The trouble is that I'm in a hurry, but God isn't.

~Phillips Brooks

O, do not pray for easy lives.

~Phillips Brooks

Life is too short to nurse one's misery. Hurry across the lowlands so that you may spend more time on the mountain tops.

~Phillips Brooks

If man is man and God is God, to live without prayer is not merely an awful thing: it is an infinitely foolish thing.

~Phillips Brooks

A man who lives right, and is right, has more power in his silence than another has by his words.

~Phillips Brooks

Happiness is the natural flower of duty.

~Phillips Brooks

We do not want to lose our grief, because our grief is bound up with our love and we could not cease to mourn without being robbed of our affections.

~Phillips Brooks

No one ever fell under the burden of the day; it is only when the burden of tomorrow is added that the load becomes unbearable.

~Phillips Brooks

Distrust your religion unless it is cheerful, unless it turns every act and deed to music and exults in attempts to catch the harmony of the new life.â€Ž

~Phillips Brooks

Nothing lies beyond the reach of prayer except that which lies outside the will of God.

~Phillips Brooks

Death is strong, but Life is stronger.

~Phillips Brooks

Anger is self-immolation.

~Phillips Brooks

Christmas day is a day of joy and charity. May God make you very rich in both.

~Phillips Brooks

Self-confidence is either a petty pride in our own narrowness, or a realization of our duty and privilege as one of God's children.

~Phillips Brooks

The more man becomes irradiated with Divinity, the more, not the less, truly he is man.

~Phillips Brooks

Christianity helps us face the music even when we don't like the tune.

~Phillips Brooks

Preaching is truth through personality.

~Phillips Brooks

Everywhere the flower of obedience is intelligence. Obey a man with cordial loyalty and you will understand him.

~Phillips Brooks

Life comes before literature, as the material always comes before the work. The hills are full of marble before the world blooms with statues.

~Phillips Brooks

Obedience completes itself in understanding.

~Phillips Brooks

We are haunted by an ideal life, and it is because we have within us the beginning and the possibility of it.

~Phillips Brooks

Bear with the faults of others as you would have them bear with yours.

~Phillips Brooks

Feed on Christ, and then go and live your life, and it is Christ in you that lives your life, that helps the poor, that tells the truth, that fights the battle, and that wins the crown.

~Phillips Brooks

The form of godliness may exist with secret and with open wickedness, but the power of godliness cannot.

~Phillips Brooks

The earth has grown old with its burden of care, But at Christmas it always is young.

~Phillips Brooks

Pray for powers equal to your tasks.

~Phillips Brooks

The faith which you keep must be a faith that demands obedience, and you can keep it only by obeying it.

~Phillips Brooks

Be such a man, and live such a life, that if every man were such as you, and every life a life like yours, this earth would be God's Paradise.

~Phillips Brooks

A prayer in its simplest definition is merely a wish turned Godward.

~Phillips Brooks

Let every man and woman count himself immortal. Let him catch the revelation of Jesus in his resurrection. Let him say not merely, "Christ is risen," but "I shall rise."

~Phillips Brooks

Set yourself earnestly to see what you are made to do, and then set yourself earnestly to do it.

~Phillips Brooks

Genius, by its very intensity, decrees a special path of fire for its vivid power.

~Phillips Brooks

Call your opinions your creed, and you will change it every week.

~Phillips Brooks

It is while you are patiently toiling at the little tasks of life that the meaning and shape of the great whole of life dawn on you.

~Phillips Brooks

No one who has come to true greatness has not felt in some degree that his life belongs to the people, and what God has given them he gives it for mankind.

~Phillips Brooks

Very strange is this quality of our human nature which decrees that unless we feel a future before us we do not live completely in the present.

~Phillips Brooks

It is almost as presumptuous to think you can do nothing as to think you can do everything.

~Phillips Brooks

The solution to sin is not to impose an ever-stricter code of behavior. It is to know God.

~Phillips Brooks

Christ will rise on Easter day!

~Phillips Brooks

Do not pray for easy lives. Pray to be stronger men! Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers. Prayer is not conquering God's reluctance, but taking hold of God's willingness.

~Phillips Brooks

If we could sweep intemperance out of the country, there would be hardly poverty enough left to

~Phillips Brooks

We may say that on the first Good Friday afternoon was completed that great act by which light conquered darkness and goodness conquered sin. That is the wonder of our Saviour's crucifixion.

~Phillips Brooks

Greatness after all, in spite of its name, appears to be not so much a certain size as a certain quality in human lives. It may be present in lives whose range is very small.

~Phillips Brooks

The great Easter truth is not that we are to live newly after death - that is not the great thing - but that...we are to, and may, live nobly now because we are to live forever.

~Phillips Brooks

Wherever souls are being tried and ripened, in whatever commonplace and homely way, there God is hewing out the pillars for His temple.

~Phillips Brooks

When you discover you've been leading only half a life, the other half is going to haunt you until you develop it.

~Phillips Brooks

We anticipate a time when the love of truth shall have come up to our love of liberty, and men shall be cordially tolerant and earnest believers both at once.

~Phillips Brooks

Where charity stands watching and faith holds wide the door the dark night wakes - the glory breaks, Christmas comes once more.

~Phillips Brooks

Never fear to bring the sublimest motive to the smallest duty, and the most infinite comfort to the smallest trouble.

~Phillips Brooks

Be courageous. Be independent. Only remember where the true courage and independence come from.

~Phillips Brooks

To believe in the God over us and around us and not in the God within us - that would be a powerless and fruitless faith.

~Phillips Brooks

For the Christ-child who comes is the Master of all; No palace too great, no cottage too small.

~Phillips Brooks

There are passages of the Bible that are soiled forever by the touches



of the hands of ministers who delight in the cheap jokes they have left behind them.

~Phillips Brooks

Call your opinions your creed, and you will change it every week. Make your creed simply and broadly out of the revelation of God, and you may keep it to the end.

~Phillips Brooks

Character cannot be made except by a steady, long-continued process.

~Phillips Brooks

While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

~Phillips Brooks

Pray the largest prayers. pray not for crutches but for wings.

~Phillips Brooks

The place where two friends first met is sacred to them all through their friendship, all the more sacred as their friendship deepens and grows old.

~Phillips Brooks

The truest help we can render an afflicted man is not to take his burden from him, but to call out his best energy, that he may be able to bear the burden.

~Phillips Brooks

It does not take great men to do great things; it only takes consecrated men.

~Phillips Brooks

Pray for and work for fullness of life above every thing; full red blood in

the body; full honesty and truth in the mind; and the fullness of a grateful love for the Saviour in your heart.

~Phillips Brooks

You must learn, you must let God teach you, that the only way to get rid of your past is to make a future out of it. God will waste nothing.

~Phillips Brooks

We never become truly spiritual by sitting down and wishing to become so. You must undertake something so great that you cannot accomplish it unaided.

~Phillips Brooks

Think of life as a voyage. The truest liver of the truest life is like a voyager who, as he sails, is not indifferent to all the beauty of the sea around him.

~Phillips Brooks

To say 'well done' to any bit of good work is to take hold of the powers which have made the effort and strengthen them beyond our knowledge.

~Phillips Brooks

The feet of the humblest may walk in the field Where the feet of the Holiest trod, This, then, is the marvel to mortals revealed.

~Phillips Brooks

Wherever, in any world, a soul, by free-willed obedience, catches the fire of God's likeness, it is set into the growing walls, a living stone.

~Phillips Brooks

Devotion is like the candle which Michael Angelo used to take in his pasteboard cap, so as not to throw his shadow upon the work in which he was engaged.

~Phillips Brooks

Do not dare to live without some clear intention toward which your living shall be bent. Mean to be something with all your might.

~Phillips Brooks

Get up; repent. Come to God. Get the pattern of your life from Him, and then go about your work and be yourself.

~Phillips Brooks

There is a necessary limit to our achievement, but none to our attempt.

~Phillips Brooks

Greatness is not so much a certain size as a certain quality in your life.

~Phillips Brooks

It is good for us to think that no grace or blessing is truly ours till we are aware that God has blessed some one else with it through us.

~Phillips Brooks

The lives of men who have been always growing are strewn along their whole course with the things they have learned to do without.

~Phillips Brooks

Those who help a child help humanity with an immediateness which no other help given to human creature in any other stage of human life can possibly give again.

~Phillips Brooks

As you emphasize your life, you must localize and define it... you cannot do everything.

~Phillips Brooks

The man, who has begun to live more seriously within, begins to live

more simply without.

~Phillips Brooks

O Risen Christ! O Easter Flower! How dear Thy Grace has grown!  
From east to west, with loving power, Make all the world Thine own.

~Phillips Brooks

The absence of sentimentalism in Christ's relations with men is what makes His tenderness so exquisitely touching.

~Phillips Brooks

Joy in one's work is the consummate tool.

~Phillips Brooks

Much as we deplore our condition in life, nothing would make us more satisfied with it than the changing of places, for a few days, with our neighbors.

~Phillips Brooks

There is such a difference between coming out of sorrow thankful for relief, and coming out of sorrow full of sympathy with and trust in Him who has released us.

~Phillips Brooks

Heaven does not make holiness, but holiness makes heaven.

~Phillips Brooks

Everything keeps its best nature only by being put to its best use.

~Phillips Brooks

Society does not exist for itself, but for the individual; and man goes into it, not to lose, but to find himself.

~Phillips Brooks

Only the soul that with an overwhelming impulse and a perfect trust gives itself up forever to the life of other men, finds the delight and peace which such complete self-surrender has to give.

~Phillips Brooks

Christianity knows no truth which is not the child of love and the parent of duty.

~Phillips Brooks

The Saviour comes in the strength of righteousness. Righteousness is at the bottom of all things. Righteousness is thorough; it is the very spirit of unsparing truth.

~Phillips Brooks

It is not pride when the beech-tree refuses to copy the oak. He knows his limitations. The only chance of any healthy life for him is to be as full a beech-tree as he can.

~Phillips Brooks

To find his place and fill it is success for a man.

~Phillips Brooks

The essential tendency of life is toward happiness . . . . Optimism is the only true condition for a reasonable man.

~Phillips Brooks

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