

Timothy Keller

Quotes

*Jesus, Christian, Heart, People, Grace, Religious, God, Prayer, Mean, Thinking,
Giving, Believe, Sin, Christ, Suffering, World, Needs, Self, Church, Way*

Legalistic remorse says, "I broke God's rules," while real repentance says, "I broke God's heart."

~Timothy Keller

God sees us as we are, loves us as we are, and accepts us as we are. But by His grace, He does not leave us as we are.

~Timothy Keller

The basic purpose of prayer is not to bend God's will to mine, but to mold my will into His.

~Timothy Keller

Jesus didn't come to tell us the answers to the questions of life, he came to be the answer.

~Timothy Keller

The gospel is this: We are more sinful and flawed in ourselves than we ever dared believe, yet at the very same time we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope.

~Timothy Keller

The only person who dares wake up a king at 3:00 AM for a glass of water is a child. We have that kind of access

~Timothy Keller

Everyone says they want community and friendship. But mention accountability or commitment to people, and they run the other way.

~Timothy Keller

God looks at the anxious and says, I tore my Son to shreds for you, and you're afraid I will not give you what you need?

~Timothy Keller

There are some needs only you can see. There are some hands only

you can hold. There are some people only you can reach.

~Timothy Keller

If our identity is in our work, rather than Christ, success will go to our heads, and failure will go to our hearts.

~Timothy Keller

In religion, you obey because God is useful. In Christianity, you obey because God is beautiful.

~Timothy Keller

Christianity does not provide the reason for each experience of pain, but it does provide deep resources for actually facing suffering with hope and courage rather than bitterness and despair

~Timothy Keller

We need to remember that we are saved by grace when we fail. But we need to remember it much more when we succeed.

~Timothy Keller

Jesus Christ was treated as we deserved so that when we believe in Jesus, God treats us as Jesus deserves.

~Timothy Keller

After creation God said, 'It is finished'-and he rested. After redemption Jesus said, 'It is finished'-and we can rest.

~Timothy Keller

The more you understand how your salvation isn't about your behavior, the more radically your behavior will change.

~Timothy Keller

Religion: 'My identity is built on being a good person.' Gospel: 'My identity is not built on my record or my performance but on Christ's.'

~Timothy Keller

Worry is not believing God will get it right, and bitterness is believing God got it wrong.

~Timothy Keller

Secularism and Religion are both all about your personal performance. The Gospel is the performance of another applied to you.

~Timothy Keller

Love is the effort and desire to make someone else everything they were created to be.

~Timothy Keller

Many times people think if God has called you to something, he's promising you success. He might be calling you to fail to prepare you for something else through the failure.

~Timothy Keller

It is not the strength of your faith but the object of your faith that actually saves you.

~Timothy Keller

Friends become wiser together through a healthy clash of viewpoints.

~Timothy Keller

Those who understand the gospel cannot possibly look down on anyone, since they were saved by sheer grace, not by their perfect doctrine or strong moral character.

~Timothy Keller

Jesus came into this world not as a philosopher or a general but as a carpenter. All work matters to God.

~Timothy Keller

Religion says earn your life. Secular society says create your life. Jesus says, 'My life for your life.'

~Timothy Keller

If you love anything in this world more than God, you will crush that object under the weight of your expectations.

~Timothy Keller

I am going to judge my circumstances by Jesus' love, not Jesus' love by my circumstances.

~Timothy Keller

...the essence of gospel-humility is not thinking more of myself or thinking less of myself, it is thinking of myself less.

~Timothy Keller

Legalism is looking to something besides Jesus Christ in order to be acceptable and clean before God.

~Timothy Keller

We are called not simply to communicate the gospel to nonbelievers; we must also intentionally celebrate the gospel before them.

~Timothy Keller

Tolerance isn't about not having beliefs. It's about how your beliefs lead you to treat people who disagree with you.

~Timothy Keller

Job never saw why he suffered, but he saw God, and that was enough.

~Timothy Keller

If the church does not identify with the marginalized, it will itself be marginalized. This is God's poetic justice.

~Timothy Keller

We must have a strong inner life of fellowship and intimacy with Jesus if we are going to have a strong outer life of ministry

~Timothy Keller

When I forget the gospel I become dependent on the smiles and evaluation of others.

~Timothy Keller

If you say: I believed in God, I trusted God and He didn't come through
- You only trusted God to meet your agenda.

~Timothy Keller

You don't fall in love. You commit to it.

~Timothy Keller

Fear-based repentance makes us hate ourselves. Joy-based repentance makes us hate the sin.

~Timothy Keller

When you forgive, that means you absorb the loss and the debt. You bear it yourself. All forgiveness, then, is costly.

~Timothy Keller

If we have not seen our sin and sought radical forgiveness from God, we will be unable to forgive and to seek the good of those who have wronged us.

~Timothy Keller

The great basis of Christian assurance is not how much our hearts are set on God, but how unshakably his heart is set on us.

~Timothy Keller

The way to find your calling is to look at the way you were created. Your gifts have not emerged by accident.

~Timothy Keller

When we grasp that we are unworthy sinners saved by an infinitely costly grace, it destroys both our self-righteousness and our need to ridicule others.

~Timothy Keller

People are messy; therefore, relationships will be messy. Don't be surprised by messiness.

~Timothy Keller

The Bible says that our real problem is that every one of us is building our identity on something besides Jesus.

~Timothy Keller

It is impossible to forgive someone if you feel superior to him or her.

~Timothy Keller

Suffering can refine us rather than destroy us because God himself walks with us in the fire.

~Timothy Keller

If God is not at the center of your life, something else is.

~Timothy Keller

Jesus's teaching consistently attracted the irreligious while offending the Bible-believing, religious people of his day.

~Timothy Keller

Look at Jesus Christ. Every time he was in trouble he used the Word of God. When he was tempted he used the Word. When he was suffering on the cross he used the Word.

~Timothy Keller

In the church we have to deliberately let ourselves be transparent and accountable to others. We're a family.

~Timothy Keller

When people say, "I know God forgives me, but I can't forgive myself," they mean that they have failed an idol, whose approval is more important than God's.

~Timothy Keller

Think like a prophet, serve like a priest, and plan like a king.

~Timothy Keller

What you do today is shaped by what you believe about tomorrow.

~Timothy Keller

The infallible test of spiritual integrity, Jesus says, is your private prayer life.

~Timothy Keller

Religion makes us proud of what we have done. The Gospel makes us proud of what Jesus has done.

~Timothy Keller

You are more sinful than you could dare imagine and you are more loved and accepted than you could ever dare hope.

~Timothy Keller

To discover the real you, look at what you spend time thinking about when no one is looking.

~Timothy Keller

Because of Jesus-there is always hope, even in the darkest moments of your life.

~Timothy Keller

Discipleship is not an option. Jesus says that if anyone would come after me, he must follow me.

~Timothy Keller

In the end, we love people into belief. We do not argue them into belief.

~Timothy Keller

No one is so good that they don't need the grace of the gospel, nor so bad that they can't receive the grace of the gospel.

~Timothy Keller

The world values power, comfort, success, and recognition. Jesus frees us to value grief, sacrifice, weakness, and exclusion.

~Timothy Keller

Marriage is two broken people having little broken people.

~Timothy Keller

Trust is accepting what God sends into your life whether you understand it or not.

~Timothy Keller

The sin that is most destructive in your life right now is the one you are most defensive about.

~Timothy Keller

You can't live the Christian life without a band of Christian friends, without a family of believers in which you find a place.

~Timothy Keller

A life of gratitude to God for being saved is far more pleasing than a life based on self-righteousness over being good.

~Timothy Keller

Suffering is unbearable if you aren't certain that God is for you and with you.

~Timothy Keller

Nothing is more important than to learn how to maintain a life of purpose in the midst of painful adversity.

~Timothy Keller

It is no more narrow to claim that one religion is right than to claim that one way to think about all religions is right.

~Timothy Keller

Jesus experienced homelessness at Christmas so that we could experience a love we could never lose.

~Timothy Keller

You are under-qualified for the job of God.

~Timothy Keller

I hate the moment when suddenly my anger turns into tears

~Timothy Keller

As long as we think we are not that bad, the idea of grace will never change us.

~Timothy Keller

To pray is to accept that we are, and always will be, wholly dependent on God for everything.

~Timothy Keller

To say doctrine doesn't matter, only how you live matters, is itself a doctrine. It's the doctrine of salvation by works.

~Timothy Keller

If you aren't constantly astonished at God's grace in your solitude, there's no way it can happen in public.

~Timothy Keller

Jesus cannot be just liked. His claims make us either kill him or crown him.

~Timothy Keller

Putting our faith in Christ is not about trying harder; it means transferring our trust away from ourselves and resting in him.

~Timothy Keller

Religion operates on the principle 'I obey-therefore I am accepted by God.' But the operating principle of the gospel is 'I am accepted by God through what Christ has done-therefore I obey.'

~Timothy Keller

You don't fall into love. You commit to it. Love is saying I will be there no matter what.

~Timothy Keller

In the original language, 'Fear the Lord' doesn't mean be afraid. It means sustaining a joyful, astonished awe, and wonder before Him.

~Timothy Keller

Hell is having to execute a pointless act from which nothing ever comes except the need to do it again.

~Timothy Keller

Rejoicing and repentance must go together. Repentance without rejoicing will lead to despair. Rejoicing without repentance is shallow and will only provide passing inspiration instead of deep change.

~Timothy Keller

God will only give you what you would have asked for if you knew everything he knows

~Timothy Keller

People only get in the afterlife what they have most wanted-either to have God as Savior and Master or to be their own Saviors and Masters.

~Timothy Keller

How do you change your behavior? Change what you worship

~Timothy Keller

The peace of God is not the absence of fear. It, in fact, is His presence.

~Timothy Keller

Forgiveness always comes at a cost to the one granting the forgiveness. To not retaliate is to absorb the cost.

~Timothy Keller

Bad evangelism says: I'm right, you're wrong, and I would love to tell you about it

~Timothy Keller

God relentlessly offers his grace to people who do not deserve it, or seek it, or even appreciate it after they have been saved by it.

~Timothy Keller

We should let Scripture interpret us more than we interpret Scripture.

~Timothy Keller

The reason the stone was rolled away on Jesus's tomb was not so that Jesus could get out, but so that we could get in.

~Timothy Keller

The essence of Christian obedience is not do's and don'ts but personal allegiance to Jesus.

~Timothy Keller

We can only grasp the gospel's sweetness if we first grapple with its offense- you can't save yourself.

~Timothy Keller

We only fully grasp the gospel when we understand, as Paul did, that we are the worst sinner we know

~Timothy Keller

If you add anything to Jesus as a requirement for being happy, that's your real king.

~Timothy Keller

If you want God's grace, all you need is need, all you need is nothing.

~Timothy Keller

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