

Vincent de Paul

Quotes

*Faith, Wisdom, Men, Heart, Order, Giving, Leadership, Humble, Charity,
Practice, Way, People, Doe, Suffering, Son, Prayer, Fall, Mean, Thinking,
Humility*

Charity is the cement which binds Communities to God and persons to one another . . .

~Vincent de Paul

If God is the center of your life, no words are necessary. Your mere presence will touch hearts.

~Vincent de Paul

We should strive to keep our hearts open to the sufferings and wretchedness of other people, and pray continually that God may grant us that spirit of compassion which is truly the spirit of God.

~Vincent de Paul

We should spend as much time in thanking God for his benefits as we do in asking him for them.

~Vincent de Paul

The most powerful weapon to conquer the devil is humility. For, as he does not know at all how to employ it, neither does he know how to defend himself from it.

~Vincent de Paul

We must love our neighbor as being made in the image of God and as an object of His love.

~Vincent de Paul

Make it a practice to judge persons and things in the most favorable light at all times and under all circumstances.

~Vincent de Paul

Let us do our duty well; let us go straight to God; let us work to become very humble, very patient, very mortified, and very charitable.

~Vincent de Paul

God allows us to give rise to the practice of two beautiful virtues: perseverance, which leads us to attain the goal, and constancy, which helps us to overcome difficulties.

~Vincent de Paul

Let us allow God to act; He brings things to completion when we least expect it.

~Vincent de Paul

Humility is nothing but truth, and pride is nothing but lying.

~Vincent de Paul

All beginnings are somewhat strange; but we must have patience, and little by little, we shall find things, which at first were obscure, becoming clearer.

~Vincent de Paul

One beautiful diamond is worth more than a mountain of stones, and one virtuous act of acquiescence and submission is better than an abundance of good works done for others.

~Vincent de Paul

I will always welcome joyfully any opportunity that comes my way to be of service to you

~Vincent de Paul

We must be full reservoirs in order to let our water spill out without becoming empty, and we must possess the spirit with which we want them to be animated, for no one can give what he does not have.

~Vincent de Paul

There is no act of charity that is not accompanied by justice or that permits us to do more than we reasonably can.

~Vincent de Paul

To this end, we should help and support one another and strive for peace and union among ourselves. This is the wine that cheers and strengthens travelers along the narrow path of Jesus Christ.

~Vincent de Paul

A doctor who keeps a person from becoming ill deserves more merit than one who cures him.

~Vincent de Paul

Put your trust in Him and following His example, always act humbly, graciously, and in good faith.

~Vincent de Paul

Oh! how happy the man of means who uses his wealth and his life for the greater glory of God, from whom he has received them!

~Vincent de Paul

All comes at the proper time to him who knows how to wait.

~Vincent de Paul

God always gives a great blessing to humble beginnings than to those that start with the chiming of bells.

~Vincent de Paul

Fear not; calm will follow the storm, and perhaps soon.

~Vincent de Paul

We should take as a maxim never to be surprised at current difficulties, no more than at a passing breeze, because with a little patience we shall see them disappear. Time changes everything.

~Vincent de Paul

Noise makes no good, good makes no noise.

~Vincent de Paul

Be acted upon rather than active. In this way, God will do through you alone what all men put together could not do without Him.

~Vincent de Paul

. . . [I]n the kingdom of charity, one prefers to suffer some inconvenience rather than inconvenience the neighbor.

~Vincent de Paul

[Do not] overburden yourself with rules of devotion, but persist in doing well those you have, your daily actions, your work; in a word, let everything revolve around doing well what you are doing.

~Vincent de Paul

Rarely is any good done without difficulty; the devil is too subtle and the world too corrupt not to attempt to nip such a good work in the bud

~Vincent de Paul

It is a good sign when He burdens us with [crosses] and we carry them well, but woe to the person who runs away from them, for he will find such heavy ones that they will overwhelm him.

~Vincent de Paul

[E]ven if the whole world should rise up to destroy us, nothing will happen except that God, in whom we have put our hope, will allow.

~Vincent de Paul

There are good, God-fearing persons who still fall into certain faults, and it is better to bear with them than to be hard on them.

~Vincent de Paul

Always be quite simple and sincere and ask God to grant me those two virtues.

~Vincent de Paul

Practice humility and patience.

~Vincent de Paul

Let us be submissive to Providence, He will see to our affairs in His own time and in His own way

~Vincent de Paul

Naturally, everyone is disheartened by sharp reprimands, and by the most amiable corrections as well, if they are frequent, immoderate, or given inappropriately.

~Vincent de Paul

Since God is satisfied with our good will and honest efforts, let us also be satisfied with the outcome He gives to them, and our actions will never be without good results

~Vincent de Paul

do not be surprised by your trials, since the Son of God has chosen them for our salvation.

~Vincent de Paul

Indeed, good is not good if one does not suffer in doing it.

~Vincent de Paul

Providence must call us and we must follow it, if we are to go forward confidently.

~Vincent de Paul

I have made to God the offering you made to me of your heart and have asked him to unite mine with yours in that of Our Lord.

~Vincent de Paul

[L]ove is inventive to infinity.

~Vincent de Paul

Peace is worth more than all worldly possessions; in addition, God rewards it even in this life.

~Vincent de Paul

The works of God are not accomplished when we wish them, but whenever it pleases Him.

~Vincent de Paul

Who will excuse us before God for the loss of such a great number of people, who could be saved by the slight assistance we could give them?

~Vincent de Paul

Peace is worth far more than anything they might take from you.

~Vincent de Paul

Naturally, everyone loves his freedom, but we must beware of this as of a broad road that leads to perdition.

~Vincent de Paul

And what are we doing if we are not doing God's Will?

~Vincent de Paul

Things arrange themselves with time. Only God can have everything to His liking; His servants should act as Our Lord did.

~Vincent de Paul

Remember, Monsieur, that the downfall of most Communities comes from the cowardice of Superiors in not holding firm and in not purging them of the troublesome and incorrigible.

~Vincent de Paul

There is nothing good that does not meet with opposition, and it should not be valued any less because it encounters objections.

~Vincent de Paul

. . . [R]estlessness usually stems from pride and from being discontented with one's lot in life.

~Vincent de Paul

Nature makes trees put down deep roots before having them bear fruit, and even this is done gradually.

~Vincent de Paul

Without [firmness] I see the majority of Communities that are lax reach that state because of the excessive leniency of Superiors. So, be firm, Monsieur.

~Vincent de Paul

It is not easy to find perfect men in whom there is nothing to criticize.

~Vincent de Paul

. . . [A]s a rule, the most learned persons do not produce the greatest results. We see that only too often.

~Vincent de Paul

[L]et us believe that all is going along the best in the world when we take no satisfaction in it, provided we humble ourselves for this and redouble our confidence in God.

~Vincent de Paul

[L]et us work to rid ourselves of our attacks of over-zealousness especially when it offends against respect, esteem, and charity.

~Vincent de Paul

God uproots the vine that He Himself has not planted.

~Vincent de Paul

Remember the maxim of the Romans which states that by union and counsel we can achieve anything.

~Vincent de Paul

Far from rejecting such a good man as you, He never even abandons a wicked man who hopes for His mercy.

~Vincent de Paul

Remember, Monsieur, that Saint Augustine says that a person who does not obey the doctors is doing his best to kill himself.

~Vincent de Paul

Make an effort to serve good bread and good meat and not to sell the better wine so as to serve what is inferior.

~Vincent de Paul

It is not light they need but strength, and strength permeates through the external balm of words and good example.

~Vincent de Paul

The vine-stock bears fruit as long as it is attached to its stem; apart from that, no.

~Vincent de Paul

He also always blesses humble beginnings much more than those accompanied by a lot of show.

~Vincent de Paul

... I am sure that you are the first to do what you teach them.

~Vincent de Paul

If we want to find the manna hidden in our vocation, let us restrict and confine all our desires within it.

~Vincent de Paul

The wisest persons, surprised by some passion, often say things they later regret.

~Vincent de Paul

[I]t is His good pleasure that we remain always in the holy joy of His love.

~Vincent de Paul

Our Lord is pleased to deprive us of temporal goods; may it please His Divine Goodness to give us spiritual ones!

~Vincent de Paul

Since I am a great sinner, I cannot reject those who have been, provided they have good will.

~Vincent de Paul

Our Lord and the saints accomplished more by suffering than by acting.

~Vincent de Paul

We must endeavor to have God reign sovereignly in us, and then in others. The trouble with me is that I take more care to have Him reign in others than in myself.

~Vincent de Paul

If you must be in a hurry, then let it be according to the old adage, and hasten slowly.

~Vincent de Paul

[A] sick mind cannot be cured by the sheer force of persuasion.

~Vincent de Paul

. . . [T]hose persons who console you today may humiliate you tomorrow.

~Vincent de Paul

Let us reflect that we shall always do God's Will and He will do ours when we carry out that of our Superiors.

~Vincent de Paul

Laws must never be made compatible with crimes, no more than lying should be in harmony with the truth.

~Vincent de Paul

If after so much effort and prayer, the matter is not successful, it will be a clear sign that God does not will it.

~Vincent de Paul

Good works are often spoiled by moving too quickly. . . . The good which God desires is accomplished almost by itself, without our even thinking of it.

~Vincent de Paul

Your soul will be blessed, Sister, if you bear patiently the troubles of mind and body His Providence sends you, or which come to you from within and without.

~Vincent de Paul

You should not open your mouth except to express gratitude for benefits you have received, and never to mention your discontent.

~Vincent de Paul

In the name of God, Monsieur, let us have greater confidence in Him than we do; let us allow Him to steer our little bark; if it is useful and pleasing to Him, He will save it from shipwreck.

~Vincent de Paul

People are made in such a way that even the holiest ones are liable to

offend one another.

~Vincent de Paul

[E]xcess in the practice of virtue is no less imperfect than the lack of it.

~Vincent de Paul

[I]f the gentleness of your spirit needs a dash of vinegar, borrow a little from Our Lord's spirit. O Mademoiselle, how well He knew how to find a bittersweet remark when it is needed!

~Vincent de Paul

Never betray His principles for any reason whatsoever, and take great care not to spoil God's affairs by too much haste in them.

~Vincent de Paul

Remember, Monsieur that roses are not gathered except in the midst of thorns and that heroic acts of virtue are accomplished only in weakness.

~Vincent de Paul

The kingdom of God is peace in the Holy Spirit; He will reign in you if your heart is at peace. So, be at peace, Mademoiselle, and you will honor in a sovereign way the God of peace and love.

~Vincent de Paul

I hope that this man can be won over by your bearing charitably with him, advising him prudently, and praying for him. This is what I do for your family in general and for you in particular.

~Vincent de Paul

[P]resent misfortune presupposes good luck in the future.

~Vincent de Paul

God has seen fit that, since our services are useful to many persons,

everyone approves them, but only when they are carried out in the spirit of Our Lord.

~Vincent de Paul

I have never made any distinction between those who have taken vows and those who have not; some should not be overburdened in order to spare others.

~Vincent de Paul

We must be firm but not rough in our guidance and avoid an insipid kind of meekness, which is ineffective.

~Vincent de Paul

His Divine Goodness asks that we never do good in any place to make ourselves look important but that we always consider Him directly, immediately, and without intermediary in all our actions.

~Vincent de Paul

In this way, through experience they will be formed adequately, will be encouraged, and will be capable of rendering service to God.

~Vincent de Paul

You say you experience great difficulty in the mission. Alas! Monsieur, there is no lot in life where there is nothing to be endured.

~Vincent de Paul

Cast from your heart the bitterness.

~Vincent de Paul

Just as stinginess is blameworthy, so is facility in paying more for things than they are worth...

~Vincent de Paul

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