

## *Proverbs Quotes & Axioms for Encouragement & Inspiration*

*(The following are from anonymous as well as original authors.)*

*"Never forget the people who gave you a second chance.*

*If you're going to be weird, be confident about it.*

*Treasure your leisure time. All the money in the world can never buy it  
back.*

*Read a magazine about something you know absolutely nothing about.*

*Support pay increases for good teachers.*

*When you can't be kind, be quiet.*

*To help your children become fiscally responsible, let them see you  
demonstrating good money management.*

*When you look back over your life, none of the things you treasure most  
will have been purchased with money.*

*You can't make good deals with bad people.*

*In the end you will be judged not by what believe, planned, or dreamed -  
but by what you did.*

*Don't work just for the money; you'll always feel that you're underpaid.*

*Success depends on your being first, best, or different.*

*Reserve your best manners and most pleasant expressions for your  
family.*

*Luck's companion is preparedness.*

*See the beauty, not the blemish.*

*The two things to pay promptly: debts and compliments.*

*Consider the successes that result from tired, discouraged people who  
decide to give it just one more try.*

*When you're proud of your children, let them know it.*

*It's not what you do for your kid that's important; it's what you teach them to do for themselves.*

*Encourage your children to join you in volunteer work.*

*Take good care of your reputation. It will live longer than you do.*

*A mediocre effort never improved anything.*

*Teach your children that the word "no" is a complete sentence.*

*Nothing important is easy.*

*Good manners are always in fashion.*

*Never make an important decision until you have control of your emotion.*

*Don't intentionally embarrass anyone, even an enemy.*

*Be the reason someone smiles today.*

*Learn to disagree calmly.*

*Compliment three people every day.*

*Read a book about your father's and mother's favorite hobby or pastime.*

*Each month read a biography of someone you admire.*

*When you want to be noticed, do more than is expected.*

*Share your knowledge. It's a way to achieve immortality.*

*Never be too busy to meet someone new.*

*Don't dress casually when you want to be taken seriously.*

*Don't injure a relationship by always having to have the last word.*

*Never stop learning; your children deserve smart parents.*

*Never put off apologizing. Do it immediately.*

*Say nice things about people. You'll never regret it.*

*Never hesitate to ask for directions, a recipe, or a hug.*

*Be the person everyone wants to sit next to.*

*You seldom play better than you practice.*

*When you're not having a good day, help create one for others.*

*Encourage exceptional students to become teachers.*

*Today is the day you refrain from all negative comments.*

*After you receive a favor, immediately look for a way to help someone  
else.*

*The tone of your voice carries as much information as the words you  
speak.*

*Don't try to solve the problems of your grown-up children. That's their  
job.*

*When dissatisfied with what you're getting out of life, take an inventory  
of what you're putting in.*

*If what you're about to say won't benefit the person hearing it or  
improve the situation, don't say it.*

*Your attitude is 90 percent of what people will remember about you.*

*To win is simple: take just one more step when all the others have quit.*

*Learn to sketch or develop an interest in writing poetry, and you'll always  
have something to do when you're waiting.*

*Sitting in a comfortable chair with a good book is still one of life's least  
expensive and most enjoyable experiences.*

*The next time you're tempted to say, "It'll never work," say instead,  
"Who knows? It just might."*

*Remember that your fondest memories will almost always be of the things  
you've done for others.*

*The lessons we teach and the examples we set are the most precious gifts we leave behind.*

*Study hard. If you don't, you'll always wonder what you could have accomplished if you had.*

*Remember that everyone, regardless of how great their accomplishments, appreciates a sincere compliment and friendly words of encouragement.*

*You may be disappointed if you fail but you are doomed if you don't try. Never accept failure no matter how often it visits never give up, never.*

*To be successful the first thing to do is falling love with your work.*

*Things do not happen, things are made to happen.*

*We only learn our limits by going beyond them.*

*If you see a bandwagon it's too late.*

*Never give nor take an excuse.*

*Knowing how to win is the first step. We must also know how to make use  
of our victories.*

*Tomorrow belongs to those who have vision today.*

*Accomplishment like life will prove to be a journey, not a destination*

*Always do your best, what you plant now you will harvest later.*

*Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life.*

*Happiness exists when the things we believe in are consistent with the  
things we do.*

*Success is doing what turns you on.*

*The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet.*

*The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural  
curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterward.*

*It's what you learn after you know it all that counts.*

*There are no shortcuts to any place worth going.*

*First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do.*

*The trouble is if you don't risk anything you risk even more.*

*Doing nothing for others is the undoing of ourselves.*

*Go as far as the eye can see and when you get there look farther.*

*You never really lose until you stop trying.*

*The secret of success is the constancy of purpose.*

*Death is not the greatest loss in life - The greatest loss in life is what dies inside us while we live. The unbearable tragedy is to live without dignity or sensitivity.*

*The essential matter of history is not what happened, but what people thought or said about it.*

*A historian is a prophet in reverse.*

*Life must be lived forwards, but can only be understood backwards.*

*The only thing new in this world is the history that you don't know.*

*Legend remains victorious in spite of history.*

*Winners work at things the majority of the population are not willing to do.*

*Only a life lived for others is a life worth while.*

*If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away.*

*If you think education is expensive, try ignorance.*

*The end of learning is to know the Universal/Cosmic Energy and Life Force, and out of that knowledge to love and imitated it.*

*We make a living by what we get; we make a life by what we give.*

*He is to be educated not because he is to make shoes, nails, and pins,  
but because he is a man.*

*The educated man is one who finally has discovered that there are some  
questions which nobody has the answers.*

*The teacher is like the candle which lights others in consuming itself.*

*The common curse of mankind - is folly and ignorance.*

*Nothing is more terrible than to see ignorance in action.*

*The more we study the more we discover our ignorance.*

*The penalty of success is to be bored by the people who used to snub  
you.*

*Success is the proper ratio between what one contributes and what one  
derives from life.*

*To give a reason for anything is to breed a doubt of it.*

*The attempt to combine wisdom and power has only rarely been successful  
and the only for a short while.*

*Yesterday is a cancelled check and tomorrow is a promissory note. Only  
today is cash at hand to spend meaningfully.*

*Things don't turn up in this world until somebody turns them up.*

*We judge ourselves by what we feel capable of doing; others judge us by  
what we have done.*

*Genius does what is must, and talent does what it can.*

*A liberal is a man too broad-minded to take his own side in a quarrel.*

*Truth uttered before its time is dangerous.*

*Accept the simple fact that many won't ever understand you, and that is  
okay.*

*Every noble work is at first impossible.*

*A great deal of talent is lost in the world for want of courage.*

*Aim for the top, there is plenty room there, there are so few at the top  
it is almost lonely there.*

*My greatest inspiration is a challenge to attempt the impossible.*

*Every production of genius must be the production of enthusiasm.*

*Be not simply good - Be good for something.*

*You are the product of a thousand lifetimes and all you can accomplish in  
this one is very little, but to do even that you have to work as hard as  
you can.*

*If we don't change, we don't grow. If we don't grow, we are not really  
living.*

*Education would be much more effective if its purpose was to ensure that  
by the time they leave school every boy and girl should know how much  
they do not know, and be imbued with a lifelong desire to know it.*

*As one makes an impartial study of the prophets, philosophers, miracle men, and spiritual leaders of past, one is drawn to the inevitable conclusion that persistence, concentration of effort, and definiteness of purpose, were the major sources of their achievements.*

*How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because, someday in life you will have been all of these.*

*Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than the unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan "press on" has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race.*

*Education is not to reform students or amuse them or to make them expert technicians. It is to unsettle their minds, widen their horizons, inflame their intellects, and teach them to think straight if possible.*

*When you meet people who have ideas that are unique and a bit outrageous, get their phone number. Their creativity might help you solve a problem later on. It is only when people bring their differences together what we can have a unique and beautiful world.*

*The master in the art of living makes little distinction between his work and his play, his labor and his leisure; he hardly knows which is which. He simply pursues his vision of excellence at whatever he does, leaving others to decide if he is working or playing.*

*When you find a vocation, embrace it with your whole heart. Few people are so lucky. They begin their search for work with an eye to the wrong prize, so when they succeed they win something of little value. They gain money or prestige, but they lose their hearts. Eventually, their days become nothing more than a commodity they exchange for money and they begin to shrivel and die.*

*The task of the excellent teacher is to stimulate "apparently ordinary" people to unusual effort. The tough problem is not in identifying winners: it is in making winners out of ordinary people."*

*"When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant; I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years."*

*Mark Twain*

*"Not everything that can be counted counts and not everything that counts can be counted."*

*Old accounting proverb*

*"If you do good, people will accuse you of selfish ulterior motives; do good anyway. If you are successful, you will win false friends and true enemies; succeed anyway."*

*Kent M. Keith*

*"One of the greatest discoveries a man makes, one of his great surprises, is to find he can do what he was afraid he couldn't do."*

*Henry Ford*

*"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, Dream, Discover."*

*Mark Twain*

*"I had no ambition to make a fortune. Mere money-making has never been my goal; I had an ambition to create."*

*John D. Rockefeller*

*"Anyone who proposes to do good must not expect people to roll stones out of his way, but must accept his lot calmly if they even roll a few more upon it."*

*Albert Schweitzer*

*"The question isn't did you fail, but did you pick yourself up and move ahead. And there is one other little question 'Did you collaborate in your own defeat?' A lot of people do. Learn not to."*

*John Gardner*

*"Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish."*

*President John Quincy Adams*

*"I have been given this day to use as I will. I can waste it, yeah I can waste it or I can use it for good. What I do today is important because I am exchanging a day of my life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever, leaving in its place something I have traded for it. I want it to be gain not loss, good not evil, success not failure; in order that I shall not regret the price I paid for it."*

*Anonymous*

*"The true measure of a person has nothing to do with possessions or status: life is not about money or prestige; it is about passion and purpose. It is about making a difference and impacting the lives of others."*

*Jeffrey Marx*

*"If we had no winter, spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome."*

*Anne Bradstreet*

*"I used to think I knew everything. I was a 'smart person' who 'got things done,' and because of that, the higher I climbed, the more I could look down and scoff at what seemed silly or simple, even religion. But I realized something as I drove home that night: that I am neither better nor smarter, only luckier. And I should be ashamed of thinking I knew everything, because you can know the whole world and still be lost in it."*

*Mitch Albom*

*"I have heard that there is one symbol in Chinese for danger; and another for opportunity. If the two are combined, you have the word for crisis. Every problem is an opportunity to become smarter, to become more patient, and to grow. Every crisis is a pain, but it is also an opportunity."*

*James O'Leary*

*"Etiquette is power. Good manners open doors that position and money cannot."*

*Dana May Casperson*

*"People who have discovered their calling and choose to bring it to their work tend to be phenomenally energized about what they do."*

*Richard J. Leider & David A. Shapiro*

*Do not stand at my grave and weep I am not there, I do not sleep. I am a thousand winds that blow; I am the diamond glints on snow. I am the sunlight on ripened grain; I am the gentle autumn rain. When you awaken in the morning hush, I am the swift, uplifting rush of quiet birds in circled flight; I am the stars that shine at night. Do not stand at my grave and cry, I am not there, I did not die.*

*Native American Proverb*

*"Rarely do we realize that we are in the midst of the extraordinary, events occur all around us, signs from divinity show us the way, angels plead to be heard, but we pay little attention to them because we have been taught that we must follow certain formulas and rules if we want to find the spirit."*

*Paulo Coelho*

*"Life is much more than coping and adjusting. Mysterious as it may be, there is something wonderful at the heart of our existence, and it is about nothing other than love: love for the great creator, love for one another, love for creation, and love for life itself."*

*Gerald G. May, MD*

"A life properly lived is an easy luxurious life. It's not suppose to be hard, but we can make it that way with limited thinking, low expectations, or failing to see ourselves as we really are. We are infinite beings of life, fun loving gladiators of the universe, and adventurers just being human with eternity before us. We have power over our thoughts to shape us."

Anonymous

"Let no leader discount the value of personal loyalty or forget the importance of cultivating personal trust and affection, for when needed, it is the most precious thing in the world."

Richard D. Phillips

"Be who you are and say what you feel: because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind."  
Dr. Seuss.

"We could never learn to be brave and patient if there were only joy in the world."

Helen Keller

"Let no one ever come to you without leaving better and happier."

Mother Teresa

In a survey of 90-year-olds, when asked what they would have done differently, they responded, "Risk more, reflect more and leave a legacy that matters."

Dr. Linda Livingstone

"People who don't really believe in the future do not shape the future. Men and women of vitality have always been prepared to bet their futures, even their lives, on ventures of unknown outcome. If they had all looked before they leaped, we would still be crouched in caves sketching animal pictures on the wall."

John Gardner

"The things you learn in maturity aren't simple things such as acquiring skills. You come to understand that most people are neither for you nor against you; they are thinking about themselves. You learn that no matter how hard you try to please, some people in the world are not going to love you, a lesson that is at first troubling and then really quite relaxing."

John Gardner

"I discovered that people are not really afraid of dying; they're afraid of not having lived, not ever having deeply considered their life's higher purpose, and not ever having stepped into that purpose and at least tried to make a difference in the world."

Joseph Jaworski

"Whoever destroys a soul, it is considered as if he destroyed an entire world. And whoever saves a life, it is considered as if he saved an entire world."

The Talmud

"Leaders imagine an inspiring future and strive to shape it rather than passively watching the future happen around them. Heroes extract gold from opportunities at hand rather than waiting for golden opportunities to be handed to them."

Chris Lowney

"What is within us is greater than anything that is in our surroundings. What is within us is greater than any circumstance of our life. What is within us is greater than our history. Our history does not need to decide our destiny unless we decide it must. Decide and choose who and what you want to become."

Mary Morrissey

'What is the one experience which alone could justify your life? In God's eyes, our moment could have well been some minor incident. Is it possible that your most heroic act was to keep your mouth closed in a time of stress?'

James O'Leary,