

## Faith in action: Bible verses & Christian quotes

*See also the Bible passages suggested in the Dwelling in the Word notes*

### Jesus' example and teaching

The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.  
*Luke 4:18-19*

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

“The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

*Matthew 25:34-40*

This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples.

<sup>9</sup> ‘As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. <sup>10</sup> If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. <sup>11</sup> I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup> My command is this: love each other as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup> Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. <sup>14</sup> You are my friends if you do what I command. <sup>15</sup> I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. <sup>16</sup> You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit – fruit that will last – and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. <sup>17</sup> This is my command: love each other.

*John 15:8-17*

He replied, ‘Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.’

*Luke 11:28*

### Encouragement and exhortation

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.  
And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly with your God.  
*Micah 6:8*

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.  
*Ephesians 2:10*

This is a trustworthy saying. And I want you to stress these things, so that those who have trusted in God may be careful to devote themselves to doing what is good. These things are excellent and profitable for everyone.  
*Titus 3:8*

Without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.  
*Hebrews 11:6*

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.  
*James 1:22*

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.  
*James 1:27*

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favouritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?  
*James 2:1-4*

Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.  
*James 2:15-17*

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. <sup>17</sup> If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? <sup>18</sup> Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.  
*1 John 3:16-18*

## Christian quotes

Faith in action is love - and love in action is service.

*Mother Theresa*

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Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.

*Mother Teresa*

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We know only too well that what we are doing is nothing more than a drop in the ocean. But if the drop were not there, the ocean would be missing something.

*Mother Teresa*

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[To have Faith in Christ] means, of course, trying to do all that He says. There would be no sense in saying you trusted a person if you would not take his advice. Thus if you have really handed yourself over to Him, it must follow that you are trying to obey Him. But trying in a new way, a less worried way. Not doing these things in order to be saved, but because He has begun to save you already. Not hoping to get to Heaven as a reward for your actions, but inevitably wanting to act in a certain way because a first faint gleam of Heaven is already inside you.

*C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity*

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The highest form of worship is the worship of unselfish Christian service.

*Billy Graham*

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Surely the principles of Christianity lead to action as well as meditation.

*William Wilberforce*

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Our faith in Christ calls us to love the poor and vulnerable with our actions.

*Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury*

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Sometimes we feel outside our comfort zone, but believe that “whom God calls, he enables.” We are “carrying out God’s family business” as His Son did, and He called us his disciples, learning from Him and following him. “Faith without works is useless.” *James 2:17, 20*. We experience God’s strength which He gives us and His calling/leading when we ask His guidance in putting our faith into action.

*Mothers' Union member*

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Faith is central to the prayer life and activism of Mothers' Union. It demonstrates God's love in action. It adds a spiritual dimension to a local community activity. It develops concern for issues worldwide.

*Mothers' Union member*

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