

# Themes List

## (Quotations, Mottos, Proverbs and Old Sayings)

### **Prejudice**

- Things are not always as they appear.
- Things are usually not as bad as you think they will be.
- Look for the golden lining.
- Beauty is only skin deep.
- Prejudice leads to: wrong conclusions, violence, false perceptions, a vicious cycle, oppression.
  - Don't judge a book by its cover.
  - Mercy triumphs over judgment.
- Beware of strangers.
- People from other cultures are really very much like us.
- Look before you leap.

### **Belief**

- Believe in yourself. To succeed, we must first believe that we can.
- Believe one who has proved it. Believe an expert.
- The thing always happens that you really believe in; and the belief in a thing makes it happen.
- One needs something to believe in, something for which one can have whole-hearted enthusiasm.
- As long as people believe in absurdities, they will continue to commit atrocities.
- Moral skepticism can result in distance, coldness, and cruelty.

### **Change**

- People are afraid of change but things always change.
- Things are usually not as bad as you think they will be.
- Knowledge can help us prepare for the future.
- Forewarned is forearmed.
- It is impossible to be certain about things.

### **Good and Evil**

- Good triumphs over evil.
- Evil is punished and good is rewarded.
- Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely.
- Bullies can be overcome.
- Good manners have positive results.
- Greed leads to negative outcomes: suffering, disaster, catastrophe, evil, callousness, arrogance, megalomania.
- It is possible to survive against all odds.
- Jealousy leads to negative outcomes: guilt, resentment, loneliness, violence, madness.
- Good and evil coexist.

### **Love**

- Treat others as you want to be treated.
- Act kindly without seeking ultimate reasons. Practice random acts of kindness.
- Love is blind.
- Love triumphs over all: hate, selfishness, cruelty, tragedy, death
- Love one another.
- Love your neighbor.
- Non-human animals are beings with rights that deserve protection.

## **Love (continued)**

- Friends are a person's most valuable possession.
- Blood is thicker than water.
- When in love, one must suffer.
- Love is a force for happiness and fulfillment.
- One should be willing to sacrifice for the person one loves.

## **Politics**

- Follow the rules.
- Our system of government is better than other systems.
- Our system of government would be better if we would change.
- Rules are there to protect and help us.
- Personal freedoms, like those listed in the United States Bill of Rights, are good and necessary.
- Personal freedoms have gone too far and must be curtailed.
- Freedom cannot exist without personal responsibility.
- Freedom is worth fighting (or dying) for.
- Peace is worth fighting (or dying) for.
- Our system of government is worth fighting (or dying) for.

## **Growing up**

- Growing up is a great time of life.
- Growing up is a challenge for everyone.
- It takes a village to raise a child.
- It takes a family to raise a child.
- Good communication between generations leads to: satisfaction, understanding, better relationships, cooperation.

## **Ambition**

- Too much ambition leads negative results: self-destruction, envy, greed, neurosis, downfall.
- One needs ambition in order to succeed.
- Hard work can bring a great reward.
- We grow small trying to be great.
- Goals are dreams we convert to plans and take action to fulfill.

## **Courage and Fear**

- Understanding feelings of cowardice.
- Accepting a challenge leads to positive results.
- One can be courageous and cowardly at the same time.
- Courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that something else is more important than fear.
- Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear, not absence of fear.
- Face your fears.
- Where fear is present, wisdom cannot be.
- I have not ceased being fearful, but I have ceased to let fear control me.

## **Intentions**

- Actions speak louder than words.
- It's not the gift that counts.
- Don't cry over spilled milk.
- It is difficult to say who does you the most harm: enemies with the worst intentions or friends with the best.

## **Knowledge**

- Knowledge is power.
- Ignorance is bliss.
- Ignorance is never better than knowledge.
- If you have knowledge, use it to help others.
- Know your enemy.
- Too much learning is a dangerous thing.
- Be curious always! For knowledge will not acquire you: you must acquire it.

## **Perseverance**

- Never give up.
- Try, try again.
- When you come to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on.
- The race is not always to the swift, but to those who keep on running.
- To protect those who are not able to protect themselves is a duty which every one owes to society.
- It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness.
- Our duty is to be useful, not according to our desires, but according to our powers.

## **Happiness**

- Enjoy life while you can.
- Happiness is not having what you want. It is wanting what you have.
- Happiness is not a station you arrive at, but a manner of traveling.
- The Grand essentials of happiness are: something to do, something to love, and something to hope for.
- Happiness depends upon ourselves.
- To ease another's heartache is to forget one's own.

## **Truth**

- You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can not fool all of the people all of the time.
- Believe those who are seeking the truth; doubt those who find it.
- Everyone is entitled to their own opinion, but not their own facts.
- Nothing is easier than self-deceit. For what each man wishes, that he also believes to be true.
- The truth which has made us free will in the end make us glad also.
- Falsehood is easy, truth so difficult.
- Oh what a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive!