

## Quotable Dorothy Day

### On Love



*Whenever  
hard it is*

*I groan within myself and think how to keep writing about love in these times of tension and strife which may at any moment become for us all a time of terror, I think to myself, "What else is the world interested in?" What else do we all want, each one of us, except to love and be loved, in our families, in our work, in all our relationships.*

*The Gospel takes away our right forever, to discriminate between the deserving and the undeserving poor.*

*When one loves, there is at that time a correlation between the spiritual and the material. Even the flesh is energized, the human spirit is made strong. All sacrifice, all suffering is easy for the sake of love.*

*Love and ever more love is the only solution to every problem that comes up.*

*True love is delicate and kind, full of gentle perception and understanding, full of beauty and grace, full of joy unutterable. There should be some flavor of this in all our love for others. We are all one. With such a love one would see all things new; we would begin to see people as they really are, as God sees them.*

*When it comes down to it, even on the natural plane, it is much happier and more enlivening to love than to be loved.*

*Even the most ardent revolutionist, seeking to change the world, to overturn the tables of the money changers, is trying to make a world where it is easier for people to love, to stand in that relationship with each other of love.*

*It is when we love the most intensely and most humanly, that we can recognize how tepid is our love for others. The keenness and intensity of love brings with it suffering, of course, but joy too because it is a foretaste of heaven.*

*The final word is love.*

## **On the Heart**



*There is plenty to do, for each one of us, working on our own hearts, changing our own attitudes, in our own neighborhoods.*

## On Community

*We have all known the long loneliness and we have learned that the only solution is love and that love comes with community.*

*People, wherever they are, can make a community.*

*If we love each other enough, we will bear with each other's faults and burdens.*

## On God



*If I have achieved anything in my life, it is because I have not been embarrassed to talk about God.*

*Your love for God is only as great as the love you have for the person you love the least.*

*Does God have a set way of prayer, a way that He expects each of us to follow? I doubt it. I believe some people-- lots of people-- pray through the witness of their lives, through the work they do, the friendships they have, the love they offer people and receive from people. Since when are words the only acceptable form of prayer?*

## On Life

*The biggest mistake sometimes is to play things very safe in this life and end up being moral failures.*

*Food for the body is not enough. There must be food for the soul.*

*As we come to know the seriousness of the situation, the war, the racism, the poverty in our world, we come to realize that things will not be changed simply by words or demonstrations. Rather, it's a question of living one's life in a drastically different way.*

*Everything a baptized person does every day should be directly or indirectly related to the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.*

*The best things to do with the best things in life is to give them away.*

## On Change



*The greatest challenge of the day is: how to bring about a revolution of the heart, a revolution which has to start with each one of us?*

*Don't worry about being effective. Just concentrate on being faithful to the truth.*

*Young people say, 'What good can one person do? What is the sense of our small effort?' They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time; we can be responsible only for the one action of the present moment. But we can beg for an increase of love in our hearts that will vitalize and transform all our individual actions, and know that God will take them and multiply them.*

*We must talk about poverty, because people insulated by their own comfort lose sight of it.*



*People say, what is the sense of our small effort? They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time. A pebble cast into a pond causes ripples that spread in all directions. Each one of our thoughts, words and deeds is like that. No one has a right to sit down and feel hopeless. There is too much work to do.*

## **On Peace**

*An individual can march for peace or vote for peace and can have, perhaps, some small influence on global concerns. But the same individual is a giant in the eyes of a child at home. If peace is to be built, it must start with the individual. It is built brick by brick.*



*We plant seeds that will flower as results in our lives, so best to remove the weeds of anger, avarice, envy and doubt, that peace and abundance may manifest for all.*

## **Online Sources Utilized for Quotes & Articles for Further Reading & Reflection**

<https://quotes.thefamouspeople.com/dorothy-day-1255.php>

[https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/119043.Dorothy\\_Day](https://www.goodreads.com/author/quotes/119043.Dorothy_Day)

<https://churchleaders.com/daily-buzz/263107-21-dorothy-day-quotes-will-inspire-love-deeper.html>

<https://sojo.net/articles/11-dorothy-day-quotes-remembrance-radical-pacifist-servant-god>

