

Monday Quotes



Grain

“For as long as space endures and for as long as living beings remain, until then may I too abide to dispel the misery of the world.” --Santideva

Submitted by Pastor Barb Girod, Mt. Morris and Wild Rose, WI

Field

4 ...as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. 5 Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; 6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'" Luke 3:1-6

Thoughts by Pastor Barb Girod (Thank you for your thoughts, Pastor Barb)!

If you are reading this, you are probably interested in being an advocate or are already involved in this work. An advocate is one who speaks up for the needs of another. You may already be speaking out in the area of one or more of LOPPW's priorities: childhood hunger, human trafficking, immigration reform, or caring for God's creation. That list alone can overwhelm us. Then there are other justice issues to speak to such as racism, inequitable wages, inequities in the judicial system. What else? Where does your passion lie? Who do you speak for?

Everyday newscasts, Facebook posts, and headlines remind us of those whose needs and realities are being ignored, denied or pushed to the bottom of the budget. We hear of refugees hoping to find asylum or a better life for their family. We hear of teenagers missing from their homes and in danger of being trafficked. There are those being released from prison with little hope of re-establishing themselves in a job with viable income. Teens are raising their arms in Nazi-like salutes.

As I looked at the Gospel lesson for this coming Sunday, the words "the voice of one crying in the wilderness" rang out and resounded in my heart. Who has not felt as if they are one voice crying in the wilderness? Who has not wondered if their voice makes a difference? Who has not grown weary of speaking out? Who is listening to words calling out for what is right, just and loving?

In the midst of all of this there is hope beyond our strength and abilities to continue to do the work we are called to do and speak the words we are called to speak. Let us first remember that it all begins with God, as revealed throughout scripture. "In the beginning was the Word," (John 1) and "Prepare the way of the Lord." (Luke 3). Just as Esther in the Old Testament, we are sent by God to proclaim God's Word about justice for such a time as this. And we have this promise: "It is the same with my word. I send it out, and it always produces fruit. It will accomplish all I want it to, and it will prosper everywhere I send it" (Isaiah 55).

Thank you for your work for those in need of an advocate for justice. Happy Monday!

Prayer

Highly recommended.

Share

Send any quotes you'd like to share with our network to cindyc@loppw.org

All Monday Quotes found under the Resources & Advocacy Tools tab at www.loppw.org

Many Blessings upon you,

Pastor Barb