



Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel. —Philippians 1:27 ESV

We find consolation and confidence in the glory of God even when life doesn't turn out the way we hoped or planned.

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¹³And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. ¹⁴One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God.

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The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul.

¹⁵And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us. —Acts 16:13-15 ESV

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I. Dependency

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And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment. —Philippians 1:9 ESV

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... do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

—Philippians 4:6 ESV

-.008.tiff

“It’s not my ability but my response to God’s ability that counts.”

—Corrie Ten Boom

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2. Diversity

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¹⁶As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling. ¹⁷She followed Paul and us, crying out, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.”

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¹⁸And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour.

—Acts 16:16-18 ESV

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²³And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. ²⁴Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. ²⁵About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

—Acts 16:23-25 ESV

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³⁰Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." ³²And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. —Acts 16:30-32 ESV

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Diversity in the Church at Philippi

Lydia	Business Woman	Enthusiastic
Fortune Teller	Demon-possessed	Antagonistic
Jailer	Prison Guard	Sadistic

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"Everybody is somebody in His body."

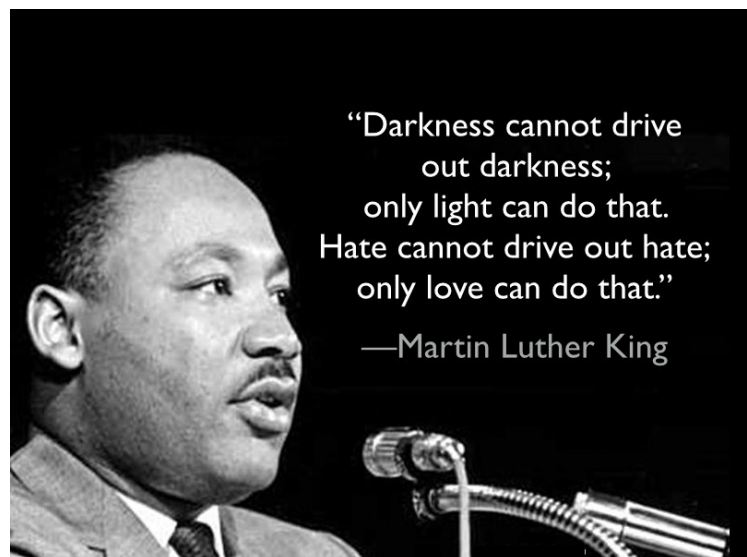
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"Hatred paralyzes life; love releases it. Hatred confuses life; love harmonizes it. Hatred darkens life; love illuminates it."

—Martin Luther King

-.017.tiff



"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that."

—Martin Luther King

-.018.tiff

“Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. You don’t have to have a college degree to serve. You don’t have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”

—Martin Luther King

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3. Defense

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²⁷When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. ²⁸But Paul cried with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” —Acts 16:27-28 ^{ESV}

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One of the great works of the church is to stand side by side in the defense of truth and for life.

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The Augusta Chronicle Posted August 2, 2015



Prayer rally held outside Planned Parenthood’s downtown Augusta clinic

The Augusta Chronicle Posted February 27, 2016

Planned Parenthood closes Augusta clinic

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“The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was: ‘If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?’ But... the good Samaritan reversed the question: ‘If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?’”

—Martin Luther King

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“Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” —Acts 16:28 ESV

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4. Declaration

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³¹And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” ³²And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. —Acts 16:31-32 ESV

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“Baptism is the public declaration of surrender to Christ and identification with Christ for every true believer.”

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