

Confucius Quotes

Born September 28th, 551 BC. Died 479 BC.

Confucius was the son of a retired soldier and a teenage concubine. He was reared in poverty before finding employment as a civil servant. Disillusioned by corruption in high places, he gave up a promising political career to become a teacher and philosopher. He died with a broken heart saying "No intelligent monarch arises, there is not one in the world who will make me his master. My time has come to die."

It took 2000 years for his work to be recognized in Europe. Today 6,000,000 people describe themselves as 'Confucianists'. Another 379,000,000 follow his teachings.

By nature, we are similar, by nurture, we differ greatly.

It does not bother me that others do not know me, but it bothers me that they do not know themselves.

Let not a luxurious life breed arrogance, and let not too frugal a life breed humiliation.

Matter of depth and importance may be discussed with those who have interest, and should not be debated with those who do not.

People that are good for us are upright and loyal, and the types that are bad for us are false flatterers and hypocrites.

If we are hard on ourselves and forgiving to others, we have achieved mastery.

Search ten houses and we are bound to find someone nice, but will we find someone who shares our love of learning?

Cherish our old knowledge and strive for new, that we may be a teacher of others.

There are people who act without understanding their reasons, but be not one of them.

Confucius Quotes

Hear all evidence, then select what is worthy.

The virtuous always speak correctly, but merely saying the right thing is no proof of virtue.

Heroes may be brave, but not all of those who act bravely are heroes.

Ignoring someone worthy of hearing is an insult to them, speaking to someone unworthy of hearing is an insult to ourselves.

The truly wise do not waste their words.

There is nothing that can be done for those who do not think before they act.

Value faithfulness and sincerity above all other things.

If we must disagree, do so to the other's face.

A smart person would rescue a man trapped in a well, but would not jump in themselves. They are not perfect, they are not stupid either.

Did you know that it is possible for one to do nothing but good for a whole day?

Being wide-ranging, honorable and diligent one will succeed in every task.

Support ourselves with righteousness.

The virtuous are slow in words and true in deeds.

The true of heart practice before they preach.

Ruling our moral example will make us like the Pole Star, which remains firm in place, while the other stars revolve around it.

Boasts are harder to honor than promises.

Advise friends loyally and guide them to the best of our ability. If they pay no attention...stop...or we risk ourselves.

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If we are always true, others will not dare to be false.

The true of heart must be unyielding when they are right.

Meet kindness with kindness, but meet resentment with the merit it deserves.

Have no time for people who sneer at other's shortcomings.

We must be serious, attentive and sincere, even as we walk among barbarians.

The wise do not promote people simply for what they say, nor do they ignore good advice simply because of who says it.

Those who do not discern will soon find themselves in situations wishing they would have discerned.

The true of heart should not act kindly towards their enemies because then how shall they act with their friends.

The wise pick the right moment and then exert all their strength until the task is done.

Those who set their hearts on doing good, will be forever free from evil.

Our genius cannot birth from conformity.

Be free – don't care what others think!

Kindness is the antibiotic for the disease of cruelty.

Let's not fool ourselves – no good deed goes unnoticed.

No act of compassion is ever lost; it becomes an integral part of the lives it touches.

Don't ever confuse innocence with ignorance.