

C.T. Studd & Priscilla: United to Fight for Jesus by Eileen Vincent, Kingsway Publications (1984) (25 Quotes Selected by Doug Nichols)

1. Evangelization of All the World

“Our objective is the evangelisation of all the unevangelised regions of the world. For that we have the divine warrant of God's Word, for anything short of that, however prettily or fancifully expressed, we have no authority nor attraction. We want Jesus back again ... We care not by whom this glorious end is accomplished. Whether our share is great or insignificant matters not. Only we shall take and give no rest to any till this thing is done.” -- C.T. Studd [Page 10]

2. Most Men Die Playing Little Games

An American newspaper correspondent watched as a city was taken by insurgent communists. As the flames rose all around, he wrote:

Tonight Shanghai is burning,
And I am burning too.
But there's no death so real
As the death inside of you.
Some men die by shrapnel
And some go down in flames,
But most men die inch by inch
Playing little games.
[Page 11]

3. No Sacrifice Too Great As Christ Died for Me

“If Jesus Christ be God and died for me, then no sacrifice can be too great for me to make for him.” -- C.T. Studd, [Page 12]

4. Moody Launched Many Missionaries

Besides the evangelistic thrust of Moody's ministry, his message always came as a challenge to the Christians. They were left in no doubt that they should present themselves whole-heartedly for the winning of others for Christ. He was directly responsible for launching dozens of young men and women into their missionary careers, and C. T. Studd is numbered among that illustrious group. - D.L. Moody, [Page 49]

5. Always a Way Through a Crisis

Every action of faith culminates in a crisis, where all appears lost, hopeless, impossible or even wrong. How we behave at that time determines the future. Do we trust and go through, or do we succumb to anguish and fear? The eye of faith sees past the present difficulties and suffering, and obeys. There is never a way round a crisis that God wishes to use in our lives; the way is through. God designs it to temper the steel of our spirits. [Page 53]

6. Preach Though Tortured

Savage beatings were another form of punishment which many a Christian also endured. One of C T Studd's converts, a man who said, 'I'm a murderer, an adulterer and I've broken all the rules of God and man again and again,' was so gloriously converted that he felt compelled to go back to the town where he had done all his evil, 'To tell them of the good news.' Crowds gathered and he was brought before the mandarin and ordered 2,000 strokes with the bamboo until his back was raw, and he himself was thought to be dead. Some friends took him to the Christian hospital and nursed him till he was able to sit up. He then said, 'I must go back again.' Despite strong attempts to dissuade him, he went. Once more he was brought before the court. They were ashamed to give him the bamboo again, so they sent him to prison. There he preached the gospel through a tiny window to the crowd gathered outside, which caused such confusion they released him' [Page 99-100]

7. Show Christ Above Tradition

The Studds were radical Christians. Courageously they challenged Chinese traditions where they cut across the ways of Christ. Custom decreed that Mrs. Studd should walk behind her husband in the street. They walked together and ignored the mocking laughter. They did not intend being deliberately offensive but rather determined not to bow to customs and culture which were products of heathen attitudes. It was important to show that Christian marriage gives love and honour to the woman. [Page 100]

8. Not a Complainer

He thought nothing of giving three hours of his 'spare time,' even if it were well into the early hours of the morning. Studd was a lover of men, a dynamic servant of God who rarely complained about the demands put upon him.

His aim, whether speaking to one or to thousands, was to see each person wholly consecrated to God, where no part of life was reserved for self, for personal desires and one's own way. His only satisfaction was to see men fully surrendered so that God could fully do his will. (During a trip to USA speaking in schools) [Page 111]

9. I will go to Africa!

(C. T. Studd's response to advice not to go to Africa because of age and health): "God has called me to go to Africa and I will go. I will blaze the trail, though my grave may only become a stepping stone that younger men may follow." - C. T. Studd [Page 132]

10. The Pioneer!

By what standard should we judge pioneers? The very fact that they are in the vanguard leading the way, requires them to be a step ahead of others in vision and thinking.

Rarely will they be in tune with the expectations and attitudes of what Studd called the 'stay at home' Christian. So often the pioneer provides the irritant in relationships and situations. He is an awkward character with certain unique qualities which equip him for his task; but the same qualities, when unbridled, can be seen as huge flaws. Without the pioneer's bravado, determination and independence which is part of his make-up, nothing would be accomplished. It is only that kind of person who has the audacity to march into the devil's strongholds and defy him on his own ground. [Page 133]

11. Frontliners, Decision Makers

Studd was an independent at heart who tried hard to work with committees but who refused to be guided or controlled by them. In his opinion the man on the front line was the one to make the decisions. [Page 144]

12. Could Change His Mind

Studd, the visionary, went by 'feel'. He didn't have to come up to anyone's expectations or follow a pre-announced path. When it became obvious a change of direction was required he had no problem apparently changing his mind. [Page 148]

13. Faithful unto Death

"Don't fear for me, I am devoted to Jesus and I care not a fig for my reputation. I shall go straight as a die no matter what the cost. I've paid the price in full and shall go through with everything. I'm sure every cross will only bring more power, and the spread of the glorious name and cause of Christ. It is Jesus only I see and trust. God

shall bring us out into a wealthy place if we are but faithful unto death. I mean to be so, fear not.”-- C.T. Studd, [Page 159]

14. Ardent Lover of God

There were no pastel shades in C.T. Studd's character; every trait was dominant. He loved God with all his heart; he would serve him with every ounce of his being. Whilst he had breath he would do everything in his ability to drive Christians to do the will of God, he would fight the devil on every front, he was ruthless against the flesh, and so we could go on ... an ardent lover of God, but not the most comfortable person to live with! [Page 161]

15. Obeyed Commands of God

When C.T. Studd preached he didn't supply extra knowledge to add to knowledge, but rather commands of God to be obeyed by the power of the Spirit. [Page 164]

16. Waiting Times Are Essential

Delays are some of the most crucial experiences in a Christian's life. During such irksome periods motives are tested, desires refined and visions brought to clarity. It is also true that slack times can become virtual fiery furnaces, trying and testing every detail of the programme. Outwardly, waiting time appears to be wasted time, but spiritually an essential process is taking place. People, plans, projects and purposes tested in such fires prove they have the staying power to succeed. Almost every new venture passes through this experience, and fruitful servants of God would all testify to their own personal crucible of testing. [Page 169-170]

17. Never Gave In

Confrontational situations only sharpened Studd; he would never give in. The tougher the situation, the more he fought. [Page 174]

18. His Work – Evangelize the World

“It is well to look things right in the eye and for God to try us like Gideon. When he has tried us to the utmost we shall come forth like gold. I really believe God has got us in tow and that he intends to execute his work of evangelising the world. By God's grace I intend to be in the job for all I'm worth come life or come death, committee or no committee, helper or no helper.” - CT Studd, [Page 175]

19. Fanatical

'A soldier, like a missionary, to be of any use must be a fanatic.' - Lord Wolseley. Studd commented, 'Absolutely true! I hate this sickly, lollipoppy religion of today - may God uproot it and give us the genuine article!' [Page 177]

20. Obedience Never Wavered

His determined resolve to die to self and serve God almost became a fact during the dark days at Kilo, Congo, Africa. It seems as if Satan was allowed to try him almost to the point of death, but through it all Studd's obedience didn't even flicker. He refused to be diverted from the heavenly call. 'If it means death - I'd rather die than go back.' Satan has no ammunition against such an indomitable attitude, full of faith and obedience. When a man is dead there is nothing Satan can do except yield up the ground - the captives must go free. [Page 178]

21. Lifted High the Cross

The frontier between the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of darkness is marked by the cross. Studd lifted it high, proclaiming its victory as he yielded and died. His faith cried out victoriously and the demons had to flee. The power of the strong man was broken - two weak men, one as good as dead, were coming to rob him of his goods. [Page 178]

22. No Need for Luxuries

Luxuries and comfort in life were of so little importance to C. T. Studd that one could have labeled him as ascetic. If rats ran around his bed at night he would make a joke of it. If he was drenched to the skin he would enjoy changing his clothes - but never grumble. If he only had porridge to eat three times a day he would say, 'The food is delicious,' and be thankful. Always he made light of hardships, and always he was able to see the funny side of any situation. His asceticism was that of one who was dead to the need of comfort and luxury for the sake of Christ. [Page 182]

23. Faith comes before provision.

In every work of faith, actions are taken which to the casual onlooker are foolish. No one studying the bank statements for the WEC in 1923 would have thought it wise to diversify the work into other fields. But that is not the way of God. Every advance of his kingdom is by faith, against impossible odds, and looks like rash naivety. The act of

going is the step of faith that puts into motion the spiritual forces which generate all that is needed to do God's will. The step of obedience, whether buying a house or going to the Amazon, can helpfully be visualized as switching on the power to a huge water wheel. The acts of faith are like the power that keep it turning to generate and guarantee a constant supply. Faith comes before provision.

Actions of faith open the door to God's storehouse which has ample supplies for a continuing work of faith. God does not supply for plans that might be, but all heaven is engaged when faith plugs into the heavenly supply.

When the three men went to the Amazon, the expansion into a new field did not restrict the growing needs of the Congo. When God allows us to have access to his purse, we discover that it has elastic sides and faith is the power that stretches them. [Page 214]

24. Studd's Standard

Isaiah 35:8 was C.T. Studd's standard: 'And a highway will be there; it will be called the way of Holiness. The unclean will not journey on it; it will be for those who walk in that Way; wicked fools will not go about on it' (Is. 35:8, NTV) [Page 228]

25. More Efficient than an Absentee

“I'm not as efficient as the youngsters but I am more efficient than an absentee! God knows all about my health, need of rest and many things regarded as absolutely necessary to enable one to live in these regions. I gladly laugh at being without them and rejoice in a living death with a marvelous joy in order to fill the place that others have left unoccupied.” - C. T. Studd, [Page 231]