

QUOTES OF ST. JOHN PAUL II FOR YOUTH
World Youth Day, Toronto 2002



1. *"People are made for happiness. Rightly, then, you thirst for happiness. Christ has the answer to this desire of yours. But he asks you to trust him. True joy is a victory, something which cannot be obtained without a long and difficult struggle. Christ holds the secret of this victory."* (Welcoming Address, 2)

2. *"The joy promised by the Beatitudes is the very joy of Jesus himself: a joy sought and found in obedience to the Father and in the gift of self to others. ...By looking at Jesus you will learn what it means to be poor in spirit, meek and merciful; what it means to seek justice, to be pure in heart, to be peacemakers."* (Welcoming Address, 4, 5)

3. *"To believe in Jesus is to accept what he says, even when it runs contrary to what others are saying. It means rejecting the lure of sin, however attractive it may be, in order to set out on the difficult path of the Gospel virtues."* (Welcoming Address, 7)

4. *"Christ alone is the cornerstone on which it is possible solidly to build one's existence. Only Christ – known, contemplated and loved – is the faithful friend who never lets us down, who becomes our travelling companion, and whose words warm our hearts (cf. Lk 24:13-35)."* (Downsview Address, 3)

5. *"The future is in your hearts and in your hands. God is entrusting to you the task, at once difficult and uplifting, of working with him in the building of the civilization of love."* (Downsview Address, 4)

6. *"Dear young people, let yourselves be taken over by the light of Christ, and spread that light wherever you are."* (Downsview Address, 5)

7. *"Why have you come together from all parts of the world? To say in your hearts: 'Lord, to whom shall we go?' Who has the words of eternal life? 'You have the words of eternal life' (Jn 6,68). Jesus - the intimate friend of every young person - has the words of life."* (Closing Homily, 3)

8. *"The world you are inheriting is a world which desperately needs a new sense of brotherhood and human solidarity. It is a world which needs to be touched and healed by the beauty and richness of God's love."* (Closing Homily, 3)

9. *"There are many priests, seminarians and consecrated persons here today; be close to them and support them! And if, in the depths of your hearts, you feel the same call to the priesthood or consecrated life, do not be afraid to follow Christ on the royal road of the Cross!"* (Closing Homily, 5)

10. *"We are not the sum of our weaknesses and failures; we are the sum of the Father's love for us and our real capacity to become the image of his Son."* (Closing Homily, 5)