

Quotes and Aphorisms by Dr Jemsek

Joseph G. Jemsek, MD, FACP



"I missed the classes in medical school where students were taught to insult patients when we didn't know what was wrong with them. But it has now become too commonplace that the patient becomes the problem, as doctors beg off their responsibility of listening to and learning from their patients. It's disrespectful to the patients and dishonorable to the medical profession, as well as intellectually lazy."

"In training to become a physician you take countless examinations that purport to measure your worth. But your worth as a physician truly begins to be measured when you engage in patient care. The patient, you would be well served to learn and remember, is your best teacher; one you should always listen to with respect and careful consideration."

"Medicine is a profession, not a job. We physicians should do more. We never have the opportunity to learn more than when the physician treats a patient who does not fit the standard diagnostic box. Thank goodness for these opportunities because I never want to work in an environment where we color by the numbers."

"If you the Physician don't listen to the patient who is your subject matter - where the patient is the only reason you exist as a physician or as a profession - you will learn nothing as you 'practice' Medicine. You should 'practise' something else as you have numbed yourself into irrelevance; you have become void and meaningless, and you are not worthy of your title as a healer."

"As physicians we must be true to our calling and help those who cannot help themselves."

"Medicine has lost its way at the same time as a massive pandemic of chronic illness requires its full attention."

"I haven't taken care of the sickest people on the planet to simply to become someone's puppet."

"Most of my HIV/ AIDS patients used to die.... now most don't. My Lyme patients, the sickest ones, want to die, but they can't."

"Only two of the top twenty chronic illnesses in the U.S. have a known etiology: HIV/AIDS and H. pylori gastritis - both are infections. We physicians are not as smart as we think we are."

"No one wants to be thought of as ordinary as they traverse Life. But the reality is that Borreliosis Complex is devolving all of us to a more primitive and less human state; it is a thief that steals our intellectual virtuosity by jamming our neural circuits. Someone needs to pull the alarm before it is too late and the thief escapes with our souls."

"The ability to express and practise diversity, whether done singly or collectively, makes us strong by building webs and new connections on which we depend to evolve. The Lyme epidemic is arresting our growth as a society, and soon it will paralyze us, one by one and as a whole. Lyme does not discriminate; it ravages all, equally."

"And so when the Great Fire scourged the land and laid waste to all that is good and noble, and where the destruction was so vast it required opposing forces in order to survive, a band of fighters assembled to quench the fire. When they were overwhelmed by the ferocity of the fire and doomed to perish, they employed a strategy to live and fight another day. They used their own fire to burn all the fuel around them and create a safe space, which robbed the Great Fire of its ability to consume them. Eventually this great fire ran its course and was extinguished. The firefighters lived to see a better and more productive day, and the earth- brutally scorched so as to save their lives- bloomed to become a lush landscape full of life and love. BE THE FIRE!"

Quotes and Aphorisms by Others



"We all have strings, just because there are strings attached to me doesn't mean I was meant to be a puppet."

Jordan Elizabeth Jemsek

Lost causes are the only ones worth fighting for."

Clarence Darrow, Esq.

"A good doctor treats a disease, a great doctor treats a patient that has the disease."

Unknown

"If you think you're too small to make a difference, you've never been in bed with a mosquito."

Anita Roddick

"No greater opportunity, responsibility or obligation can fall to the lot of a human being than to be a physician. In the care of the suffering he needs technical skill, scientific knowledge, and human understanding. He who uses these with courage, humility, and wisdom will provide a unique service for his fellow man and will build an enduring edifice of character within himself. The physician should always ask of his destiny no more than this, and he should be content with no less."

Tinsley Harrison, MD

"The art of the practice of medicine is to be learned only by experience; 'tis not an inheritance; it cannot be revealed. Learn to see, learn to hear, learn to feel, learn to smell, and to know that by practice alone can you become expert."

Dr William Osler

"The practice of medicine is what you make it. To each one of you the practice of medicine will be very much as you make it - to one a worry, a care, a perpetual annoyance; to another, a daily joy and a life of as much happiness and usefulness as well fall to the lot of man."

Dr William Osler
