

# Week 1 – Quotes on Faith

Śraddhā is not faith in the sense of belief, or in the sense of believing to be true something which can not be rationally demonstrated. If we want a definition of faith we may say that it is “the emotional response of what is ultimate in us to what is ultimate in the universe”. Faith is an intuitive, emotional, even mystical response to what is of ultimate value. For Buddhism, faith means specifically faith in the Three Jewels.

*Sangharakshita, A Guide to the Buddhist Path*

If doubt appears it should not be considered as the negation of faith, but as an element which was always and will always be present in the act of faith. Existential doubt and faith are poles of the same reality, the state of ultimate concern

*Paul Tillich, Dynamics of Faith*

Faith is uncertain in so far as the infinite to which it is related is received by a finite being. This element of uncertainty in faith cannot be removed, it must be accepted. And the element in faith which accepts this is courage.

*Paul Tillich, Dynamics of Faith*

Faith is present in all skilful mental states. Faith consists in being aware of, and responsive to, that which is higher.

*Sangharakshita*

Faith is innate, doubt acquired

*Sangharakshita, aphorism*

Faith, we would say, is the emotional counterpart of reason. What you understand with your intelligence you must feel also with your emotions.

*Sangharakshita, lecture on the Buddhist Pattern of Life & Work*

"Faith is spiritualized imagination."

*Henry Ward Beecher*