



Devotional Thoughts :: Break through the snares of vanity! by John Newton

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(Letters of John Newton)

Dear fellow pastor,
I would earnestly press both of us--
to follow the Lord fully;
to aim at a life of self-denial;
to renounce self-will; and
to guard against self-wisdom.

The less we have to do with the world--the better!
Unless we watch and pray--we shall often be ensnared!

Time is precious, and opportunities once gone--are gone forever! Even by reading, and what we call studying--we may be comparatively losers. The best way to study--is to be closely waiting upon God in humble, secret, fervent prayer. The treasures of wisdom and knowledge are in His hands--and He gives bountifully, without upbraiding!

Whatever we may undertake with a sincere desire to promote His glory--we may comfortably pursue. Nothing is trivial--which is done for Him.

Pray for me, that I may be enabled to break through the snares of vanity which lie in my way; that I may be crucified with Christ--and live a sincere life of faith in Him who loved me, and gave Himself for me!

Adieu,
John Newton
June 29, 1757