

# Well Said . . .

*A thorough knowledge of the Bible is worth more than a college education.*

--Theodore Roosevelt

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Kindness is one of the purest forms of imitation of God. How would it be if God were the kind of god who was always making bitter remarks at us? What would worship or prayer be like if we thought God had been talking about us behind our backs, or if we thought we couldn't trust God to tell us the truth, or if he was always attacking us? Well: how do people feel about us if that's what we're like? Wouldn't it be better in every way to be like God.

-- N.T. Wright

*Come, you weary, heavy laden,  
Bruised and broken by the fall;  
If you wait until you're better,  
You will never come at all.  
Not the righteous, not the righteous;  
Sinners Jesus came to call.*

-- Joseph Hart

O gracious and holy God,  
give us diligence to seek you,  
wisdom to perceive you,  
and patience to wait for you.  
Grant us, O God,  
a mind that meditates on you,  
eyes that behold you,  
ears that listen for your word,  
a heart that loves you,  
and a life that reflects you,  
through the power of the Spirit  
of Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
Amen.

-- Benedict of Nursia

O Lord, open our eyes, that we may see the needs of others.  
Open our ears, that we may hear their cries.  
Open our hearts, that they need not be without help.  
Let us not be afraid to defend the weak because of the anger of the strong,  
nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of the rich.  
Show us where love and hope are needed,  
And use us to bring them to those places.  
Open our eyes and ears, that this day we may do some work of peace for You.

-- Alan Paton

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Every moment I live, I live bowed to something. And if I don't see God, I'll bow down before something else.

-- Ann Voskamp

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We need time apart with God, to be filled regularly by the Spirit's love and wisdom, to listen to God so that we can make good choices, so we may know right in the core of our being that we are beloved of God, so that when we fail or falter, as we most likely will, we can still trust the reality of the solid ground of grace beneath us. And that knowledge comes as we listen deeply to God in prayer.

-- Sue Pickering