

**Trust in the Slow Work of God**

**Above all, trust in the slow work of God.  
We are quite naturally impatient in everything  
to reach the end without delay.  
We should like to skip the intermediate stages.**

**We are impatient of being  
on the way to something unknown, something new;  
and yet it is the law of all progress  
that is made by passing through some stages of instability --  
and probably taking a very long time.**

**And so I think it is with you.  
Your ideas mature gradually.  
Let them grow.**

**Let them shape themselves without undue haste.  
Don't try to force them on, as though you could be today what time  
(that is to say, grace, circumstances acting on your own good will)  
will make you tomorrow.**

**Only God could say what this new spirit  
gradually forming in you will be.**

**Give our Lord the benefit of believing that God's hand is leading  
you,  
and accept the anxiety of feeling yourself  
in suspense and incomplete.**

Teilhard de Chardin