

"SOME DEFINITE SERVICE"

John Henry Cardinal Newman

God knows me and calls me by my name....
God has created me to do Him some definite service;
He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to
another.

I have my mission—

I never may know it in this life, but I shall be told it in the next.
Somehow I am necessary for His purposes... I have a part in this great work;
I am a link in a chain, a bond of connection between persons.
He has not created me for naught. I shall do good, I shall do His work;
I shall be an angel of peace, a preacher of truth in my own place, while not
intending it, if I do but keep His commandments and serve Him in my
calling.

Therefore I will trust Him. Whatever, wherever I am, I can never be
thrown away.

If I am in sickness, my sickness may serve Him;

In perplexity, my perplexity may serve Him;

If I am in sorrow, my sorrow may serve Him.

My sickness, or perplexity, or sorrow may be necessary causes of some great
end, which is quite beyond us.

He does nothing in vain; He may prolong my life, He may shorten it; He
knows what He is about.

He may take away my friends, He may throw me among strangers, He
may make me feel desolate, make my spirits sink, hide the future from
me—still He knows what He is about....

Let me be Thy blind instrument. I ask not to see—I ask not to know—I ask
simply to be used.

From Meditations and Devotions,

"Meditations on Christian Doctrine,"

"Hope in God—Creator", March 7, 1848

<http://www.newmanreader.org/works/meditations/meditations9.html>