

NEVER WEARY
Saturday, July 16
A Prayer of John Wesley

John Wesley (1703-1791) was an English minister in the Anglican Church. With his brother Charles, he formed the “Holy Club” while at the University of Oxford. This group met three or four evenings a week for prayer and discussion. They received this name from the other students who jeered at their goal of pursuing a devout Christian life. After a failed missionary effort in the American colonies, Wesley returned to England where after searching his heart discovered that he did not have a personal salvation experience. On May 24, 1738, while listening to a sermon he had his conversion experience. He would later write, “I felt my heart strangely warmed. I felt I did trust in Christ, Christ alone for salvation, and an assurance was given me that he had taken away my sins, even mine, and saved me from the law of sin and death.”¹

Wesley’s desire was to reform the Church of England but his efforts drew the ire of the Anglican leadership. His open-air preaching and organizing believers into small groups caused their critics to call them ‘methodists’ – a name they proudly wore. John Wesley was an important force in the Christian revival in England in the 18th century. Though he himself never left the Anglican Church, his followers would later form the Methodist denomination we know today.

The following prayer of John Wesley shows us his heart of service for the Lord. He famously said, “Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.”¹ Let the words of this prayer sink deep into your heart as you seek to serve the Lord with your life.

*You are never weary, O Lord, of doing us good.
Let us never be weary of serving You.
But as You have pleasure in the prosperity of Your servants,
So let us take pleasure in the service of our Lord,
And abound in Your work, and in Your love and praise evermore.*

*O fill up all that is wanting,
Reform whatever is amiss in us,
Perfect what concerns us,
Let the witness of our pardoning love
Ever abide in all our hearts.*

¹ <https://www.christianitytoday.com/history/people/denominationalfounders/john-wesley.html>