

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 it
is made by passing through some
stages of instability-
And that it may take 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 and circumstances
acting on your own good will)
will make you tomorrow.

Only God could say what this new spirit
gradually forming within you will be.
Give our Lord the benefit of believing that
his hand is leading you,
and accept the anxiety of
feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete.

(Teilhard de Chardin)