

TRANSLATING WESLEY'S WRITINGS INTO CONTEMPORARY ENGLISH

James Pedlar / September 2013, adapted from a handout by Howard A. Snyder

Wesley's Vocabulary

affection
bowels
charity
conversation
disinterested
ejaculation
enthusiasm
divinity
end
experimental
filial
intercourse
meet
nice
peculiar ("peculiar people")
prevent
prevenient
original
own
primitive
prove
retirement
several
single
singular
styled
tempers
vulgar
want

Today's Equivalent

motivating dispositions; desires and passion
centre of emotion; often what we mean by "heart"
love
(often means) manner of life
impartial (e.g., "disinterested love for all")
exclamation
religious fanaticism
theology
(often means) purpose, goal (e.g., "to what end?")
experiential, rooted in experience
pertaining to sonship (e.g., "filial love")
interaction, relationship
fit, proper
overly concerned with what is socially proper
particular, distinct
(often means) precede
preceding (literally, "coming before")
(sometimes) origin
(often means) acknowledge
early, original (e.g., "the primitive church")
(often means) come to know by experience
seclusion, privacy
different, various (e.g., "at two several places")
focused; undivided ("If thine eye be single")
distinct; not conforming to the crowd
called, known as
habituated affections (habitual motivating dispositions)
popular, common, colloquial
(often means) need or lack rather than desire (e.g., "to go to those who want you most" means "those who need you most")