

**LIVING IN EARNEST: A BOOK  
OF DAILY READINGS, FROM  
THE SERMONS OF REV.  
CHARLES E. ST. JOHN, D.D.**

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by Charles Elliott St. John & Martha Everett St. John

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**CHARLES ELLIOTT ST. JOHN & MARTHA EVERETT ST. JOHN**

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# LIVING IN EARNEST

## A Book of Daily Readings

FROM THE SERMONS OF  
REV. CHARLES E. ST. JOHN, D. D.

*Selected by*  
*MARTHA EVERETT ST. JOHN*



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*Not one year in all my past would I live  
over in preference to the year  
that now stretches out  
before me.*





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## JANUARY

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### January 1

My friends, the new year which opens to you today will offer you a great many unexpected opportunities. You can make it a blessed year, if you will begin today a career of eager watchfulness, and of ceaseless readiness to follow the right always and on the instant.

### January 2

We need everywhere that note of the heroic which makes men long to achieve great things, makes them feel high emotions, and love better the toils that come with honor than the gains of selfishness.

### January 3

Every moment of every day brings God's love to us and should carry our love to Him.

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*Living In Earnest*

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January 4

The doctrine of character is peculiarly worthless unless it applies to the self. It is not a standard for somebody else, but for you.

January 5

I am as well placed as my neighbor. He cannot live longer than I. We both have eternity before us.

January 6

The idle person will try in vain to be happy, for some sort of diligent work is indispensable to a fine life.

January 7

The true joy of life can come side by side with life's hardships, provided one has the thought of God, like sunshine, in his soul.

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*Living In Earnest*

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January 8

A man can be unselfish in any spot of earth,  
and under any conditions.

January 9

Let every person so train his faculties that  
life can present no emergency which he has not  
the power to handle.

January 10

We best perceive the Fatherhood of God  
when we are seeking Him with our brothers by  
our side.

January 11

For our eternal welfare, it is more important  
to be fit for a given work than to do the work  
itself.