

*Here are some Van Gogh's words and thoughts.
Which one(s) appeal to you most? What do we infer about him as a person?*

- "Though I am often in the depths of misery, there is still calmness, pure harmony and music inside me."
- "If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint', then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced."
- "I experience a period of frightening clarity in those moments when nature is so beautiful. I am no longer sure of myself, and then paintings appear as in a dream."
- "Love many things,
For therein lies the true strength.
And whosoever loves much, performs much,
And can accomplish much,
And what is done in love
Is done well."
- "I want to paint men and women with that certain eternal touch."
- "What am I in the eyes of most people?
A nonentity, an eccentric, or an unpleasant person,
Somebody who has no position in society and will never have...
...Even if that were absolutely true,
Then I should one day like to show by my work
What such an eccentric, such a nobody, has in his heart.
That is my ambition,
Based less on resentment than on love
In spite of everything."
- "I can't change the fact that my paintings don't sell.
But the time will come when people will recognize that they are worth more than the value
Of the paints used in the picture."
- "As we advance in life it becomes more and more difficult.
But in fighting the difficulties the inmost strength of the heart is developed."
- "I am no friend of present-day Christianity, though its Founder was sublime...
That God of the clergymen, He is for me as dead as a doornail.
To believe in God for me is to feel that there is a God. Not a dead one or a stuffed one, but a living one."
- "When I have a terrible need of - dare I say the word - religion, then I go out and paint the stars."
- "For my part I know nothing with any certainty, but the sight of the stars makes me dream."
- "There is something inside me - what can it be?"
- "I don't care much whether I live a long or short time. The world concerns me only insofar as I feel a certain indebtedness toward it...
Because I have walked this earth for thirty years, and out of gratitude, want to leave some souvenir."