

DAY 12 - 6/18

Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. (Matthew 26:41)

~~ *Prayer and temptations* ~~

Dear friend, never go out into the danger of the world without praying first. There is always a temptation to shorten your time in prayer. After a difficult day of work, when you kneel at night to pray with tired eyes, do not use your drowsiness as an excuse to resign yourself to early rest. Then when the morning breaks and you realize you have overslept, resist the temptation to skip your early devotion or to hurry through it.

Once again, you have not taken the time to “watch and pray.” Your alertness has been sacrificed, and I firmly believe there will be irreparable damage. You have failed to pray, and you will suffer as a result.

Temptations are waiting to confront you, and you are not prepared to withstand them. Within your soul you have a sense of guilt, and you seem to be lingering some distance from God. When we give in to laziness, moments of prayer that are missed can never be redeemed.

We do not know all that Jesus gained from His time in prayer, but we do know this - a life without prayer is a powerless life. It may be a life filled with a great deal of activity and noise, but it will be far removed from Him who day and night prayed to God. Amen. (LC - June 6)

~~~ *Pray* ~~~

Abba Father,

Please help me not too tired to make time to pray in your presence. Satan always gets me lots of excuses not to pray. Please help me to start and end my day with the time with you in prayer, and to cast away my laziness in your name. I know that is the best way to build my intimacy with you. Amen. (DC)