

RULE #25

Pray that God will help you resist temptation.

"Pray that you will not fall into temptation." Luke 22:40

What temptation is Jesus referring to as he addresses the eleven apostles in the garden of Gethsemane?

Questions for thought:

1. Does God ever have a purpose in allowing our temptation?
2. What good does it do to be specific in our prayer for God's help when we face temptation?
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.
3. How has God helped you? Give examples:
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.

Bottom line: God expects us to acknowledge our temptations to Him and to pray for His help.

RULE #26

Don't pray so that others may see your praying.

"And when you pray, you are not to be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners, so that they may be seen by men. Truly I say to you, they have their reward in full." Matthew 6:5 (NAS)

Identify the spiritual malady described in this text.

Questions for thought:

1. What is the key to avoid praying "so that others may see you praying?"
2. According to Matthew 6:6, when we pray to God sincerely in secret (without ostentation) what does He do?
3. Does this rule prohibit group prayers? (Matthew 26:36)

Bottom line: Believers should place the focus of their prayers on God, and not others.

RULE #27
Pray in the name of Jesus.

"I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it." John 14:13-14

Underline the key to accomplished prayer in this verse.

Questions for thought:

1. What does it mean to pray "in His (Jesus) name?"
2. What happens to our prayers when carelessly fail to acknowledge Christ or deliberately detour around his name?
3. What do your prayers have to do with bringing glory to the Father?

Bottom line: Prayers that don't go through the Son do not get to the Father.

RULE #28
Be patient

"Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him." Psalm 37:7

How does "rest" relate to "waiting patiently" in this verse?

Questions for thought:

1. What does the Bible mean when it says to "wait upon the Lord" or "wait patiently for Him?"
2. Describe some of the challenges inherent in "time bound humans" relating to a "timeless God."
3. List some of the benefits believers enjoy when we wait patiently for Him?
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.
 - E.

Bottom line: Believers always benefits when they trust God enough to wait patiently for Him.