

promise, and without which you cannot keep it. Without prayer, I say, you cannot keep your baptismal vow. But it is of far more consequence for you to know that with prayer you can keep it. Prayer is the instrument that will infallibly draw down God's grace, His help—His grace to help you in every time of need. You never can be assailed by any temptation which prayer will not help you to overcome. You never can be placed in any difficulty that prayer will not show you the way out of it. You never can sink so low down into trouble, or sorrow that prayer will not make for you a way of escape. On the other hand, no amount of earnestness, of resolution, of courage, of love for what is good and right, will be strong enough to carry you through, in your efforts to obey and to do God's will, without prayer. You cannot do anything that is good without God's help, and that help you cannot have without prayer. But by prayer you can have it; in answer to prayer it will come down. Prayer will open your eye of faith to see, as Jacob did, Heaven and earth re-united, and the angels of God ascending and descending to convey to you the help you need. Prayer will keep that union of Heaven and Earth open before you, and as long as it is so kept open you are safe.

How glorious is the position of a young Christian setting out in right earnest to fight the good fight of faith! You go from your confirmation—which is a renewing of your oath of allegiance to Christ, a re-enlisting under His banner—with His blessing fresh upon you, strengthened with the Holy Ghost the Comforter, with no burden of unforgiven sin upon your conscience, but cheered with the happy consciousness that the great and Holy God is your Heavenly Father. You go out, knowing indeed