

THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE SIXTH PETITION

SKIT

Characters: Good Angel, Bad Angel, Alexander

Setting: Alexander is sitting in a chair in class with angels on either side. The temptation is to cheat.

FYI: Alexander will be tempted from one side and strengthened from the other. There is an underlying temptation afoot as well. "GA" will stand for "Good Angel," and "BA" for "Bad Angel." Alexander is struggling with the test.

BA: Here's your chance, Alex-boy! Go for it. The teacher stepped out, and it's your chance to get some answers. Remember who's in the desk next to you? Samantha said you could look at her test if you want. You know she's going to get a hundred on this stupid test. You can too, Alexander! Ride that wave to a good grade.

GA: Not a good idea, Alex. In fact, don't do it. Don't accept that invitation to cheat. Be self-controlled and alert.

BA: That's right, Alexander. Be alert! Heads up! The teacher has stepped out of the class, and Samantha here has given you—GIVEN YOU—permission to take a peek. *(brief pause while Alexander struggles)* Hey, you know, I think she likes you too. You don't want to offend her, do you? Why don't you give her a little attention and take a peek at her test?

GA: It's not worth it, Alex. One of the Lord's proverbs says, "My son, if sinners entice you, do not consent" (Proverbs 1:10).

BA: *(laughing)* There's nothing wrong with two consenting teenagers, now is there?

Alexander: *(wondering)* Hmmmmm.

GA: This could go from bad to worse.

BA: C'mon! You're Alexander the Great. And you have a test to conquer, among other things, if you know what I mean.

Alexander: Concentrate! I have to concentrate!

GA: Concentrate for a moment on what your faith is telling you to do, Alexander. Remember, the Spirit and your faith desire what is contrary to the sinful nature.

BA: You won't get in trouble, Alex-boy. You'll get a great score on this test. And then there's Samantha. *(laughing again)* I think she likes you, Alex!

GA: He's lying. He always lies, Alex. Everything he's telling you is a deception—everything, all of it! He's bad news, and if you follow what he's saying, you're going to get hurt and Samantha will too. Stand firm, Alexander David! "No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and He will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation He will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it" (1 Corinthians 10:13). And your escape is doing the right thing. Go with what you know, and if you don't do well on the test, study harder for the next one. Don't let this temptation chip away at your faith, your character, your future.

Alexander: You're right! Here goes. *(looks up at Bad Angel)* Excuse me. Excuse me! You're in my light! Beat it.

DISCUSSION

Contrast and compare temptation and evil as they come into our life. Temptation has the appearance of pleasure, comfort, and fulfillment; evil appears threatening and harmful. **How does God's Spirit give us the power to resist temptation and the forces of evil?** God's Spirit empowers us as He strengthens our faith through the Word and Sacrament.