

Staying With God

*It makes God HAPPY that we pray, but He'd love it if we'd STAY
—stay CLOSE to Him, within, through thick and thin—
just as you'd want a good friend to stay with you.*

Imagine this:

A man has a girlfriend, but he forgets her when he's not with her. He doesn't call her or miss her. He doesn't reach towards her in his heart and mind. In that case, how can she feel like he wants her, needs her, cares about her? The relationship is weak.

And likewise . . .

What if a person has occasional meetings with God—when they pray or go to church—but then forgets God until the next formal meeting? That relationship, too, is weak and unsatisfactory. Can't you almost hear God say, "I'm glad you're *praying*, but would you mind *staying*?"

*Beloved of God,
if you'll be close to God for a little while during
prayer, why not stay close to Him the rest of the day?
You'll enjoy a more full, emotionally rich, soul-
satisfying relationship—so will He.*