

NOTHING SEPARATES US FROM JESUS

Jesus said . . . I do nothing on my own, but I speak what the Father taught me. And the one who sent me is with me . . . I always do those things that are pleasing to him.

John 8:28-29

The above Scripture passage is the beloved apostle John's record of Jesus' unique "personal testimony." It represents the "gold standard" toward which we all should press.

Personal devotion to a friend or a pursuit means that they will always hold a place in our heart, even when other persons and things occupy our attention. Personal devotion to Jesus means that we allow nothing to separate us from Him for a moment. To abide in Him and His love, to be kept by Him and His grace, to be doing His will and pleasing Him – this cannot possibly be in irregular practice if we are truly devoted to Him.

The clearer the object of our goal, the better we will be able to accomplish it. Consider the morning watch now as the means to this great end: I want to secure the presence of Christ all the day to do nothing that can interfere with it. Our success during the day will depend upon the time we spend alone with Him in the morning.

Do not be disturbed if at first this goal appears too difficult and occupies too much of your time. The time you give to bring your daily concerns to the Lord will be richly rewarded. You will return to prayer and Scripture reading with new purpose and new faith.¹

¹ Andrew Murray, *Teach Me To Pray*