

“Do not enter into dialogue with temptation”

You wade into temptations, you put yourself in danger, you fool around with your sight and with your imagination, you chat about ... stupidities. And then you are anxious that doubts, scruples, confusion, sadness and discouragement might assail you. You must admit that you are not very consistent. (Furrow, 132)

August 17

We have to instill in our souls a true horror for sin. Lord - say it with a contrite heart - may I never offend you again! But don't be frightened when you become aware of the burden of your poor body and of human passions: it would be silly and childishly naive to find out now that "this" exists. Your wretchedness is not an obstacle but a spur for you to become more united to God and seek him constantly, because He purifies us. (Furrow, 134)

Do not enter into dialogue with temptation. Allow me to repeat it: have the courage to run away and the moral strength not to dally with your weakness or wonder how far you can go. Break off, with no concessions. (Furrow, 137)

You have no excuse whatsoever. You have only yourself to blame. If you are aware - and you know it well enough - that going along that path,

reading those things, keeping that company, can bring you to a precipice, why do you persist in thinking that perhaps it is a short cut which will help you develop or which makes your personality more matured? You must change your plan radically, even though it demands an effort and means fewer amusements at your disposal. It is high time you behaved as a responsible person. (Furrow, 138)

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