

*“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”*  
*Luke 21:34-36 (ESV)*

## **Be Watchful**

**That is what you must be.** What must I be? **You must be watchful and prayerful. You must live with the constant anticipation of my imminent return. You must not allow yourself to be caught off guard or taken by surprise. One way or another the time is very short. It should not matter to you whether my return to you or your return to me is imminent. One or the other is imminent. That is an absolute certainty. You must live your life with urgency. You must make the best use of your time. You must make the best use of your gifts, and talents, and abilities in serving me. The time is now for you to bear fruit for my kingdom. The time is now for you to store up treasure in heaven with me. The time is now for you to shine brightly in the darkness of this world. The time is now for you to bring glory to my name. Do you understand?** Yes, I understand. I get it. I only have one life to live. My time on this earth is like a snap of the fingers or a blink of an eye. I am like a mist that is here in the morning and gone by afternoon. The permanence of the things of this life is like a mirage on a sun scorched highway just ahead. The things of this life will all quickly fade away. Living for the things of this life is no treasure but is rather a trap. I will not pursue what this life offers. I will not chase after the things that I can see. No, I will live my life with and for you. I will live to do your will. I will go where you send me. I will do what you ask me. I will use all that you have given me to serve you. I will bear fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name. I will store up treasure in heaven with you. I will live a life without regret. I will not be caught off guard. I will not be taken by surprise. I will be living my life with and for you when either you return to me, or I return to you. Help me to always be prayerful and watchful. **That I will do.** Thank you, Lord.

*Lord, we live in perilous and troubling times. Could the time of your return be coming soon? Help me to always be prayerful and watchful so I am not caught off guard or taken by surprise. Help me to best use the time as I anticipate your imminent return. Amen*

**The Prayer Filled Life** *Be Always On Watch*

"Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with dissipation, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you unexpectedly like a trap. For it will come upon all those who live on the face of the whole earth. Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

NIV Luke 21:34-36

**The Prayer Filled Life** *Stay Awake At All Times*

"But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

ESV Luke 21:34-36

**The Prayer Filled Life** *Keep Alert At All Times*

"Watch out! Don't let your hearts be dulled by carousing and drunkenness, and by the worries of this life. Don't let that day catch you unaware, like a trap. For that day will come upon everyone living on the earth. Keep alert at all times. And pray that you might be strong enough to escape these coming horrors and stand before the Son of Man."

NLT Luke 21:34-36

**The Prayer Filled Life** *Watch Therefore*

"But take heed to yourselves, lest your hearts be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness, and cares of this life, and that Day come on you unexpectedly. For it will come as a snare on all those who dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

NKJV Luke 21:34-36

**The Prayer Filled Life** *Be Alert At All Times*

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

NRSV Luke 21:34-36

**The Prayer Filled Life** *Don't Go To Sleep At The Switch*

"But be on your guard. Don't let the sharp edge of your expectation get dulled by parties and drinking and shopping. Otherwise, that Day is going to take you by complete surprise, spring on you suddenly like a trap, for it's going to come on everyone, everywhere, at once. So, whatever you do, don't go to sleep at the switch. Pray constantly that you will have the strength and wits to make it through everything that's coming and end up on your feet before the Son of Man."

MSG Luke 21:34-36

**The Prayer Filled Life** *Watch At All Times*

But take heed to yourselves *and* be on your guard, lest your hearts be overburdened *and* depressed (weighed down) with the giddiness *and* headache *and* nausea of self-indulgence, drunkenness, and worldly worries *and* cares pertaining to [the business of] this life, and [lest] that day come upon you suddenly like a trap *or* a noose; For it will come upon all who live upon the face of the entire earth. Keep awake then *and* watch at all times [be discreet, attentive, and ready], praying that you may have the full strength *and* ability *and* be accounted worthy to escape all these things [taken together] that will take place, and to stand in the presence of the Son of Man.

AMP Luke 21:34-36

**The Prayer Filled Life** *Keep A Constant Watch*

"Watch out! Don't let my sudden coming catch you unawares; don't let me find you living in carefree ease, carousing and drinking, and occupied with the problems of this life, like all the rest of the world. Keep a constant watch. And pray that if possible you may arrive in my presence without having to experience these horrors."

TLB Luke 21:34-36

**The Prayer Filled Life** *Keep On The Alert At All Times*

"Be on guard, so that your hearts will not be weighted down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of life, and that day will not come on you suddenly like a trap; for it will come upon all those who dwell on the face of all the earth. "But keep on the alert at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are about to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

NASB Luke 21:34-36

**The Prayer Filled Life** *Be Ready All The Time*

"Be careful not to spend your time feasting, drinking, or worrying about worldly things. If you do, that day might come on you suddenly, like a trap on all people on earth. So be ready all the time. Pray that you will be strong enough to escape all these things that will happen and that you will be able to stand before the Son of Man."

NCV Luke 21:34-36

# Stay Awake At All Times

Year \_\_\_\_\_ Week \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**The Prayer Filled Life** – Luke 21:34-36

**In Context:** *Read Luke 21*

**Begin With Prayer:**

***Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.***

**Meditating On God’s Word:** ***(What is God speaking to your heart?)***

“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”  
Luke 21:34-36 (ESV)

**Considering The Words:** ***(What words speak to your heart?)***

“But watch yourselves | lest your hearts be weighed down | with dissipation and drunkenness | and cares of this life, | and that day | come upon you | suddenly like a trap. | For it will come upon all | who dwell on the face | of the whole earth. | But stay awake | at all times, | praying that you may have strength | to escape all these things | that are going to take place, | and to stand before | the Son of Man.” Luke 21:34-36 (ESV)

**Praying The Scripture:** ***(What prayer from your heart will you write?)***

Lord, we live in perilous and troubling times. Could the time of your return be coming soon? Help me to always be prayerful and watchful so I am not caught off guard or taken by surprise. Help me to best use the time as I anticipate your imminent return. Amen

**What It Means:** ***(What questions speak to your heart?)*** *(Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)*

What will likely dull your awareness and lull you into sleep in regard to the Lord’s return?

**How are you being prayerful and watchful as you anticipate the Lord’s return?**

How differently would you be living your life if you thought that the Lord was returning very soon?

**Why should you always live your life with expectant anticipation of the Lord’s return?**

How are you making the best use of the time as you await the Lord’s return?

What time wasters can you eliminate from your life as you anticipate the Lord’s return?

**How are you best using your gifts, talents, and abilities as you await the Lord’s return?**

**Living It Out:** ***(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)***

Always be prayerful and watchful as you anticipate the Lord’s return.

**Seeing It Happen:** ***(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)***

Have faith that the Lord will help you to be prayerful and watchful at all times, as you anticipate His return.

**Get Ready To Share:** ***(What can you share with others from your heart?)***

Share with another person or your small group how you are being prayerful and watchful as a follower of Christ.

**Close With Prayer:**

***Quiet Yourself Before The Lord***

*Pause And Offer Prayers Of...*

*With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You*

Adoration... \_\_\_\_\_

Thanksgiving... \_\_\_\_\_

Confession... \_\_\_\_\_

Intercession... \_\_\_\_\_

Petition... \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal**

*As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord*

**What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?**

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**What Prayers Are You Praying Today?**

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**Prayer Of Blessing**

*(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)*

*May you be prayerful and watchful at all times as you anticipate the Lord's return.*

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**Prayer To Carry**

*(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)*

*Lord, help me to be prayerful and watchful at all times as I await your return.*

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**What Do You Want To Remember About Today?**

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**A Question To Ask God**

*(What Would You Like To Ask God?)*

*Lord, how can I be prayerful and watchful today as I anticipate your return?*

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