

## Prayer Before a Test

### *Grades Do Matter, Lord*

*There's another test coming up, Lord. They come almost automatically – like weekends, only not fun.*

*Tests are okay when I get good grades – but very un-okay when I get bad ones.*

*The problem is, to some people my grades are **me**. A 95 means I'm a great kid; an 80 means I'm an okay kid; a 60 means I'm...well, not wonderful.*

*I know it's not true. I know I could have a 47% average and be a decent kid or a 98% average (okay, so I'm dreaming) and be a jerk. **I am more than my grades.***

*But still, grades matter. I can pretend I don't care, but that's to keep from feeling bad if I don't do as well as I (or other people) expect. Grades do matter, even if I don't want to admit it.*

*So I'm asking for your help, Lord. I **could** ask for an A as a pure gift and promise to study more next time, but I know you don't operate like that. (Of course, if you want to slip an answer or two into my mind, I won't argue.)*

*Mainly, Lord, help me fit it all together – this test, all the tests to come, and everything else that's suddenly going on in my life. And thanks!*