SFChronicle

OCT 23 1973

'Nixon Needs Lord's Help'

Milwaukee

President Nixon needs "the help of the Lord" during current Watergate crisis, says Billy Graham evangelist and friend of the President.

/ "I'm not going to get into that," he said when asked if he would counsel the President to resign. "I'm not capable of analyzing such judgments and constitutional questions."

Graham, here to take part in an evangelistic crusade led by his brother-in-law, the Rev. Leighton Ford, said "any counsel I would give to the President would be spiritual and moral."

"Both he and Senator (Sam) Ervin are long-time friends of mine. They need the help of the Lord."

Ervin, (Dem.-N.C.) is chairman of the Senate Watergate committee.

Graham said the nation may be in its greatest crisis since the Civil War. Then, Graham said, President Lincoln called the nation to prayer.

Associated Press