

21 DAYS

of prayer and fasting

"because there's more"

2020

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**THINGS
YOU NEED TO KNOW
BEFORE YOU
FAST**

The Call to Fast

Have you ever felt strongly that something was supposed to happen? You were so sure you had heard from God? You waited, you prayed, you waited some more, and nothing. Then the questions started: Did I miss God? Was that just me? Why isn't anything happening? In Mark Chapter 9, a father brought his son to nine of Jesus' disciples. The boy was demonized and epileptic, and even though the disciples had healed people before, they couldn't heal him. When the disciples brought the boy to Jesus and he was healed, they asked Jesus this question, "Why couldn't we do it?" Jesus answers in verse 29, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting."

The Benefits of Fasting

There are things that God desires to happen in our lives and ministry that won't happen unless we fast. Fasting breaks strongholds, liberates people, and moves us into a realm of realizing God's power in our lives.

The more time you're spending with God, the more you're going to see the hand of God on your life in an extraordinary way. Like the disciples, there are things that God wills for us to do that we will not have the power to bring about unless we have spent time with Him.

What is Biblical Fasting?

Fasting is abstaining from food (or other things) in order to give ourselves to prayer and fellowship with the Lord.

The Bible mentions three kinds of fasts:

- 1 Absolute Fast: No food or water.
- 2 Normal Fast: Abstaining from food.
- 3 Partial Fast: Daniel's fast – abstaining from meat, sweets, bread or you can only eat bread.

Jesus makes the assumption that we will fast.

Should All Christians Fast?

Matthew 6:16a, "and when you fast..." (ESV)

Matthew 9:15, "The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast." (ESV)

Jesus makes the assumption that His followers will fast. Notice, that it's "when" not "if." Fasting is an essential of the Christian life, and Jesus understands that the absence of fasting will make us spiritually feeble.

Why is Fasting Such a Struggle?

But, we like to eat! If fasting is so important, why is it so hard?

The Esau Syndrome

We can literally eat ourselves out of God's will.

Hebrews 12:16, "Watch out for the Esau syndrome: trading away God's lifelong gift in order to satisfy a short-term appetite." (MSG)

Esau comes in and says, "I am willing to sacrifice spiritual (and physical) blessing on the altar of my immediate appetite." There are some blessings from God you and I will never receive unless we dethrone what commentator Matthew Henry called, "King Stomach."

The Physical and Spiritual Battle

As we fast, there will be physical challenges along the way. Some may experience a caffeine headache, some may not feel well. For most there is more than just a little detoxing happening in our bodies. But the battle is more than physiological; as we fast a spiritual battle is being waged. Things are happening in the spiritual realm that we neither perceive nor understand outside of God revealing those things to us.

The Power of Prayer

It's important to remember that fasting is more than just missing a meal. Powerful seasons of fasting are experienced when we plan to spend additional time in God's presence as we fast. As well, purpose now that every hunger pang, every feeling of fatigue, and every caffeine headache will be a reminder to call on God in that moment and to cry out for those things you are seeking Him to do in your life. David Mathis says, "[Fasting] is a desperate measure, for desperate times, among those who know themselves desperate for God." But don't just focus on the battle or the pain – Scriptures promises there is fullness of joy in God's presence and there are pleasures at His right hand. Delight yourself in seeking Him and you'll know the joy of seeing Him work in your life.

Why should we fast?

The Bible lists a variety of reasons for engaging in a fast.

1. Fasting Helps Secure Favor in Situations

Nehemiah 1:4, “As soon as I heard these words I sat down and wept and mourned for days, and I continued fasting and praying before the God of heaven.” (ESV)

Nehemiah 1:11, “O Lord, let your ear be attentive to the prayer of your servant, and to the prayer of your servants who delight to fear your name, and give success to your servant today, and grant him mercy in the sight of this man. Now I was cupbearer to the king.” (ESV)

The story of Nehemiah is a vibrant example of the favor that comes with denying ourselves for the purpose of drawing near to God.

2. Fasting Prepares Us for New Seasons of Life

- 1 Moses fasted before he received the law
- 2 Jesus fasted prior to the start of His earthly ministry
- 3 Paul fasted before the start of his missionary ministry

Acts 13:2, “While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, ‘set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them’” (ESV)

3. Fasting Gives Us Greater Awareness of God’s Presence

Isaiah 58:8-9a, “Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’” (ESV)

There is a unique spiritual sensitivity that comes through prayer and fasting. Fasting has a way of quieting our heart. Fasting helps us to hear from the Lord. If you are struggling to discern God’s voice, one of the best things you can do is fast!

4. Fasting helps us Discern God's Will and Breaks Satan's Grip

Daniel 10:1-4a, "In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia, a revelation was given to Daniel (who was called Belteshazzar). Its message was true and it concerned a great war. The understanding of the message came to him in a vision. At that time I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. I ate no choice food; no meat or wine touched my lips; and I used no lotions at all until the three weeks were over. On the twenty-fourth day of the first month...." (NIV)

Daniel fasted 3 weeks, 21 days and, humanly speaking, it appeared nothing had happened! Daniel 10:4, "On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was standing on the bank of the great river, the Tigris," (NIV)

Notice that the first day of the fast the answer was on its way. Daniel didn't see or hear anything for 24 days; but Heaven heard, and his answer was on its way from the very first day.

Did God answer Daniel?

Daniel fasted 3 weeks, 21 days and, humanly speaking, it appeared nothing had happened!

Daniel 10:5-9, "I looked up and there before me was a man dressed in linen, with a belt of fine gold from Uphaz around his waist. His body was like topaz, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude. I, Daniel, was the only one who saw the vision; those who were with me did not see it, but such terror overwhelmed them that they fled and hid themselves. So I was left alone, gazing at this great vision; I had no strength left, my face turned deathly pale and I was helpless. Then I heard him speaking, and as I listened to him, I fell into a deep sleep, my face to the ground." (NIV)

When you fast, you are going to see God show up in the midst of your situation.

Daniel 10:10-11a, “A hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees. He said, ‘Daniel, you who are highly esteemed....’” (NIV)

When you fast and pray, Heaven takes note. When you say, “I want God’s blessing more than I want food,” the Lord will help you.

Daniel 10:11b-12, “...consider carefully the words I am about to speak to you, and stand up, for I have now been sent to you.’ And when he said this to me, I stood up trembling. Then he continued, ‘Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them.’” (NIV)

Notice that the first day of the fast the answer was on it way!

Daniel 10:13-14, “But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come.” (NIV)

The reward is worth the struggle.

Those verses remind us that when we are fasting there is a spiritual battle taking place. The struggles of fasting are not just physical. As we fast and pray we are doing spiritual warfare. Satan would love nothing more than for you to give up. Whatever your need is you can be sure of this, God responds to His people when they respond to him. If you want to see God’s power in your life and in your situation, set your heart on seeking him. As you draw near to him through fasting and prayer – you will see God do extraordinary things in your life.

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DAY 1 - JANUARY 5

Acknowledging God, the Creator of Heaven and Earth

Devotion

Have you ever wondered who or what created the heavens or even little things like flies and ants? If so, what caused you to think that there is someone besides God who can bring things like that into existence?

Colossians 1:16 says, *"for by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him."*

When we acknowledge the Creator of heaven and earth it leaves no room or doubt in our minds that our Heavenly Father is the creator of the Universe. Take a look around outside today, and behold the beauty of the sky and the things around you; and look at how detailed our Father God is. Don't you think that if we serve a God who is that detailed in the smallest things of His creation like a fly or a tiny ant then think of how detailed the plan must be that He has for your life? Take some time today to thank God for what He has done for us in all creation. God loves it when we brag on Him and about Him. Watch how He will begin to fill your heart with joy!

Prayer

Father God, who is like You? There is none in heaven or on earth like our Mighty and Awesome God. O Lord, You have created all things and by You all things exist. Heaven is Your throne and the earth is Your footstool. God, we your children can not build anything large enough to contain You and Your glory, the heavens can't contain You, yet You have chosen to have Your Holy Spirit live inside of us. Thank You Father, for all the things You have done for us. Thank You, for the wonderful creation of life we partake in each day God. Lord, we acknowledge that You are God of every living thing. We say that You are God of all flesh, the Creator, the Great I Am, the Ancient of Days, and we bless Your Holy and Righteous Ways. Thank You, Father, for Your Creation.

Scriptures to Meditate on

1 Kings 8:22-23,27; Psalm 103:1; Psalm 148, Isaiah 66:1; 2 Timothy 1:14

DAY 2 - JANUARY 6

One Nation, Truly Under God

Devotion

Today in our society we have become passive about how and what people do, especially our own children. We now look at the wrong people do and call it right, and the good that people do, and call it bad. The word of God tells us in **Psalms 33:12**, "*that blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord.*" We cannot be silent as our nation slips further and further away from God. You and I are called by God to be a light in the darkness. We must never forget that regardless of the outward appearance, the scriptures are clear that there will always be more that are for us than those who are against us (2 Kings 6:17). God is watching (Proverbs 15:3) to see how we will respond to the world around us. Always remember that throughout scripture it often only took a single person seeking God's direction and help to turn the course of an entire nation. Remember the impact of Daniel, Jeremiah, and Moses. A single person's commitment could change the course of our entire nation! Will you be that person?

Prayer

Father, first forgive me for silently standing by while watching people make bad decisions and not sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ with them. Help me to not be afraid to share Your goodness to the world around me. Father, I have a desire to see my home, city, state, and country be changed by You. We want You, Lord Jesus to rule in our nation. We want what You want for our Nation so that we can continue to be blessed by You to be a blessing to other Countries. Help us dear Lord, to be a Nation who calls You our God.

Scriptures to Meditate on

Psalms 33:12-15, Psalm 52:4, Job 24:1-25

DAY 3 - JANUARY 7

Guidance for the President and Vice President of the United State of America

Devotion

It is our job as believers to keep them lifted up in prayer, whether you like the choice or not we are told in scripture to pray for them. God is the one who lifts some up and sits some down. We must understand that God has the last word and whatever decisions these two people make, our God is STILL in control. The Bible tells us that He is the God of all flesh. So let us make a decision to pray for guidance for our leaders. Let us purpose in our hearts that we will ask the Father to lead and guide every plan, purpose, thought, and decision they make. Remember, these Leaders have a huge load to carry. As God's word instructs us, let us lift up those in authority over us each day. Only as our nation's leaders turn towards God can our nation remain great.

Prayer

Lord, we pray that you will touch our president and all those who you have allowed to be in positions of leadership in our nation. May they seek and receive wisdom from you and may their steps reflect your righteousness. If they do not know you personally may you create circumstances in their lives that cause them to seek your saving grace and may that decision result in a relationship with you that will be a blessing to our entire nation. May your word dwell richly in their hearts and minds so that with each decision and trial that they face the Holy Spirit would be the voice speaking loudest to their hearts. In our future elections exalt those who trust in you and bring down those who reject you. Bless us so that we may bless the entire world. Bring us peace and prosperity as our nation returns to you.

Scriptures to Meditate on

Psalm 1:1-3, Romans 13:1-7, 1 Timothy 2:1-4

DAY 4 - JANUARY 8

Accountability

Devotion

No one wants to be accountable. As young children we begin to find ways to release ourselves from the accountability of others. We simply want to do what we want to do without having to deal with the consequences of our actions. However, the Word of God is clear that we owe both God and others in the Body of Christ our honest accountability.

Prayer

Dear Lord, I humble myself before you and before my accountability partner. Through their involvement in my life bring me closer to you. Forgive me for the years that I wasted thinking that I could live this life without anyone's help. I commit to you and to them that this year will be my most devoted year ever as they hold me accountable to those disciplines and devotions that produce your spirit in me more and more.

Scriptures to Meditate on

Romans 12:16, Matthew 12: 33-37

DAY 5 - JANUARY 9

God Wants to Use You!

Devotion

It absolutely thrills me when I think that the God of Heaven can actually use me! We all should be very grateful to know that we can be an instrument

to accomplish His will here on earth. Faithful Christians are the tools God uses to do great things that have eternal value. He uses His followers as witnesses to the entire earth to tell everyone about Him and His love. When you stop to think about it, you and I can truly alter the course of history and the world.

Unfortunately, some people are not being used by God because they are either unwilling or unfaithful. It is said that Leon Trotsky, who was a key part of the Communist revolution in Russia, actually attended a Sunday school class one day during a visit to America. But the teacher of the class was absent that morning, and did not bother to get a substitute. So no one taught the Bible that morning, and as far as anyone knows, Trotsky never attended church again. What if someone had been faithful enough to show up that morning? It may have helped to alter history! All that God asks of us is to make ourselves available to Him. Tell the Lord today that you want to faithfully serve Him. Who knows what wonderful things might happen when you are faithful to the Lord?

Prayer

Dear Lord, forgive me for not being available for Your use in the Kingdom. Lord I want to be used by You to bring about change in my community. I yield myself to You Lord, to do whatever You want me to do. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Scriptures to Meditate on

2 Timothy 2:20-21, Psalm 91, Psalm 100

DAY 6 - JANUARY 10

What Is Freedom?

Devotion

The concept of freedom is one that most Americans would claim to comprehend. But after generations of living free, do we really understand what would be lost if just a piece of our freedom were taken away? Remember the days just after September 11, 2001? Airlines were shut down, and air travel suffered for months. Professional football games were postponed. Large events were canceled. Security measures implemented and since then have cost billions of dollars and demanded countless hours. Imagine what life would be like if we suffered a barrage of suicide bombers, truck bombs and armed assaults similar to what happens in places like Iraq and Israel. An old saying warns that you don't know what you have until it is gone. Truly, we take so much for granted in this country that it is easy to lose sight of how much is at stake. We must not allow terrorists to shut us down and isolate us from the rest of the world. Our soldiers are risking (and some losing) their lives to protect our freedom. The rest of us must do our part to secure the future for our children and grandchildren, not only for the sake of our loved ones, but also for the sake of freedom. It is where our prayers for freedom and protection, not just for America, but for all those other countries like Darfur, and Israel etc. that suffer through terror everyday, become very important. We must pray for the protection of this Country. God is waiting to hear from us about everything that concerns us.

Prayer

Thank You, Lord, for the freedom we enjoy in this country. You have blessed us beyond what we deserve. Thank you, for the gifts of transportation, recreation, national security, and so much more. We are guilty of taking Your blessings for granted. Remind us continually of how You protect us and cause us to prosper. Help us not to squander the freedom You have bestowed upon us. Help us to protect it as the treasure that it is.

DAY 7 - JANUARY 11

The Difference Between Covering and Covering Up

Devotion

1 Peter 4:8, *"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers a multitude of sins."*

Sometimes this passage is misinterpreted to mean that our love for each other blots out our sin. Make no mistake, the only love that can cancel out sin is the love of Jesus manifested in His death on the cross. What Peter is talking about here is the unconditional love and acceptance that should be present in the Body of Christ creating an environment where we feel safe and secure to confess our sins to one another and repent. Sadly, in some church fellowships that love and acceptance is not present. This results in an environment where we dare not confess our faults to each other for fear we will become exposed and put through a gossip mill. This lack of "covering love" in the church is the spirit of the Pharisees, not that of Jesus! When Jesus encountered those struggling with sin He responded with compassion and understanding, saying "I don't condemn you." He did this, even though He is the only person who has the right to condemn sinners. You and I don't have the right. We are like the Pharisees with rocks in their hands waiting to throw them at the sinful woman; when Jesus reminded them of their own sin, one by one they dropped their stones and walked away, knowing they were every bit as guilty as her. Through the Word of God and the Holy Spirit that which is sin and that which is not sin becomes very clear. We are not a people called to turn a blind eye to sin in our lives or the lives of others. We must be willing to confront sin but we must always do that after a relationship is established and with our primary motivation being reconciliation and love and always with a eye to our own sinfulness.

Prayer

Dear Lord, thank You for putting me in a body of believers that I can be accountable to and who won't gossip about my sins or shortcomings, but will pray with me and for me. Help us Father, Your children, to truly edify and pray for each other the way You intend for us to. In Jesus name, I pray Amen.

Scriptures to Meditate on

Hebrew 10:24-25, 1 Thessalonians 4: 11

DAY 8 - JANUARY 12

Salvation for the Lost

Devotion

Do you know of someone who does not know Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior? Chances are that you do. It may be a co-worker, a friend, a neighbor, and even your own mother or father. The fact is, almost every born again believer knows at least one person who is not saved. Why then do you think that God has placed you in their life? Is it to witness to them or to let your light shine before them so that they will desire to know your God? Today take time out to pray for someone specifically that you know who is not saved. Ask God to show and tell you exactly how to witness to this person or people that He has for you to share your faith. God desires for everyone to be saved.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I come to You now in the name of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Heavenly Father, I pray for (_____), and the lost of the world this day and that every man, woman, and child from here to the farthest corners of the earth be saved. As I intercede, I use my faith, believing that thousands this day have the opportunity to make Jesus Christ their Lord and Savior. I ask the Lord of the harvest to thrust the perfect laborers into these lives this day to share the good news of the Gospel in a special way so that it will touch their hearts. In the name of Jesus I pray, Amen.

DAY 9 - JANUARY 13

Destiny

Devotion

This life is but a grain of sand on eternity's beach. Your ultimate destiny is more magnificent than you can possibly imagine. However, God wants to give you a taste of it here in this life. He has a plan for you to accomplish. He has set you on a prearranged path with an intended destination. Has God told you to do something that looks totally impossible to your natural eyes and understanding? Do you hear God calling you to go to the left instead of the right? Step onto the path that God is calling you to, and stay on it. Every step on this path is covered in God's wisdom. Listen and watch as He guides you past every obstacle and distraction. Know that your Heavenly Father is always guiding you with His right hand.

Prayer

Dear Lord, in my heart I submit myself to your purpose for my life. I believe that as long as my heart is stayed on you there is no way I can fail. I trust you to reveal your plan for my life. I will listen for your voice. I know that even in those times that I don't think I can hear your voice you are powerful enough to direct my life in a way that will both please you and bring glory to your name. My simple commitment is to remain submitted to you in every way I know how. In Jesus name, Amen.

Scriptures to Meditate on

Proverbs 19:21; 20:24, John 5:20, Romans 12:2

DAY 10 - JANUARY 14

Promotion

Devotion

No one in the Body of Christ is bound to a dead-end job. We serve a God of increase and prosperity. He will promote you to positions you never thought you could do and then give you the ability to do them better than anyone ever has. Never forget that your Father prospers everything you set your hands to do. So set your hand to the plow and don't let up. Maintain a good attitude. Don't be a complainer. Complainers are always last in the promotion line. See your present job as a proving ground. Do it as unto the Lord and to the very best of your ability, and don't be selfish. If the opportunity arises, teach others to do your job as well as you can. You will reap the benefits of sowing into someone else's life and ensure that you have a replacement when you get the promotion you've been expecting. Remember, promotion does not come from the east or the west, but promotion is from God!

Prayer

Dear Lord, thank You for raising me from the dust (the place where I am easily driven by the wind). Thank You, Lord for delivering me from the dunghill (the place of deep and lengthy poverty). You Lord have set me with kings and nobles. You, Father, have made me righteous in the earth. You have guarded my ways and given me strength to do Your will. Lord, Your word says that You are the one who promotes and I believe Your word for my life. I thank You, Father, that You have come to give me an abundant life. Amen.

Scriptures to Meditate on

Deuteronomy 8:6-18, Psalm 75: 6-7

DAY 11 - JANUARY 15

Waiting on God

Devotion

As children of God we often find it hard to wait on God to answer our prayers. For some reason we think God needs our help in answering our prayers so we might tend to do things our own way instead of waiting on God. God's word tells us that His ways are not our ways and His thoughts are not our thoughts. So why is it hard for us to wait on God? Maybe it is because of our impatience, immaturity, or lack of trust that will cause us to jump ahead of God instead of waiting and listening for His voice. Do we really trust God to answer us when we call on Him? Are you willing to wait on the Lord to answer all your prayers, even if it takes longer than expected?

Prayer

Father show me Your ways, Lord God, and teach me Your paths. Lead me in Your truth and teach me. You are the God of my salvation. I wait before You with expectant hope all the day long. Let integrity and uprightness preserve me as I wait on You. Father God, help me to remember to wait on You at all times and to be of good courage, for I know that as I do these things, You will strengthen my heart. Thank You, Father, for this precious promise from Your word. In Jesus name, Amen.

Scriptures to Meditate on

Psalm 25:1-5, 21; Psalm 27:14

DAY 12 - JANUARY 16

Life Balance

Devotion

Balance is not an easy thing to find and an even harder thing to regain if you lose it. We live in a very fast-paced world. Every second of our day is up for grabs and there are a lot of things vying for those seconds. We have work, recreation, family, church, children, grandchildren, appointments, friends, education, sleep, shopping, fun, holidays, vacations, sports, and the list goes on and on. If we are aren't careful, the Lord's place in our life can suddenly be found to be way down on a list full of other things.

Over and over throughout the history of the people of Israel, this is exactly what happened. God would be center to their lives and great blessing and peace would be upon the people. Time would pass, the people would begin to allow other things to crowd God out of their lives, and difficulty would befall them. It's a pattern that happened over and over. Are there many worthwhile things competing for our time, money and allegiance?

Absolutely and many of them are noble, righteous things. However, even good things must not be allowed to push God from the center of our lives and the first place on all of our priority lists.

God has given us every aspect of our lives including our bodies, our time, our money, our families, our work, everything. In all of our ways let's acknowledge him first!

Prayer

Father, please show me any areas where I need to reorder my priorities. Guide me to solutions that will help me live my life in a way that is pleasing to You. Jesus, I desire for my steps to be ordered in Your Word. I want to be faithful to the time You have given me on this earth. I want to please You, Lord in all that I do. Help me, Holy Spirit, not to neglect my body in which You dwell. Help me not to neglect my family by being too busy for them. Forgive me, Lord, for using my time unwisely. Thank You, Lord, for being faithful to me when I am unfaithful with the time You have given me. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.

Scriptures to Meditate on

Ecclesiastes 3:13

DAY 13 - JANUARY 17

God Works Through Families

Devotion

Whether we know it or not our families are a classroom for God's character traits, including forgiveness, mercy, justice, grace, trust, loyalty, and love. God put us in families to teach us how to be more like Him. As we care for our aging parents, we learn to serve as He served us in the person of Jesus Christ. As we raise our children, we learn to love as He loves us as His own children. As we carry out our marriage vows, we learn to sacrifice self as He sacrificed Himself for our sins. As we stand by our brothers and sisters in trials, we learn to care for their needs as our Father cares for us. Through the family, God also teaches us about His covenant.

God works through families. Over and over in scripture we see His hand touching generations to bring His plan to fulfillment; Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and even through the genealogy of Jesus Christ. God also uses the family to teach us about community. In walking through life with our families, we share the good and the bad. We care for one another, pray for one another, and learn the value of standing together in tough times as well as rejoicing in good times. Scripture says, "*All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*" (**Romans 3:23**). So inevitably, we will wound one another or let one another down in some way, however in our family, we can hold each other accountable and walk through forgiveness and repentance.

Prayer

Dear God, thank You for what You have taught and are teaching me through my family. Help me to continue to grow in love, joy, peace, forgiveness, self-control, kindness, and goodness. Help me and my family to glorify You in all that we do. Use us to teach another family about Your true love so that they may want You as their Lord and Savior. Help us Lord to love what You love and do what You would do. Amen.

Scriptures to Meditate on

Genesis 17:7, Romans 3:23, Galatians 5:16

DAY 14 - JANUARY 18

Restore Relationships

Devotion

Today as you continue in this fast and prayer ask the Holy Spirit to help you restore any of your relationships that you know ended in an abrupt way. You may not be angry or hold any ill feeling towards the person but maybe you feel as if they are upset with you. Sometimes the enemy blinds us into thinking that someone is angry at us or you have done something wrong to them. Walk in boldness today and with help of the Holy Spirit go to that person and say, "Can we talk?" Don't be tricked by your own thoughts, the situation may not be what you think. How many people do you know that are not communicating with distant loved ones just because they think that the other person is mad at them when in fact, it's not that way at all? Maybe they are waiting on you to make the first move.

Prayer

Father, today I ask you to help me take all of my thoughts captive to the obedience of Jesus Christ. Help me, Lord, to see all people the way you see them. Help me to be a person of reconciliation, restoring all that may have been lost in the relationships with others you have place in my life. I ask You, Father, to restore a good relationship between me and all of my family, friends, co-workers, and others.

Scriptures to Meditate on

Proverbs 19:11, Ephesians 4:30-32, Romans 12:10

DAY 15 - JANUARY 19

Enlightenment

Devotion

Do you have a desire to know more about God? I have a hard time imagining anyone answering no to that question. God has promised in His Word to enlighten us and reveal Himself to us. How does He do that? Through the combination of two things. His Word (the Bible) and through the Holy Spirit. It's sort of like a glue that comes in two parts. Separate they don't stick anything together. Mix them together, spread them onto something and stick it to something else and in just a little time the two pieces are now one piece. The Word of God through the Holy Spirit making it alive in us brings the truths of who God is and how God works right into our hearts and perhaps more importantly into our minds. at process is called enlightenment in Paul's letter to the Ephesians.

Prayer

Lord of Heaven, I pray that You might give to me Your spirit of wisdom and revelation, with the eyes of my heart being enlightened, knowing what is the hope of Your calling, Your inheritance in me and Your inherent power to me as one who believes (see Eph.1:17-19). Father, I pray that You would make known to me the mystery of Your will according to Your good pleasure (see Eph. 1:9).

Scriptures to Meditate on

Daniel 2:21, James 1:5

DAY 16 - JANUARY 20

God's Provision and Protection

Devotion

When we seek God and are thankful with all He has given us, we will not lack anything we need. When we give to those less fortunate than ourselves, He will bless us (Psalm 41:1-2). If we close our eyes to the needs of those around us, God will do the same with our needs. When we put all that we have, especially our finances in His hands and do with it what He is telling us to do, He promises to bless us. Remember, if you give nothing, you get nothing, and if you give little, you get little. "You reap what you sow". How many times have we been protected and spared from harm and disaster that we are not even aware of? God's word tells us that we are in His hands and no man can pluck us out.

Prayer

Lord, I worship You as my Almighty God. You are my King and Lord over all my life. I surrender everything I have to You because I recognize that every good thing I have has been given by You as a sign of Your goodness, mercy, and love (James 1:17). Thank You that You are my Provider and You provide everything I need, Amen.

Scriptures to Meditate on

Psalm 28:7, 34:10, Matthew 6:25-34, Psalm 91

DAY 17 - JANUARY 21

A Prayer for Spiritual Strength

Praying Ephesians 3:14-21

Father, In the name of Jesus, I praise and thank You that You saved me for a purpose, and that You have a plan for my life that exceeds my most imaginative hopes and dreams. For that reason, Father, I bow my knee to You, the God of heaven and earth. I pray that by Your glorious riches You would strengthen me on the inside through the power of Your Holy Spirit and that Christ would truly live in my heart and live through me by my faith in You. Help me to understand with all of the saints the breadth, length, depth, and height of Your love which surpass all knowledge. Fill me with all of Your fullness, Your wisdom, strength, and power, so that I would live a life that glorifies you. Amen!

DAY 18 - JANUARY 22

A Prayer for Guidance

Praying Philippians 1:9-11 for your loved ones and yourself. Insert the name of the person or people for whom you are praying for.

*Father, in the name of Jesus, I pray that Your love in _____'s heart by the Holy Spirit would abound and grow more and more, strengthening _____'s knowledge of You and of the things You have called _____ to do, in the discernment and spiritual insight of the Holy Spirit. I pray that _____ can prove Your excellence by always knowing the right things to do and doing them with excellence and that _____ will remain sincere, genuine, and real in all his/her/my encounters with others and free from blame or even the appearance of evil until the day of Jesus Christ's return. Allow this to lead to _____ over-
owing in the fruits of Your righteousness, which I have because of Jesus Christ, that all of this would make _____ a constant glory and praise to You under all circumstances and in all things. In Jesus name, Amen*

DAY 19 - JANUARY 23

A Prayer for Unity

Praying Romans 15:5-6 your Loved Ones, Your Church, Your Organization or Business, or Your City.

Heavenly Father, I know that it is by Your Spirit that we have the power to forgive, and that it is through the fruit of Your Spirit that we can overcome the challenges of life and become encouragers to others around us. I thank You that You have called us as Christians to be unifiers, reconcilers, and peacemakers on this earth as a display of Your love and grace in our everyday lives. I also thank You for giving us an example of true unity in Your relationship with Your Son, Jesus, as He walked upon this earth and that we can be one as You and He were one because of His prayers for us in John 17. For this reason, Father, I pray for unity for _____. I pray that You would not only use _____ to be a unifier, reconciler, and peacemaker but that the Holy Spirit would also be present with _____ everyday to help _____ overcome with Your joy and encourage others as _____ follows Jesus. I pray that in unity with one heart and one mouth _____ may glorify You, the Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

DAY 20 - JANUARY 24

A Prayer for Sanctification

Praying 1 Thessalonians 5:23 for yourself.

Father, in the name of Jesus, I praise and thank You for being the God of Peace. I pray that You would sanctify me completely from my inner spirit to my outer actions, making my life stand out to others as an example of Your grace, mercy, love and righteousness. Father, help me to walk worthy of my heavenly citizenship even as Jesus has made me worthy through His sacrifice on the Cross. I pray that my entire Spirit, soul and body would be sanctified and complete for the purpose to which You have called me. I want to live blamelessly, above reproach, and without any appearance of evil, t for Your use in all things and ready to tell others of Your love until the return of Your Son, my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Now unto You, who called me, be the glory forever and ever, even as You will be faithful to make certain Your sanctification and will are fulfilled in my life. Amen.

DAY 21 - JANUARY 25

A Prayer of Praise and Thanksgiving

Praying Romans 15:5-6 your Loved Ones, Your Church, Your Organization or Business, or Your City.

Father, You alone have the power to establish all of us according to the Good News of Christ. You have chosen to reveal through the Church the mystery of Your manifold wisdom, a secret You kept from the beginning of creation until the day You raised Jesus from the dead. You now are making that wisdom manifest to the entire universe through those of us who obey You. You, Father, who through the grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, have enriched us in knowledge and to the greatness of Jesus. You have enabled us to be steadfast and blameless until the day Jesus returns for us. You are faithful who has called us into the fellowship of Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. You have enabled each of us to be ministers and ambassadors of Your grace regardless of our past and abilities. To You the only wise God, the King eternal, immortal, unseen by human eyes, who dwells in the light which no one can approach, who is the blessed and only true and Living God, the King of kings, and the Lord of lords, be the glory through Christ Jesus, the Church, and my life forever and ever.

YOU DID IT!

Give God the glory for the Victory. Purpose in your heart to go forward and not backwards from this point!



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