

21 Days
OF PRAYER + FASTING

We are calling on everyone to join our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting. This is the time of year when we corporately consecrate ourselves, our families, and ministries to God. Believe God for Victories and breakthroughs in every area of your life this year.

During this time, social media is not allowed (only for business purposes). Remember to refrain from sin or any activity that takes your focus away from God and spiritual growth.

SCHEDULE

Monday, January 11th, 2021
ending 3PM Sunday, January 31st, 2021

PERSONAL PRAYERS and DECREES

Pray these prayers throughout the 21 Days during your prayer time.

21 Day Prayer & Fasting WEEKLY SERVICES

Day	Service	Description	Time
Tuesday	In-Prayer	In-Person Church Prayer (Mask Required)	6:00 PM
Nightly	Prayer Call	1-612-421-0990 Code: 884240	7:30 PM
Wednesday	Bible Study	Study the Scriptures (Facebook Live)	6:00 PM
Sunday	Sunday School	Zoom Sunday School	10:00 AM
Sunday	Worship	Worship Service	12:00 PM
Daily	Devotional	Facebook Live Devotionals	7:00 AM

COMMUNION SERVICE

Sunday, January 31st | 12PM
Please Wear All White



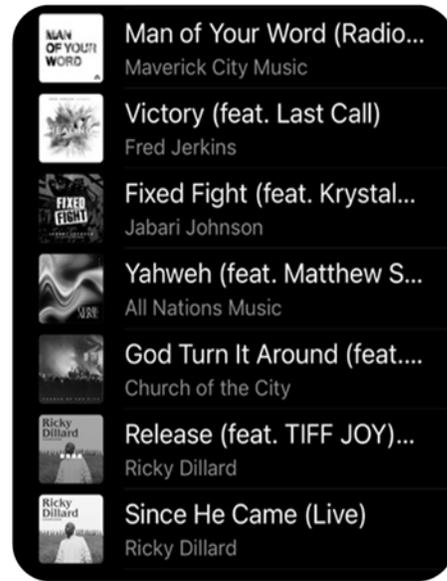
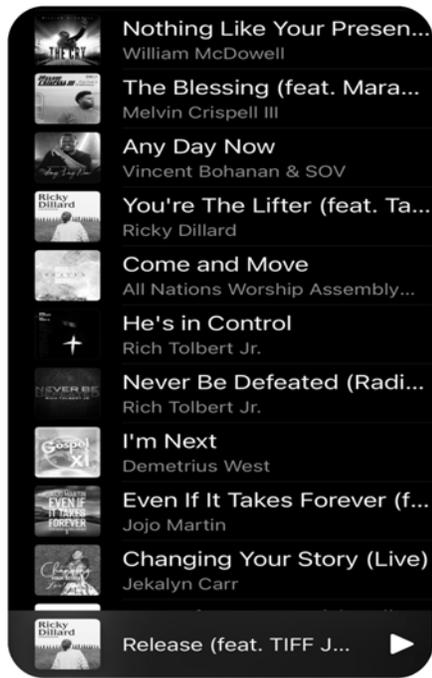
January 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Eat Within Guidelines	12 Liquids Only Until 3 PM	13 Water Only Until 3 PM	14 Soup & Salad	15 Eat Within Guidelines	16 Eat Within Guidelines
17 One Meal	18 Eat Within Guidelines	19 Liquids Only Until 3 PM	20 Water Only Until 3 PM	21 Soup & Salad	22 Eat Within Guidelines	23 Eat Within Guidelines
24 One Meal	25 Eat Within Guidelines	26 Liquids Only Until 3 PM	27 Water Only Until 3 PM	28 Soup & Salad	29 Eat Within Guidelines	30 Eat Within Guidelines
31 One Meal						

TRY THIRSTY THIRTY:

+ 10 Minutes of Prayer & Meditation
 + 10 Minutes of Reading the Bible
+ 10 Minutes of Praise & Worship
 30 Minutes of Devotion with GOD

Praise & Worship CD / Playlist



***** Please refrain from all social media usage *****
ATTEND PRAYER & SCHEDULED WORSHIP SERVICES

MY BENEFITS OF PRAYER & FASTING

- Helps to develop humility.
- Sensitizes our spirit to hear from God.
- Helps us to break sinful habits.
- Intensifies the power of prayer.
- Improves our worship of God.
- Removes doubt and unbelief.
- Make our witness bolder and stronger.
- Enlarges our spiritual authority and capacities.
- Helps us to develop patience.
- Brings revival to our church.
- Brings reconciliation between you and God; and between you and others.

Questions about Fast

Fasting Schedule? The fast will begin on **Saturday, January 11th, 2020** and will end at 3PM **Sunday, January 31st, 2020**.

Who should or should not fast? All believers who are physically able to fast should do so, in order to bring their bodies into submission to the spirit of Christ. Anyone with physical or medical conditions that could be aggravated by fasting should consult their physician before participating in a fast. If you are medically unable to fast or abstain from the prescribed food and beverage, then find something else you enjoy doing and choose to fast from that – television, social networking sites, etc. Children may choose to participate in a limited-fast under supervision of parents or guardian. This fast includes selecting certain days a week to participate in the fast and/or abstaining from activities they enjoy, such as social networking (Facebook, Instagram, twitter, skype, etc.), video games, television, cell phone, texting, etc. During these times youth should seek God in prayer, listen to gospel and worship music, etc.

What if I have never fasted?

God is pleased at our desire to connect with Him. We encourage you to step out on faith and, if necessary, gradually build up to the specified time. Each week do at least 1-3 days of fasting by skipping a meal. Do not become discouraged if you feel tempted to eat outside of the prescribed parameters of the fast; God will give you the strength to overcome your temptation.

What do we do while we fast?

While you are fasting, you are encouraged to spend focused time in reading the Scriptures, praying, and listening to the voice of God. Prayer and listening to God is just as important as abstaining from food. We encourage you to journal what you hear God speaking. While at work or doing your daily chores, utilize break times to focus and meditate on God. Throughout the fast, use this time for meditation on God's direction for you, your family and our church.

What should I expect?

A natural response to fasting and prayer is an increase in hunger for the abstained food. As a result, you may experience hunger pangs, headaches, bad breath, and strong odor from your body as you are eliminating toxins from your body. For this reason, please consider personal hygiene and take extra care of your body. It is perfectly normal to experience these things; therefore breath mints & sugar free gum are acceptable.

What is the purpose of fasting?

Since fasting and prayer is aimed at breaking the bonds of evil on a person's life, a loved one's life, or on a body of believers, including a family, church, or ministry, expect distractions from the enemy. The Bible tells us to be alert and vigilant for your adversary, the devil, is seeking whom he may devour (1 Peter 5:8). When fasting and praying, it is vital to be alert to the tricks of the enemy. This keeps you from reacting to the enemy instead of responding the way God desires.

Food Guidelines & Suggestions

DO HAVE

Fruits, Vegetables, Water, 100% juice
Baked/Grilled Chicken, Seafood,
Turkey
Sugar Free Beverage
Raw or Artificial Sugar
Healthy Popcorn, Nuts, Cheese

DO NOT HAVE

FRIED Foods, Sweets, Candy,
snacks (junk food), Red meat
(beef), Pork, White Bread
Sugar Filled Foods

Foods to Eat

Whole Grains: Brown Rice, Oats, Barley, Quinoa, Wheat

Legumes: Pinto Beans, Split Beans, Green Beans, Black Eyed Peas

Fruits: Apples, Apricots, Bananas, Blackberries, Blueberries, Boysenberries, Cantaloupe, Cherries, Cranberries, Oats, Figs, Grapefruit, Grapes, Guava, Honeydew Melon, Kiwi, Lemons, Limes, Mangoes, Nectarines, Papayas, Peaches, Pears, Pineapples, Plums, Prunes, Raisins, Raspberries, Strawberries, Tangelos, Tangerines, Watermelon

Vegetables: Artichokes, Asparagus, Beets, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbage, Carrots, Cauliflower, Celery, Chili Peppers, Corn, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Garlic, Gingerroot, Kale, Leeks, Lettuce, Mushrooms, Mustard Greens, Okra, Onions, Parsley, Potatoes, Radishes, Rutabagas, Scallions, Spinach, Sprouts, Squashes, Sweet Potatoes, Tomatoes, Turnips, Watercress, Yams, Zucchini
Seeds, Nuts, Sprouts & Raw Sugar, Raw Honey

Liquids: Water, 100% All-Natural Fruit Juices, 100% All-Natural Vegetable Juices

Meal Ideas

Turkey Chops | Turkey or Chicken Sausage | Omelet | Baked Chicken | Vegetable Soup | Tilapia | Salmon | Broccoli Soup | Tuna Sandwich | Chicken Pizza | Grilled Chicken Strips | Tuna Fish | Grilled Chicken Salad | Turkey or Chicken Chili | Protein Shake

Greater Visions Church Decree

- I decree and declare God's divine protection over Overseer Pastor Eric D. Price, Eldress Linda Price and their family (*Psalm 91, Isaiah 54:17*).
- I decree the blood of Jesus and angelic protection over our Pastor, wife and family, leadership and their families, all staff and their families, all volunteers and their families, Ministries, the membership and their families, the services, the vision, and all who visit the church (*Revelation 12:11, Psalm 91*).
- I decree that the blood of Jesus surrounds the boundaries of all church properties: Hurt Street, Royal Exhibit, Greater Visions Church (*Revelation 12:11*).
- We decree the spirit of unity over GVC leadership, staff, ministries, and membership (*Ephesians 4:3*).
- We decree that every ministry volunteer is prompt, ready to serve, has a heart for God and the vision of this church, and is full of the fire of God by the Holy Ghost (*Luke 3:16*).
- We decree that every member in this ministry is healed and delivered from every sickness and disease (*Isaiah 53:3-5*).
- We command every spirit of heaviness and prayerlessness over this ministry to be cast out now in the name of Jesus. We loose the spirit of praise, joy and peace over this ministry (*Isaiah 61:3*).
- Let every habitation and seat of the devil in this house; every agenda of the enemy for this church be exposed now in the name of Jesus.
- I decree that every single and every single parent home at GVC is blessed.
- I decree that the marriages of this church are free from the curses from divorce, separation and adultery now in Jesus' name (*Hebrews 13:4*).
- I decree that every witchcraft assignment to this church be destroyed by fire now by the power of the Holy Ghost. I speak fire, fire, fire!
- I decree that every member is obedient in giving their tithes, and the offering is blessed and has more than enough (*Malachi 3:10*).
- I decree all demonic curses against the finances of the church are destroyed by fire in the name of Jesus (*Philippians 4:19*).
- I rebuke and break all curses of disunity, strife, gossip, slander, backbiting, false accusation and disorder and command them to go now (*Proverbs 11:13, 1 Peter 4:15*).
- I take authority and break all curses of division, envy, confusion, competition among members and every evil work in every ministry and bind up in Jesus' name (*Proverbs 6:19, James 3:16*).

Greater Visions Church Decree (Continued)

- I rebuke and break all curses causing unexplainable sicknesses, diseases, illnesses, infirmity, and premature death in Jesus' name (*Isaiah 53:3-5, Psalm 118:17*).
- I break all demonic curses causing accidents and tragedies in the name of Jesus.
- I decree that every curse causing financial setbacks of leaders and members is rendered null and void now in the name of Jesus (*Exodus 22:7*).
- I decree the abundance of finances to be released now to GVC membership (*John 10:10*).
- I decree the release of the glory of God in this house, that the latter house of GVC is greater than the former house (*II Chronicles 7:1-2*).
- I decree that God gives us a hunger and burning passion for Him and the things of God (*Matthew 5:6*).
- I decree the manifestation of signs, wonders, miracles, healings and deliverances to be released in GVC now (*Hebrews 2:4*).
- I rebuke the spirit of lukewarmness and command it to go from our church now! (*Revelation 3:16*)
- Lord, release your fire in our praise & worship (*II Chronicles 5:13-14*).
- I decree more laborers to be sent forth into the harvest (*Matthew 9:38*).
- I decree the harvest of souls to come in from the north, south, east, and west (*Isaiah 43:5-6*).
- I decree that the harvest will remain in this house (*John 15:16*).
- I break every demonic effort that hinders and blocks the church from growing and reaching out to this community (*Acts 2:47*).
- We decree GVC to be a soul-winning church full of compassion for the lost (*Matthew 18:12-13*).
- I speak to the mountain of stagnation and command it be removed from GVC now, in the name of Jesus (*Mark 11:23*).
- Any demonic force holding back GVC's and every member's destiny, I command it to be broken up in the name of Jesus (*Jeremiah 29:11*).
- I decree that this is the year of NEW HEIGHTS, advancement and acceleration for GVC in the name of Jesus.

Warfare Prayer for Marriage

1. Lord, forgive me for any unprofitable contribution that brings about my present marital situation.
2. Lord, forgive me if the choice of my partner has been wrong from the beginning.
3. Lord, walk back to the foundation of my marriage and carry out the necessary surgical operation.
4. I register my protest in the demonic world for the wounds and injury done to my home by the enemy, in the name of Jesus.
5. I bind every strongman militating against my home, in the name of Jesus
6. Let every evil spiritual marriage contacted by me or on my behalf be dissolved, in the mighty name of Jesus.
7. Let every evil spiritual marriage with spirit husband/wife be divorced, in the name of Jesus.
8. Let every evil spiritual home involving me be destroyed, in the name of Jesus.
9. I pursue, overtake and recover my marriage from the hands of home breakers, in the name of Jesus.
10. Lord, dissolve and render to naught every evil counsel fashioned against my home.
11. I bind every spirit of Ahab, Jezebel, strife and home wreckers, in the name of Jesus.
12. Lord, let Your axe of fire fall on the root of my marital problems and cut them to pieces, in the name of Jesus.
13. Let every power militating against the divine purpose of marriage in my home be destroyed. That is,
 - powers militating against companionship and completeness
 - powers militating against marital faithfulness and encouraging adultery and fornication
 - powers militating against procreation
14. Let every wicked device of the enemy to defeat these purposes in our lives be frustrated, in the name of Jesus.
15. Let every gadget of marital destruction be frustrated in my home, in the name of Jesus.
16. Let every evil arrow fired by demonic relatives be uprooted, in the name of Jesus.
17. Let every evil anti-marriage linkage with our parents be dashed to pieces, in the name of Jesus.
18. Let every evil effect of external interferences in our marriage be completely neutralized, in the name of Jesus.
19. Every power preventing me as a wife from accepting the headship of my husband

Warfare Prayer for Marriage (continued)

should become paralyzed, in the name of Jesus.

20. Every power preventing me as a husband from living as a true head should become paralyzed, in the name of Jesus.

21. The Lord should forgive any sin of abortion that may lead to blood crying against our home, in the name of Jesus.

22. The Lord should help us make the proper corrections in our marriage.

23. Let every imagination, thought, plan, decision, desire and expectation of divorce and separation against my home be nullified, in the name of Jesus.

24. I bind and render to naught the power and activities of the spirits that put marriage asunder, in the name of Jesus.

25. Satan, hear the word of the Lord. You will not break my home, in the name of Jesus.

26. I paralyze every spirit of misunderstanding between me and my wife/husband, in the name of Jesus.

27. I bind all powers eating away the determination of my wife/husband to stay married to me, in the name of Jesus.

28. Let the satanic birds eating away my love from the heart of my wife/husband vomit it, in the name of Jesus.

29. Pray in the Spirit.

Prayer for Single Parents

Dear God, Your Word assures me that no evil will befall me or my children, and that the angels of heaven will keep us in all our ways. I claim this promise especially for my children, and I know that angelic protection will bear them up and keep them safe. ¹Thank You, Father.

Guide me in my parenting, Lord. ²I receive Your words and hide Your commands in my heart. As I do this, my heart inclines to Your wisdom, and I apply my heart to Your understanding. I cry for Your knowledge, and I lift up my voice for understanding. I seek Your wisdom as silver, and I search for Your wisdom as I would search for a hidden treasure. Thank You, Father, for enabling me to understand the reverential fear of You and

Prayer for Single Parents (continued)

for helping me know You, for You have given me wisdom, and from Your mouth I receive knowledge and understanding.³ Lord God, my children are so important to me. I realize that they are a wonderful heritage You have given me. My precious children are a reward from Your hands.⁴ Help me to love my children the way they need to be loved.⁵ Lord, You have promised to be a parent to my children and to me.⁶ Thank You, Father. I am so grateful that You are willing to share the responsibilities of parenting with me, and You are showing me how to be an effective parent at all times, through Your guidance.

Now, I rebuke and resist every lie of the enemy that says that I am alone, because the Word of God says that the Lord will never leave me nor forsake me even until the end of the earth.⁷ I resist the temptation to worry and fear, because of God's love and power has given me a sound mind.⁸ I receive God's wisdom, revelation and knowledge daily to be a godly parent for my children.⁹ In the name of Jesus, I command Satan to release all resources needed for my household.¹⁰ And, I decree that my children and I shall prosper and be in good health even as our souls prosper.¹¹ I bind the spirit of rebellion over my children. I bind the spirit of confusion over my children's minds. I bind the spirit of gang violence. I bind the spirit of sexual lust and perversion.

Scripture References: (1) Psalm 91:10-11 (2) Psalm 32:8; (3) Proverbs 2:1-6; (4) Psalm 127:3; (5) Ephesians 5:2; (6) Psalm 68:5; (7) Hebrews 13:5; (8) II Timothy 1:7; (9) Ephesians 1:17; (10) Philippians 4:19; (11) III John 2.

Prayer for Protection and Deliverance of Children

1. I cut off the flow of hereditary problems into the child, in the name of Jesus.
2. I bind every negative ancestral spirit and command it to loose its hold upon the child, in the name of Jesus.
3. Let every problem arising from the power of bad parental example receive solution, in the name of Jesus.
4. I break every hereditary curse and bondage upon the child, in the name of Jesus.
5. Lord, fill this child with your joy, glory, peace and love.

Prayer for Protection and Deliverance of Children (continued)

6. I command everything that will prevent my child from being a blessing to be totally shattered, in the name of Jesus.
7. I command any power that wants to convert my child to a nuisance to be completely paralyzed, in the name of Jesus.
8. You spirit of (*pick from the ones listed below*), release my child, in the name of Jesus.
 - Rejection, Abnormal fears, Sexual lust, Addiction, Confusion, Day dreaming, Stupidity
 - Slowness, Inability to read, Spiritual blindness, Bad sleeping, Bad dreams
9. Let every problem arising from (*pick from ones listed below*) receive divine solution, in the name of Jesus.
Child birth, Death of parent, Polygamous set-up, Parents' addiction, conceived out of wedlock, as a result of rape, accidental pregnancy, incest, unwanted child by parent, Child being spoiled, Child with unhappy parents who argue, fight, or do not communicate, Unjust discipline, Constant criticism by parents, Sexual molestation
10. I render every bad spirit powerless in the life of (*name of child*), in the name of Jesus.
11. I bind the power and break the influence of every negative spirit militating against (*name of child*), in Jesus' name.
12. Father Lord, let the blood of Jesus cleanse the mind, emotions, imaginations, and will of (*name of child*), in the name of Jesus.

Prayer for College Students

Dear Lord, I pray for the college student who is stepping into a new season on a new college or online campus this year. I pray You will help him/her with all the logistics of getting classes, meeting professors, setting up financial aid and getting moved into housing or home classroom. Surround him/her with friends who will challenge him/her to walk more closely with You and guide him to a church where he/she can serve you while at college. Help him/her to work hard, to study well and to use this time to develop skills and gifts for Your purposes. As he/she encounters new challenges, help him/her love You with his/her whole heart. As he/she hears different philosophies, help him/her love you with his/her whole mind. As the enemy prowls around tempting him/her with all manner of worldliness, help him/her love You with all his/her strength. Give him/her courage to follow hard after You and to glorify You where You've placed him. In Jesus' name, amen.

Victory Over Financial Hardship

NOTE:

- Before you begin this prayer session, carry out a search of your spiritual life. Repent **from** all known sins, confess them to the Lord, and ask for forgiveness.
- Have you broken the laws of divine prosperity? For example, are you faithful in giving tithes and offerings? Have you ever used your money to sponsor evil? E.g. – drugs, cigarettes, Have you been stingy when you had money? Are you guilty of abandoning your marital and family responsibilities?
- After sorting out all these things with the Lord, continue prayer and fasting using the under listed prayer points. The result will surprise you beyond your wildest imagination.

PRAISE/WORSHIP

1. I command all demonic hindrances to my prosperity to be totally paralyzed, in the name of Jesus.
2. Let every demonic bank keeping my finances be destroyed and release my finances, in the name of Jesus.
3. I bind every strongman holding my finances captive, in Jesus' name.
4. I possess all my possessions, in the name of Jesus.
5. I break and loose myself from every curse of financial bondage and poverty, in the name of Jesus.
6. I release myself from every conscious and unconscious covenant with the spirit of poverty, in the name of Jesus.
7. Let God arise and let every enemy of my financial breakthrough be scattered, in the name of Jesus.
8. O Lord, restore all my wasted years and efforts and convert them to blessings, in the name of Jesus.
9. Let the spirit of favor be upon me everywhere I go concerning my finances, in the name of Jesus.
10. Father, I ask You, in the name of Jesus, to send ministering spirits to bring in prosperity and funds into my finances.
11. Let men bless me everywhere I go, in the name of Jesus.
12. I release my finances from the clutches of financial hunger, in the name of Jesus.

Victory Over Financial Hardship

13. I loose angels, in the mighty name of Jesus, to go and create favor for my finances.
14. Let all financial hindrances be removed, in the name of Jesus.
15. I remove my name and those of my customers from the book of financial bankruptcy, in the name of Jesus.
16. Holy Spirit, be my senior partner in my finances.
17. Every good thing presently eluding my finances should flow into it, in the mighty name of Jesus.
18. I reject every spirit of financial embarrassment, in Jesus' name.
19. Father, block every space causing unprofitable leakage to my finances, in the mighty name of Jesus.
20. Let my finances become too hot to handle for dupes and demonic customers, in the name of Jesus.
21. Let spiritual magnetic power that attracts and keeps wealth be deposited in my finances, in the name of Jesus.
22. I release my finances from the influences, control and domination of household wickedness, in the name of Jesus.
23. Let all satanic angels deflecting blessings away from me be completely paralyzed, in the name of Jesus.
24. Let the evil effect of any strange money I have received or touched be neutralized, in the name of Jesus.
25. I bind every anti-breakthrough, anti-miracle, and anti-prosperity forces, in the name of Jesus.
26. O Lord, teach me the divine secret of prosperity. Amen.

Prayer for Healing

In the Name of Jesus, I decree fullness of health over my body. The Word of God says that I Am covered with the blood of Jesus, so I decree that all the benefits of the blood of Jesus are manifest in my spirit, soul, and body right now.

I decree that my spirit is filled with the Holy Spirit. I decree that my soul is perfectly lined up with and submitted to God's spirit. I decree that my body is filled with the healing power and resurrection of Jesus Christ right now.

I decree that my brain thinks the thoughts of Christ today, for I have the mind of Christ. I decree that I have power, love, and a sound mind. I decree that I dwell in the secret place of the Most High and abide under the shadow of the Almighty, and that I remain stable and fixed under His wings.

I decree that my emotions are full of the fruit of the Holy Spirit. I am filled with love, joy, peace, perseverance, endurance, faithfulness, kindness, gentleness, meekness, and self-control today.

I decree that every bit of sickness and malfunction must flee my body right now in Jesus' Name and by His stripes I AM Healed. I bind sickness and malfunction off of me, and I decree that they cannot return in Jesus' Name. In the Name of Jesus, I loose healing and perfect function unto me.

I decree that all of my body systems work together in perfect unity and order today in the name of Jesus. I decree that the healing power of Jesus is filling me up and moving through my veins right now. I decree that I am increasing in strength and vigor right now. I decree that my heart beats correctly; my blood flows perfectly; all my organs work perfectly; and my brain commands the functions of my body perfectly today. I speak to my womb that it springs forth with healthy offspring.

I decree that I am perfectly healthy in every way—spirit, mind, will, emotions, and body—in the Name of Jesus. I decree that I will live a good, long life, and my eye will not dim nor my strength abate. I decree that THIS very day my body lines up with the Word of God, and I will notice the difference. I will increase in health and strength every day from this day forward every day for the rest of your life. In Jesus' Name. I AM Healed and with long life God will satisfy me. I shall live and not die. We will see healing manifested in this body.
Amen.

Prayer for Healing (continued)

So, by the authority of Your Word, I “say so” that I am healed of this affliction, and I walk in good health. Now, Father, I thank You that my prayers avail much in victory. For You said that the effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much. Father, as I have prayed this prayer, I thank You that Your Word does not return unto You void, but it shall accomplish that which You send it to perform. I therefore release my faith by the Word of God I have prayed. Again, I confess, “WITH THE STRIPES OF JESUS CHRIST, I AM HEALED!” In the name of Jesus Christ, I pray and receive my healing, AMEN!

Prayer for COVID19

Pray for the new coronavirus to stop spreading.

Almighty God, we know that everything is in Your sovereign control. We ask that You keep this new coronavirus from continuing to spread. Give government officials the ability to safely handle people arriving from other countries. Help people decide to stay home instead of traveling or going out needlessly. Holy Spirit, remind people to wash their hands properly. And while it may be heartbreaking, comfort families as they decide to keep their distance from elderly or other high-risk family members.

Pray for people who are infected with COVID-19 or facing quarantine.

Jesus, during Your ministry on Earth You showed Your power and caring by healing people of all ages and stations of life from physical, mental, and spiritual ailments. Be present now to people who need Your loving touch because of COVID-19. May they feel Your power of healing through the care of doctors and nurses.

Take away the fear, anxiety, and feelings of isolation from people receiving treatment or under quarantine. Give them a sense of purpose in pursuing health and protecting others from exposure to the disease. Protect their families and friends and bring peace to all who love them.

Pray for medical professionals, caregivers, and researchers.

God, as more people get sick, healthcare workers and first responders are working longer hours with fewer supplies and with more risk of contracting the new coronavirus themselves. Renew their energy and sustain them on long shifts. Bring Your protection upon them as they work with patients. Multiply their supplies so they have the protective items needed to stay safe on the job.

Inspire and invigorate the research doctors developing better tests to diagnose the virus, create vaccines to prevent it, and identify protocols to eliminate the disease’s spread.

Prayer for Singles / Nonmarried

Before you pray out the points below, please do ensure meditate on the following Bible verses Matthew 7:7, Genesis 2:18, 2 Corinthians 6:14, Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

1. Lord I Thank you, because you alone are the perfect matchmaker
2. Lord, release the man/woman you have preordained as my spouse in Jesus' name.
3. Lord, cause it to happen that the divine match will come forth soon in the name of Jesus.
4. Lord, let my spouse be a person who loves You wholeheartedly and has accepted you according to Acts 2:38 and is filled with your holy spirit.
5. Lord, establish our home according to the scriptures in Jesus name (read Ephesians 5:20-28).
6. Father, let all satanic barriers keeping us from meeting be dissolved in Jesus' name.
7. Lord, send forth your warring angels to battle and release my spouse wherever she or he is in the name of Jesus.
8. Lord, I believe You have created me for a special person; bring it to pass in the name of Jesus.
9. I now call him/her out of obscurity into my life in Jesus' name.
10. I reject the provision of counterfeit spouse by the enemy in the name of Jesus.
11. I cut off the flow of any inherited marital problems into my life in the mighty name of Jesus.
12. O Lord, let the spirit of patience reign in my life until the right person comes in the name of Jesus. I will not sin/fornicate against my body.
13. Father, in the name of Jesus, just as Abraham sent his servant to find his son Isaac a wife, send the Holy Spirit to bring my future partner to me.

Prayer for Your Job and Concerns of a Job

Lord, I am in need of a job. I commit myself and my need for a new job into your hands. Lord God, fulfill the desire of my heart and bless the work of my hands. The Bible says, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love Him." I am completely trusting in Your merit and Your faithfulness this hour. I am certain that You can make a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland. You can open a way where there seems to be no way. Oh Lord, as I go through the selection procedures, let Your mighty uplifted hand rest upon me and grant me Your supernatural grace, favor, and mercies in the eyes of all the concerned officials. Perfect everything that concerns me. Father, my ways are not Your ways, neither are my thoughts Your thoughts. Your ways and thoughts are higher than the heavens above.

Let Your perfect will be done in this matter. Put Your words into my mouth for the interviews and grant me Your wisdom and knowledge. Let Your mighty presence go before me. Thank You in advance for blessing me with my job, and for the income You provide for me through this job. I pray for the right atmosphere upon my job. I pray that You would saturate the atmosphere with Your Spirit and Your peace, so that everyone who works there or enters my work area senses and feels Your Spirit, peace and anointing.

May the power of Your Spirit and anointing cause every evil and demonic spirit to be loosed from every man, woman or child that enters my office, room or work area leaving them in a spirit of calmness, kindness, gentleness and peace. Cause conviction to fall upon all those who would use profanity, vain words or ungodly language in my area. When I am faced with challenging issues, trials, pressures, stressful or difficult people at work, help me not to react or respond in the flesh, but help me to remain calm and rest, walk, and operate in the Spirit, and in Your peace the peace that passes all understanding. Thank You, Lord, for taking up my battle against any adverse job situations. I decree complete and total deliverance from unjust harassment, verbal attacks, and all demonic oppression in my workplace in the name of Jesus. I plead the blood of Jesus against satan and all demons influencing my adverse job situation. They must go now, in the name of Jesus Christ! The blood of Jesus surrounds me and protects me from any further demonic attacks on my job. I pray that You would bless me with a good working relationship with all my coworkers and supervisors. Bless us to work together in unity; and, may there be no division or strife among us.

As I go each day upon my job, I pray that you would help me to let the light of Jesus Christ shine so much through my life, that others around me may see the light of Christ and glorify You. Father, help me to let my light shine in my witness. Help me not to compromise or get involved in ungodly jokes, conversations or anything that would be a reproach upon You, my church, or my life as a Christian.

May You give me favor with my supervisor (s), department heads and management. May

Prayer for Your Job and Concerns of a Job (continued)

You cause them to take note of, and be well pleased with my work, attitude and commitment. As a result, cause me to become qualified for promotions, advancement and good job assignments. I decree by the authority of Your Word that no one shall be able to stop, hinder or delay these or any other blessings You have for me concerning my job. For Your Word says that promotion does not come from man, but promotion comes from You. I pray that You would help me not to open my mouth and join in with others that would gossip, backbite or talk about the supervisors, directors or any part of management. I bind these spirits from my life, and from the lives of others that work around me, by the authority of the name of Jesus Christ. I lift up my supervisor (s) and all those in authority in our workplace for You have instructed me to pray for them. I pray therefore, that You would give them the wisdom of God in how to operate, orchestrate and manage their areas, departments and personnel.

May You bless their work, and give them Your instructions, directions and understanding so that their areas and departments may prosper and flow decently and in order. I pray that You would also bless their personal lives, spiritually, physically, and financially. And, may You bring them, as well as my other coworkers to the salvation of the Lord. Now Father, I commit my future work and my workplace to You, Your care, and Your direction.

As I have prayed Your Word concerning my job, may You watch over Your Word to perform it. And may you bring to pass each and everything I have prayed for and committed to You concerning my job and workplace. In the name of Jesus Christ, I rebuke division and strife on my job. I rebuke insubordination. I rebuke the spirit of unfairness. I rebuke verbal attacks. I command the spirit of harassment to go. I command the spirit of witchcraft to go, in Jesus' name!

NOTE: Rebuke and command away anything else you see on your job.

Prayer for Power Over Worry and Fear

1. I decree that I am strong and of good courage. I am not afraid or dismayed, for the Lord is with me wherever I go (Joshua 1:9).
2. I have the strength of God in my spirit (Psalm 29:11).
3. The Lord has delivered me from all my fears (Psalm 34:4).
4. I am delivered from all trouble (Psalm 34:7).
5. I commit my way unto the Lord, and I trust in Him (Psalm 37:5).
6. I praise the Lord, for He is the health of my countenance (Psalm 42:11).
7. I cast my burden upon the Lord, for He sustains me (Psalm 55:22).
8. I am the righteousness of God, and nothing shall move me (Psalm 55:22).
9. I walk in great peace (Psalm 119:165).
10. My heart shall not walk in heaviness (Proverbs 12:25).
11. I put on the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness (Isaiah 61:3).
12. Because I commit all things to God, He establishes my thoughts (Proverbs 16:3).
13. My mind is stayed on the Lord (through His Word). Because I trust Him, my mind is in

Prayer for Power Over Worry and Fear (continued)

perfect peace (Isaiah 26:3).

14. I take no thought for tomorrow because as I seek the kingdom of God first in all things are added unto me (Matthew 6:33-34).
15. I shall not fear because it is the Father's good pleasure to give me the kingdom (Luke 12:32).
16. God is faithful, and He will not allow me to be tried and tested above what I am able (1 Corinthians 10:13).
17. I will not be careful or anxious for nothing. I thank God, and He gives me a peace that passes all understanding (Philippians 4:6-7).
18. The peace of God rules my heart (Colossians 3:15).
19. The Lord will never leave me nor forsake me. He is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me (Hebrews 13:5-6).
20. I cast every care on the Lord because I know He cares for me (1 Peter 5:7).

Therefore I plead the blood of Jesus over my spirit, soul and body. I command every spirit that seeks to cause my mind to worry or fear to cease from your activity. My mind is covered from fiery darts or thoughts of worry. I speak the peace of God over my mind in the name of Jesus.

Prayer For Deliverance from Habits and Addictions

Father, in the name of Jesus, and according to Your Word, I hereby believe in my heart and say with my mouth that Jesus is the Lord of my life. I also confess that from this day forward, I am set free and delivered from bad, ungodly habits and addictions in the name of Jesus.

Satan and all his principalities, powers, master spirits who rule the darkness, and spiritual wickedness in high places are bound up, in the name of Jesus. I am loosed from them, as is written in Matthew 18:18-19. No longer can Satan or his unclean spirits harass me or operate any of their habits or addictions through me. I will not become slave to anything that exalts itself over God's Word. I will not be brought under its power.

I confess that I am strengthened and reinforced with mighty power in my inner self by the Holy Spirit Himself who lives and dwells in my innermost being. I am strong in the Lord. I am empowered through my union with the Lord. I draw strength from the Lord – that strength which His boundless might provide me.

I arm myself with the full armor of God, that armor of a heavily armed soldier: helmet

Prayer For Deliverance from Habits and Addictions (continued)

of salvation, belt of truth, breastplate of righteousness, feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace, shield of faith, and sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. With God's armor on, I am able to stand up against all the strategies and deceits and fiery darts of Satan, in the name of Jesus.

As an act of my will and faith, I receive complete and total freedom NOW. I am delivered and set free from the control and dominion of the kingdom of darkness because I have called upon the name of the Lord according to His Word. I am able to discipline my body and subdue it. I am strong. I am free. I withstand temptation because Jesus is the Lord of my life. Sin has no dominion over me. Jesus is my High Priest. Father, with You and Jesus on my side, I have the strength for all things. Greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world.

Prayer to Overcome Unforgiveness

Key Thought: Because God has forgiven us, we need to forgive others.

Key Scripture: *"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you"* (Ephesians 4:31-32).

Prayer: Lord, You have taught us how to pray. You prayed, "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." **1** It is my desire to forgive others in the same way You have forgiven me. Help me to walk in that kind of forgiveness, Lord. **2** Forgive me wherein I have failed to walk in forgiveness. By an act of faith, Lord, I now forgive who has/have created problems in my life. I pray for him/her/them now, and I ask you to set him/her/them free from any bondage caused by my lack of forgiveness. Your Word declares that if I will forgive the trespasses of others, you will forgive my trespasses. I know I need to forgive my brother seventy times seven, and more. **3** Teach me to forgive my brothers and sisters from my heart. **4** Lord, when I do not forgive someone who has hurt me, I harbor hatred in my heart. This is not Your way. I will always beware lest any root of bitterness springing up within me would defile me and others, **5** for I do not want to defile that which You have cleansed and purified through Your precious blood and Your Word. When I pray, Lord, help me to remember when anyone might have something against me.

Prayer to Overcome Unforgiveness (continued)

At such times, help me to respond by going to my brother or sister and asking him/her to forgive me. **6**. Only because of Your grace and forgiveness, O Lord, am I able to put on, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, and longsuffering. You enable me to forbear with others, and to forgive others when they wrong me. **7** This is my commitment to You, Father, and to the other people in my life. Lord, even when I may suffer wrongfully, help me to be forgiving. For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God, should be wrongly accused and remain forgiving. I know there is no glory in my taking buffeting for my faults patiently; but when I do well, and suffer for it, and take it patiently, this is acceptable with You **8**. Thank You for calling me to suffer in behalf of Christ. All who live godly in You will suffer persecution.⁹ But, Lord, You suffered for us, leaving us an example, that we should follow in Your steps.⁸ Teach me Your way in all things, especially in forgiveness.

References: (1) Matthew 6:12; (2) Mark 11:24-26; (3) Matthew 18:21-22; (4) Matthew 18:35; (5) Hebrews 12:15; (6) Matthew 5:23-24; (7) Colossians 3:12-16; (8) 1 Peter 2:19-24;

Prayer for Discernment

Father God,

We thank You for this day. Father, You are the same today as You were yesterday, and as You are tomorrow. Since the beginning of mankind, You sought to have a relationship with Your creation, to instruct us in the way that we ought to go. Father, today we pray for discernment. We pray that the Holy Spirit that indwells within us will give us a peace beyond understanding to know precisely when something is You, and when something is not. Father, we want to be obedient to Your call in our lives. We pray for such discernment to not only make wise choices, but during it all to know we can trust Your guiding hand.

In Jesus Name.

Prayer to Overcome Bitterness

Father, at times when everything seems so unjust and unfair, the pain of rejection is difficult for me to bear. There are circumstances in my life that have caused me to feel strife, anger, separation and rejection.

Lord, please help me let go of all bitterness, wrath and resentment that I feel because of circumstances that I feel were unfair to me and my family. You are the only One who heals the brokenhearted, and I gladly receive Your anointing that destroys every single yoke of bondage. I receive emotional healing by faith, Thank You, Lord, for giving me the grace to stand firm until the process is complete.

Thank You for sending the Holy Spirit to me and for helping me in all areas of my life, for it is You who is working in me, helping me speak and act according to Your good purposes for my life.

In the mighty name of Jesus, I willfully choose to forgive those who have wronged me and caused me great emotional pain. I am now choosing to live a life full of forgiveness because You have chosen to forgive me. By the power of the Holy Spirit, I command all bitterness, rage, anger, slander and malice to go in the name of Jesus.

I desire to be kind, loving and compassionate to others, forgiving them just as Christ has forgiven me. With the help of the Holy Spirit, I make every effort to live in complete peace with man and to be holy, for without holiness, no one will see You, Lord.

I strive to please You so that I do not miss out on Your grace. I declare that no bitter root shall grow within me to cause strife meant to defile me. I will diligently watch and pray that I do not enter into temptation or place a stumbling block in another man's path, causing them to stumble.

Thank You, Father, for watching over Your Word to perform it. I can also claim for myself that who the Son sets free is free indeed. I boldly declare that I have overcome resentment and bitterness by the power of the Holy Spirit and by the shed blood of Christ, which enables me to speak the words of my testimony. In Jesus' name I pray, Amen.. **Scripture References:** *Proverbs 11:14; Isaiah 10:27; Jeremiah 1:12; Matthew 26:41; Luke 4:18*

Prayer to Overcome Anger

I am born of God. Through Christ, I have overcome the world, and I am therefore able to overcome anger. For greater is He (Jesus Christ) who is in me (who gives me power over the spirit of anger), than the enemy that is in the world. (*1 John 4:4*).

Whenever I am approached in anger, or enticed to anger by others, I will not give in to, nor react in anger. Instead, I will respond in the wisdom, judgment, and peace of God (*1 Peter 2:23*).

I have put off the old man, and I have now put on the new man, which is renewed in the image of Christ; therefore, I put off anger, malice, wrath, and all ungodly and unrighteous communication (*Colossians 3:8, 10*).

Whenever I am tempted with anger, through the power of the Holy Ghost, I will not sin by giving *in* to anger. For I will not give the devil any place in my life (*Ephesians 4:26-27*).

I confess according to the Word of God that I am swift to hear (willing to listen). I carefully consider what I say, and the attitude in which I say it. And I am therefore slow to become aroused or enticed to anger or wrath (*James 1:19*).

When people approach me with anger, rage, or indignation, I will respond with a soft and peaceful response. And my response shall turn away their anger (*Proverbs 15:1*).

Prayer for Business Success

Dear Lord,

You know that my business is my passion. Please help me to run it in an efficient and godly manner. I ask that you give me wisdom where I need it and to lead me in the changes on the road ahead. I invite you to speak to me when I'm not sure what to do next and to give me comfort when there are trials. Give me the discernment to hear your voice clearly.

Please help me to serve my customers and clients with a heart like yours. I want them to see Your light in me every time they interact with me or step foot into my business. Help me to stand by my faith and values in my business if I come across controversy and stay steadfast in You. In Your Name Jesus, I pray. Amen.

Prayer to Discover Your Gifts and Abilities

Father, I want to bloom where I am planted and resist the temptation to compare myself to others. Help me see the ways you have uniquely gifted me to serve you and your Kingdom. Thank you for making me just as I am. Forgive me for the ways I have compared myself and coveted the abilities of others. I pray that, starting today, I would see the opportunities if front of me to use my gifts and abilities. In Jesus' Name I pray, Amen.

Prayer for Deep Emotional Healing

Gracious Lord, You know me better than I know myself and I need Your healing touch on my life today. You know all about the emotional pain that I have been going through these last few days – and oh Lord, I need You Lord to come into my heart and to bind up the brokenness within me. I feel that I have been battered and bruised emotionally and am almost gasping for breath, due to the pain that has been stabbing my heart.

Lord You know that I have no one in whom I can confide – because no one really understands the searing wounds that have shattered inside me and the deep anguish I am going through. Oh Lord, I come to You to heal my emotions - heal my wounded heart, I pray, – heal the anguish that is deep inside.

Lord, flood every corner of my being with Your soothing balm and Your healing love - and root out I pray, all the negative emotions that are bubbling inside me, like a smoldering volcano. Release into the aching void within - Your love and Your peace, Your hope and Your gracious presence and gently carry me as a kindly Shepherd would carry a frightened, little wounded lamb. Lord I am trusting in You, because I know that You alone can be trusted. Amen.

Earnestine Bishop	Day 1	Parker Hunt	Day 9	Carlita Watson	Day 18
Gwendolyn Spencer	Day 1	Danyelle Russell	Day 9	Travarius Cunningham	Day 18
Eric March	Day 1	Bobby Witherspoon	Day 9	Alisha Fortenberry	Day 18
Pastor Price	Day 1	DeCarolyn Dotson	Day 10	Wilma Jones	Day 18
Aineisha Lewis	Day 1	Raynita Osler	Day 10	Roy Bishop	Day 19
Amrael Brown	Day 2	Melissa Thomas	Day 10	DeMaria Dotson	Day 19
Judy Dunlap	Day 2	Joyce Bridges	Day 10	Patrick Gause	Day 19
Anton Higgs	Day 2	Marsha May	Day 11	Lashonda March	Day 19
Kelsea Merriweather	Day 2	Jett Price	Day 11	Brighton Moore	Day 19
Eric Price II	Day 2	Shawnita Warlick	Day 11	Clementene Butler	Day 20
Greg Cross	Day 3	Gwen Cooper	Day 11	Troy Dunlap	Day 20
Erica Ellis	Day 3	Shanyiah Michelson	Day 12	Tyaneka Hodge	Day 20
Mother Jones	Day 3	Shirley Rose	Day 12	Julian Michelson	Day 20
Kenesha Moore	Day 3	Traci Winston	Day 12	Paulette Cross	Day 20
Tenisha Small	Day 3	Leroy Thomas	Day 12	Ariel Ellison	Day 21
Khyrin Small	Day 3	James Donaldson	Day 12	Rachel Jones	Day 21
Martha Donaldson	Day 4	Diane Osler	Day 13	Emmanuel Thomas	Day 21
Scierra Garmon	Day 4	Quineka Taylor	Day 13	Precious Moore	Day 21
Jennifer Long	Day 4	Arizona Bond	Day 13	Kimora Carrol	Day 21
Ellouise Price	Day 4	Sheema Dotson	Day 13		
Sybil Wardlow	Day 4	James Price	Day 14		
Shay Small	Day 5	Isaiah Warlick	Day 14		
DeMario Harris Jr.	Day 5	Destiny Comer	Day 14		
Kyle Mckinnie	Day 5	Steven Eison	Day 14		
Linda Price	Day 5	Jordyn Pugh	Day 15		
Lula Washington	Day 5	Landa Weddle	Day 15		
Danis Ellis	Day 6	Phyllis Deberry	Day 15		
Bryce Jones	Day 6	Jennifer Freeman	Day 15		
Conelious Moore	Day 6	Hannah Smith	Day 16		
Tyler Sain	Day 6	TaShara Bishop	Day 16		
John Wong	Day 6	Jatavious Dotson	Day 16		
Carlina Fulgern & Family	Day 7	Annie Harden	Day 16		
Carltavious Lewis	Day 7	Aarion Warlick	Day 16		
Aubrey Price	Day 7	Jalyn Butler	Day 17		
Tabitha Turner	Day 8	Kris Eison	Day 17		
Terisa Harris	Day 8	Linda Hunt	Day 17		
Tonya Mcclatchen	Day 8	Ebony Richmond	Day 17		
Kamesha Price	Day 8	Carlee Lewis	Day 17		
Terrell Warlick	Day 8	Briley Spencer	Day 18		



21-day prayer guide

Day 1 -7 for your personal life

Day 1, January 11: to increase in spiritual hunger and holiness

Psalm 51:10-12: Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me from your presence or take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of my salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.

Daniel 6:10: Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before.

It was Daniel's practice, three times a day, to go to an upstairs room in his apartment, open the windows facing Jerusalem, get down on his knees, and pray to the one true God. No doubt, Daniel prayed at other times also. He probably prayed throughout the day. But there were these special times, set aside times, where it was his priority to meet with God in prayer. In fact, it was such a priority to Daniel that when the king passed a decree that for the next thirty days people could only pray to the king, Daniel was unfazed. "No way." Daniel may have been an important official in Darius' kingdom, but when the king's law (don't pray) conflicted with God's Law (pray), the choice was clear. Daniel just kept right on praying.

Read Daniel 6. Daniel was thrown in the lion's lair, but God protected Daniel, delivered Daniel, honored Daniel, and put it in the Bible for all to see.

Of the many truths in this stunning chapter, one concerns Daniel's prayer. Three times a day, he set aside a special time to pray. God nowhere commands us that we must do the same, but there is wisdom here. Wisdom would suggest a special time, or several briefer times, set aside each day to meet with God in prayer. A time we prize. A time we protect. A time we prioritize.

Yes, we want to pray throughout the day, an ongoing conversation with our Father. But it is wise to also have a special time of prayer each day. Maybe it's not a long time, but it is your time, as in you and God. It is your time to talk and listen and be together, no matter what else happens that day. Your time to connect. During that time, God will fill you up, restore your soul, and prepare you for whatever the day brings.

reflect:

- Describe your thoughts around Daniel and his commitment to the Lord.
- What special time will you set aside in the next 21 days to talk and listen to God?

prayer:

Lord, awaken my heart to Your love. Give me an increased hunger to spend more time in prayer, worship, and Your Word. Please give me a greater awareness of Your holiness, a tender conscience, and a heart to please You in every thought, word, and deed.

journal



Day 2, January 12: to draw close to the Lord

Psalm 24:3-4: Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? The one who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not trust in an idol or swear by a false god.

Psalm 32:5: Then I acknowledged my sin to you and did not cover up my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." And you forgave the guilt of my sin.

How can I sincerely draw close to a God who is all powerful, all knowing, and fully aware of all the reasons I do not belong in His presence? Is it really safe? Is this really what God desires?

It is a common malady of this Christian life to face serious insecurities when considering approaching God. In my own life, I have experienced many dark seasons of feeling unworthy or uniquely disqualified from this privilege.

Why the struggle? Because I know me! I know my propensity to sin. I know my inability to give God the righteousness He deserves. If I were Him, I wouldn't be pleased to have me come near.

Praise God. He knows we have these struggles. And, He has an answer.

First, my confidence in drawing near to God is not based on my performance. My confidence is in the performance of Jesus. Hebrews 4 instructs us to come to God with boldness based on our full confidence in the finished work of Jesus on our behalf.

And second, my confidence in drawing near to God is based on His love. I can trust His love for me. And strangely enough, the very things in my life that appear to disqualify me – sin, weakness, failure, flaws, etc. – provide convincing proof of God's love. If someone says they love you, but are not familiar with your past failures or current weaknesses, you cannot be sure they really love you. But if they are fully aware of the good and the 'ugly' and love you anyway, you are truly loved. Praise God! He knows it all and

loves us anyway. My sin and weakness become my opportunity to really know He loves me. I can really trust His love for me.

Today we draw near to God. We do this by uncovering the 'ugly' side. We confess our sin. We reveal the part of our life that puts His love for us to the test (at least in our minds). And praise God again... He proves His love. He forgives and loves us anyway.

reflect:

- It's not until we recognize the depth of our sin that we realize the depth of God's love. What sins have you minimized to 'little mistakes' versus acknowledging they are what nailed Jesus to the cross?
- According to Romans 2:4, what leads us to repentance?

prayer:

Heavenly Father, reveal anything in my life that would hinder my ability to come into Your presence. Help me see my propensity towards sin and help me to change. Help me to see my sin the way You see it. Thank You for loving me in spite of my failures. Lord, it is your loving-kindness that leads me to repentance.

journal

Day 3, January 13: to worship with a whole heart

Psalm 111:1: Praise the Lord. I will extol the Lord with all my heart in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

Psalm 27:8: My heart says of you, "Seek his face!"
Your face, Lord, I will seek.

In You, O God, I find my identity. When I come to seek You, I find that You are already here, seeking me. What gives my worship meaning is so much more than anything that I can do or say - it is You! You are the reason I came to exist, You are the giver of my next breath, and You are the reason for my continued being. You are the reason I worship. I worship You with my whole heart.

I come to worship You because of who You are! You are the one and only true God! I bring You praise because of Your holiness. You are so gracious to me, and You have already done more than enough for me to bring You thanksgiving. I worship You.

May my life bring glory to You, my Lord and my God. I want to worship You with my whole heart. I am not ashamed to declare my love and adoration for You before others. All I am is Yours, and I belong to you. I am Your possession. May You be pleased with my worship.

I long to recapture a spirit of genuine worship, a personal revival of my whole being, heart, soul, and spirit. Heaven and earth declare Your glory, O God, and therefore so do I. All of creation submits to You, and so my life is surrendered to You. I am willing to do Your will. How can I be in Your presence and not

be changed? I long to be the kind of worshipper that You have been looking for, fully devoted to You. I worship You with my whole heart.

reflect:

- How has being in God's presence changed you?
- Because everything we do can be an act of worship, how does this affect your view and more so, your attitude about common, everyday tasks?

prayer:

Humbly and yet confidently, I come into Your presence. I am relying on the promise of Christ, providing me the relationship with You as my Heavenly Father. Bring me fully into Your presence Oh God. Lead me more fully into Your will so that every day of my life will be worship, offering a living sacrifice to bring You glory.

journal

Day 4, January 14: to set the desire of your heart

Psalm 27:4: One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

Psalm 37:4: Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

When it comes to setting our hearts in the proper place, there may be no better example outside of Jesus than an obscure often forgotten figure in the Old Testament named Ezra. He didn't lead the first wave of exiles back to Jerusalem; he led the second. He wasn't a powerful military leader, just a scribe. He didn't even show up in the book that bore his name until chapter 7 (out of only 10). But once Ezra arrived on the scene, he arrived in force.

We learn that the hand of God was all over this man (Ezra 7:6,9,28). That he successfully led 5,000 people with 30 tons of precious metals on a four month, 900 mile journey from Babylon to Jerusalem (Ezra 8). That he was supremely concerned about holiness and the purity of God's people (Ezra 9). And that he ultimately led God's people to repentance like few other scenes we read in scripture (Ezra 10).

So what's the point? The point is that all of Ezra's success can be Biblically directed back to the place where he set his heart. This is the key to Ezra's life of leadership and a clear guide to success with God in our own lives. Set your heart to the study of God's word. Set your heart to doing God's word. And set your heart to giving God's word away.

reflect:

- The world needs more people like Ezra. Where will you set your heart?
- According to Matthew 6:33, what should you seek first?

prayer:

Lord I want You to be the top priority of my life with nothing even close in second place. Help me, Father, to love You more than I ever have before. I want You to fill my heart, all of it, so Your love and grace can flow richly through me to everyone I come in contact with.

journal

Day 5, January 15: to walk in wisdom and revelation

Psalm 43:3: Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell.

Ephesians 1:17-18: I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and the incomparably great power for us who believe.

Too often we slide slowly into the normalcy of pretending and stay there unaware. With this strange statement, I mean that as Christ Jesus has resurrected our souls by His grace, we know that light and life only come from Him. We are convinced of this emphatic truth. We've looked elsewhere for life and have been awakened to its emptiness. But sadly, we often return there slowly and sink into the gray of unintentional motion, conditioned responses, and banal routine.

Lord Jesus, Open our eyes!

James, the leader of the Jerusalem church, reminds us that when we lack wisdom, we should ask it of God who gives generously. In Psalm 43, the Psalmist confesses that God's light and God's truth are the only reliable leaders, for they bring us to where He is. God of Heaven, Lead us with your light and truth!

As we continue our way into this consecrated season of prayer and fasting, we are coming together as a church praying that God would lead us, open our eyes, and give us the moving power of His Spirit in a fresh and awakening way. This prayer is a heartfelt, guttural, straining desire to return to True Reality, God's light and life. We know that Christ Jesus has resurrected our souls by His grace and that light and life, along with wisdom and revelation, come only from Him.

reflect:

- Where have you sensed God giving you the gift of wisdom and discernment in your life?
- James tells us that God will give us wisdom if we ask. Will you ask Him for wisdom? He promises to give it to you when you ask.

prayer:

Lord, open my eyes to see You more clearly and my ears to hear anything You desire to speak. I pray for a Spirit of wisdom and revelation that I might know Jesus more deeply and have a profound understanding of the hope that is in His heart for me.

journal

Day 6, January 16: to be filled with power and purpose

Psalm 61:3 & 5: For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe. For you, God, have heard my vows; you have given me the heritage of those who fear your name.

Psalm 92:11: My eyes have seen the defeat of my adversaries; my ears have heard the rout of my wicked foes.

Romans 15:13: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

As we near the end of the first week of fasting, you may be tired. You may be wondering how you will be able to fast for two more weeks. It reminds me of how often in life we feel tired. Physically tired, spiritually tired, emotionally tired. We have so many things pulling at our time and making us tired. Our daily task lists just seem to get longer and longer with less and less time for rest. Do you ever have those days where you just feel completely drained? Like you have nothing left to give? I often ask myself, "How can I fulfill the purpose God has for me when I feel like I have no more to give?" The answer is simple. God's Word, the Bible.

Jesus tells us in John 15:1-4, "I am the vine, and my Father is the gardener. He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful... Remain in me, and I will remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me."

It takes discipline to keep our devotions at the top of the priority list. Especially, when there are so many other things fighting to be at the top of the list. The Bible is very clear though, in that if we are to bear fruit we must stay connected to the vine. He will prune us to bear fruit and cut off what is not bearing fruit for His purpose. God does have a plan and a purpose for each and every one of us. We must remain in Him to be filled with the power of the Holy Spirit.

reflect:

- What areas of your life are not bearing fruit and can be pruned?
- Where will you find more time in your schedule to stay connected to the Vine?

prayer:

Father God, I pray for You to help me stay connected to the Vine. Lord, I desire You in every aspect of my life. Please prune off the things that are not important and get in the way of my time with You. I know that I can only fulfill your purpose for me by being filled with Your Holy Spirit.

journal

Day 7, January 17: to find and fulfill your destiny

Psalm 139:24b: ...lead me in the way everlasting.

Psalm 18:36: You provide a broad path for my feet, so that my ankles do not give way.

Psalm 37:23: The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him.

Psalm 44:18: Our hearts had not turned back; our feet had not strayed from your path.

So often, we are the ones to decide what we want to be or do with our life. As children, we are asked "what do you want to be when you grow up?" There is an unspoken pressure to decide, and then somewhere around your junior or senior year in high school, it becomes spoken with a deadline affixed to your sophomore year in college. But, finding and fulfilling our destiny can only be done in God.

Joseph was given a dream, David had an encounter with a prophet, and Joshua had a mentor. In all three cases, God conveyed His plan into the lives of these individuals.

Jeremiah wrote that God has a plan for your life and when you seek Him, you will discover your destiny (Jeremiah 29:11-13). Moreover, you find out His plan is far superior to yours.

Holding on to the dream is tough when you face prison time and accusation as Joseph did. The words of the prophet can fade away when you find yourself hiding and living in caves, as David did. The disciplines of your apprenticeship imparted by a

mentor can become a lonely place when he is gone, as Joshua discovered. However, all three experienced what Mary said in Luke 1:37, "no word from God is without power". It is only the word from God that can sustain you in the long term. His plan for our lives is better than our own. The greatest joy, fulfillment, and success come when we seek Him about the direction for our lives and commit to follow His plan for us.

reflect:

- Where do you believe God is leading you?
- Are you willing to surrender your plan to discover and live out His plan for you?

prayer:

Lord, please give me the next step in Your Divine plan for my life. Help me to be still and know that You are God, so that I can clearly sense Your guidance and hear from You. I commit to follow You, forever.

journal

Day 8- 11, Prayer for your Family

Day 8, January 18: to produce the fruit of the spirit

Galatians 5:22: But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

1 Corinthians 13:4: Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

Several years ago, after helping our young daughter memorize the above verse, she proudly recited, "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not burst." We chuckled, because while we knew she meant to say boast, there was certainly some truth in saying love does not burst as well!

Once we ask Jesus into our lives, the Holy Spirit takes up residence within us. The apostle Paul gives some great advice for loving and living in the Spirit in Galatians chapter 5. He tells us we are called to serve one another humbly; to love others like we love ourselves. He goes on to list the fruit that comes from living in step with God, one of which is love.

Love is a loaded word. If you asked ten people to describe it, you'd most likely get ten different answers. The good news is we don't have to guess what true, Godly love is. It's spelled out for us in the Word. Love is patient and kind. It doesn't 'burst' as my daughter recited, because it's controlled and

gentle. It isn't rude, self-seeking, or easily angered. It doesn't delight in evil, but rejoices in the truth because it's full of goodness, faithfulness, and joy. Do you see the connection between these two pieces of scripture? They weave together quite beautifully and leave us with a clear picture of what love and living in the Spirit really looks like.

reflect:

- Which fruits do you think you and those in your family bear easily and often?
- Which fruits do you think you should ask God to help you bear more of?

prayer:

Gracious God, thank You for Your Word that describes so clearly what love is and for Your Son Jesus who humbly modeled it on earth for us. Help my family and I to produce the Fruit of Your Spirit and love each other in a way that pleases You. May we always have a love that protects, trusts, hopes, and perseveres.

journal

Day 9: January 19: to be saved and delivered

Psalm 18:2: The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Psalm 16:11: You make known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Acts 16:31 (AMP): Believe in and on the Lord Jesus Christ—that is, give yourself up to Him, take yourself out of your own keeping and entrust yourself into His keeping, and you will be saved; [and this applies both to] you and your household as well

To hide his identity, let's call him 'Andrew.' He was 17 years old, grew up in a strong Christian home, and was clearly loved and cared for. He was close to graduating from high school, but the past few months had taken a turn for the worse.

Andrew was a smart kid, but academics were not his forte. His friends joked, "Andrew will work at McDonald's for his entire life." They thought it was funny. Andrew laughed about it on the outside, but grew more broken inside. He began to think that if that's the way people thought of him, then he would live into it.

Early in the school year, he began to use drugs and drink alcohol with his friends. He kept it a secret from his family; he thought they would not understand. In the dark, his addictions grew, moving to harder drugs. His family tried every method to get through to him. They tried punishment, and Andrew would rebel more. They tried loving him in every way they could think of, and he rebelled more. His family was exhausted and confused. They came to a place where they finally realized that the situation was out of their hands - placing it entirely in God's hands.

His family cannot explain it, nor can he really, but when things seemed most hopeless, God saved him. Andrew struggles to put it into words, but somehow, somehow, he felt the love of God, and that altered the course of his life. It was almost as if a light when on inside him; the blinders were off. He was saved and delivered into the love of God. His family counts all of their failed attempts and gives God the glory for doing in Andrew what human beings could not.

reflect:

- Who does your heart ache for God to deliver and save?
- Will you trust that God will do the impossible in their lives?
- In this painful and confusing time, will you trust God to be your rock? Take refuge in Him.

prayer:

Father, I pray for the hurting and lost of this world. I ask that You do what only You can in the life of _____ (insert name). Be their Rock, their Redeemer. Use me in effective ways to show Your love. Enter into the hearts of those far from You. Be their Savior; deliver them into a transforming relationship with You. I pray for any loved ones by name who do not know the Lord or have fallen away from You. I ask You to reveal Yourself to them as the awesome God that You are. I pray a hedge of protection around my family from all deception, temptation, and any plans of the enemy that would thwart the good plans God has for them.

Day 10, January 20: to serve God together

Psalm 92:1: It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High.

Psalm 100:2: Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

Joshua 24:15: As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.

The Christian life was never intended to be a solitary one. Jesus shared His life with twelve disciples and

then taught them to share it with others. The early believers gathered together to break bread and share the living Word. What we do each week in church is an expression of shared belief in Jesus – His body, a community of faith that gains strength and courage through worship.

But a full and meaningful life of following Jesus is built on much more than one hour a week in church. It requires personal devotion and an interdependency with others in prayer, study, fellowship, and praise. In other words, the best way to follow and serve Jesus is in community.

Modern families come in all shapes and sizes. Whether you're widowed, single, divorced, or living in a blended family, God has a group for you, a place of intimate belonging. This cluster of believers is a smaller version of the church, or we could say the church is a larger expression of the family unit. However we view it, the purpose is to be a place for love, acceptance, prayer, and to celebrate the communion of Jesus among us. Finding time to pray as a family beyond grace at meals is an important discipline. To share our hearts, burdens, and triumphs is important, as well as encouraging each other to stay strong in the Lord (Ephesians 6:18). Prayer is as uncomplicated as talking to God together. Seeking time with a trusted brother or sister can move us from defeat to victory. Building the habit of worshipping together is critical to becoming the people God desires for us to become.

reflect:

- Who is your family, your community of faith, other than the larger church you attend?
- How do you express love, acceptance, grace, and encouragement with them?
- What elements of prayer and worship are regularly missing from your time with them?

prayer:

Great Father God, Jesus my Brother, Holy Spirit my Comforter... lead me into deeper communion and fellowship with You and with my community of faith. Begin with my own family to teach me to be bold to lead in worship and prayer, to bring the greatest glory to You, the only wise God, forever and ever.

journal:

Day 11, January 21: to be healed and reconciled

Psalm 107:20: He sent out his word and healed them; he rescued them from the grave.

Psalm 147:3: He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

Malachi 4:6: He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction.

The Scripture says in Matthew 4:1, "Jesus was led up by the (Holy) Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil." It was God the Holy Spirit that placed Jesus in that desert for that particular time. There are no mistakes in God's plan. There is no plan B. We only know His complete plan for our lives as we look backward. A.W. Tozer said, "To the child of God, there is no such thing as an accident. Accidents may indeed appear to befall him and misfortune stalk his way; but these evils will be so in appearance only and will seem evil only because we cannot read the secret script of God's hidden providence."

Our whole perspective of life changes when we find ourselves facing overwhelming temptation, tragedy, or any hard situation that needs real healing or reconciliation. This happened to a Pastor friend of mine. His son and daughter-in-law, upon graduating from Bible school in Arlington, Texas, with a great ministry to the Mexican people before them, encountered some problems that provoked the son to think God did not really care for him, so he decided to quit the ministry. He was determined to separate himself from God. He stopped praying and reading scripture and instead began drinking and staying out at night, etc. But on his way to inform the missions director of his decision, the son came around a curve, just outside of New Orleans, Louisiana and a tractor trailer, trying to avoid hitting a deer as it crossed the highway, plowed into his car, causing him to go to the hospital. Now he really believed God did not love Him. But during the next six months, God brought him back to good health, but most importantly reconciled him back to Himself.

I have been there; we all have been there in one sense or another. The Lord occasionally does the same with all of us, testing our faith, leading us into hardship, teaching us wisdom, showing us His ways, changing our course on this journey called life, calling us back to Himself—in the process healing us spiritually and sometimes physically. Our first reaction is usually anger, panic, and a sense of 'why is this happening to me if you love me so much, Lord?' But remember that deeper secret of the Christian life: "When we are in a difficult place, the Lord has placed us there, for reasons known for now only to Himself."

The writer, Mackintosh, in referring to the Israelites leaving Egypt comments, "the sea was before them, Pharaoh's army behind them, and mountains around them. And in all this, be it observed, permitted and ordered of God." We are where we are today because God permitted it. As someone has said, "Nothing gets to the child of God unless it passes through His Hands first."

Sometimes, circumstances beyond our control can push us off the thin wire we walk on in this thing called life. It could be the ringing of a phone, a knock on the door, a text, an email. We fall immediately into worry and fear that separates us from God, from our friends, our spouses, etc. How can we not worry or fear when our outflow exceeds our income, when a loved one is diagnosed with cancer, when layoffs occur at the company and our name is on the list, when our child is hurt or even killed, or our spouse wants to walk out. What is our hope? Where do we look for guidance in times like that.

We must pray to the One who has control over everything. We must ask Him to do what only He can do. And, we must consult the Scriptures for guidance and hope. Remember these men and women:

Hagar, a single mom, was forced into a desert with her boy where they nearly died of thirst. Joseph, desiring to be used of God, was seized, stripped, sold, and imprisoned in Egypt. David, anointed by Samuel, was pursued by Saul's army. Most of the Lord's disciples, who followed the Lord's command to evangelize the world, died horrible deaths. The Lord Himself, fulfilling the Father's will, was nailed on a cross until dead.

Peter wrote in 1 Peter 4:12, "Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you. . ." In other words, we should not be surprised when we find ourselves trapped in painful, frightening, difficult, or impossible situations. As a matter of fact, these things are to be expected in this venture of following Christ.

If we are in a time of trial, He is here. Remember we are here 1) By God's ordering, 2) In His grip, 3) Under His training, 4) For His time. But over and above that, our precious eternal Lord is here--He is the One who has promised never to leave or forsake us, never to forget or abandon us. So if we find ourselves in a difficult spot of needing healing and reconciliation, against all evidence to the contrary, there's no better place to be.

Real Healing and Reconciliation occur when we recognize we are exactly where God wants us to be.

reflect:

Are you in a difficult place right now?
How can you allow God to bring healing and reconciliation in His way and in His timing? Ask Him to give you spiritual eyes to see where He is working.

prayer:

Father God, You know everything about me. You know the challenges and hope that I have. I pray that You would guide my prayers, thoughts, and actions. I pray that You would give me spiritual eyes to see You in my life and give me the desire and ability to respond in a way that pleases You. Teach me what You want me to learn and help me to grow closer to You each day.

journal

Day 12- 13 Prayer for your spiritual family

Day 12, January 22: to receive a fresh outpouring of God's Spirit

Psalm 51:2: Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.

Psalm 51:7: Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

Mark 2:22b: But new wine must be put into new wine skins.

It seems for many believers a major disconnect occurs between the heart and mind. That being said, a fresh outpouring of God's Spirit is greatly connected to our conscious awareness of His indwelling. John's gospel states clearly the sending of the Holy Spirit, 'the Comforter,' for encounter not only with us but to dwell (live His life) in us. We must be aware of His presence more than our sin.

Romans 8:5: For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

Jesus having become sin for us dealt the death blow to sin's hold on us. Now the removal of the residue of sin's power is no less than Christ's promise to us.

Romans 6:11: Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

There are many word pictures or descriptions of the Holy Spirit; one is water. Notice the request from Psalm 51 is for 'another' to wash, cleanse, and purify us. The very work of the Spirit invokes the idea of

cleansing or purifying by literally being the 'Living Water' flowing in power from within. Also, Ephesians speaks of Christ and His bride "that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word." The living water and living word are ever present to do their work; we simply must say "yes" to His will and way in us and through us!

The new wine skins spoken of in Mark can refer to fresh governing or new governing of our lives. When the new spiritual 'mind-set' being the awareness of Christ's promise is fixed, fresh outpouring, 'New Wine' will follow. When new wine comes, 'times of refreshing' in the Spirit of the Lord will overcome and overtake us with breakthrough in all aspects of our lives and those we influence... as it did on the Day of Pentecost and throughout the book of Acts. Jesus started the church the way He wanted it; now He wants the church the way He started it! He wants us saturated with fresh outpouring!

reflect:

- Do you need a fresh awareness of the Holy Spirit's presence in your life?
- Will you ask Him to fill you to overflowing?

prayer:

Lord, I pray for times of refreshing as Your Word and Holy Spirit's presence cleanse and renew me. I pray that I will be spiritually-minded and that I will say yes to Your way and will through me. Thank you for Your faithfulness to me! I pray that my spiritual family will receive a fresh outpouring of Your Spirit!

journal

Day 13, January 23: to be served by visionary leader

Psalm 78:24: He rained down manna for the people to eat, he gave them the grain of heaven.

Habakkuk 2:1: I will stand my watch and set myself on the rampart, and watch to see what He will say to me.

Proverbs 29:18: Where there is no revelation, people cast off restraint; but blessed is the one who heeds wisdom's instruction.

The crowd was buzzing. The morning dew was burning off under the heating sun. Dogs barking, birds chirping, and the announcers giving instructions to the trainers to bring their racing greyhound dogs to the track in the appropriate gates. These dogs have been bred and trained since birth to do one thing, run after the lure (an artificial, mechanical bunny). They were made for this.

The gate opens! The dogs sprint! The crowd erupts! The announcers shout! But this race had an unexpected turn...

Part way through the race, the lure exploded! For a brief moment, the dogs continued to run, but eventually slowed down, not knowing what to do. Some ran around aimlessly, some ran back toward the gate where they began, and other dogs just laid down on the track pathetically with their tongues hanging out. There was no way to determine a winner, so the race was called off. The race was over.

So what caused the dogs to lose focus? Why

couldn't they continue the race? They lost their vision. Even though they had received the strictest training, they failed to achieve anything because they had nothing to aim for. This story illustrates, in a simple way, the profound truth found in Proverbs 29:18, "Where there is no

vision, the people perish." This proverb takes on so many different applications to so many different settings. But let's not mistake a 'good plan' as the complete thought here. A vision cannot be a 'God given' vision unless it is guided by... well... God. As Christians, we find our ultimate vision in the pages of God's story, the Bible.

Vision is built. Not just by human effort and planning, but by seeking God through His Word and prayer.

reflect:

- What dream is God revealing to you?
- Are you ready to train and chase after God's vision for your life?
- Will you trust and pray for your church leaders?

prayer:

Father, the giver of vision, help me to hear Your voice through Your Word. Mold and motivate me to chase Your vision for my life and the vision You have for Your Church. Answer the prayers of the leaders of this church; give them a clear and passionate vision. Help the vision to stick on the hearts and minds of this congregation - that we might win the race with You! Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.

journal

Day 14 - 21 prayer for our community

Day 14, January 24: to be a habitation for God's presence

Psalm 100:3: Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

Psalm 95:7-8: For He is our God and we are the people of His pasture, the flock under His care. Today, if only you would hear His voice, "Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah, as you did that day at Massah in the wilderness."

1 Timothy 2:8: Therefore I want the men everywhere to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing.

Matthew 13:58: And He did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.

Oh, how Matthew 13:58 breaks my heart because I so desire that God be active in my community! Therefore, I must pray.

Several times in scripture we see God looking for a person who will stand in the gap for a people, a nation, or the land. He desires to come with blessing, healing, and salvation and is looking for someone, or a group of someones, to agree with Him by paving the way for His coming in prayer.

The Biblical record reveals the Lord descended with His presence on Nineveh, Antioch, Ephesus, and Jerusalem as well as other cities. Today, we have documented reports of the same kind of Divine activity in over 1,000 communities in the past several years.

The thought resounds: why not here; why not now? It is possible because our heavenly Father wants to exalt His Son over our community. There is not a formula to accomplish this, but there are some things we should give ourselves to as we invite Him to come. Christian researchers have discovered all 1,000 communities that are experiencing God's abiding presence have five things in common.

- Persevering spiritual leadership
- United efforts of prayer
- Social justice and reconciliation, compassion evangelism
- Public Power Encounters
- Spiritual Mapping/Diagnostic Research: what's going on in your community, what are the desperate needs?

So, let's get to it! Find out who the spiritual leaders of our community are and pray for them regularly. Attend community-wide prayer events where Christians gather to pray for the community. Pray for social justice and compassion efforts to rise up and be successful. Join in public displays of your faith with other believers. Lastly, ask God to give wisdom about transforming the underlying issues in our community where powers and principalities derive their power.

reflect:

- How will you play a role in bringing God's presence to our community?
- In what areas can you play a leadership role in providing united efforts of prayer with Christ followers, fighting for social justice, or showing Christ's compassion to our community?

prayer:

Heavenly Father, I lift up my neighbors before You Lord, asking for Your presence to fill the atmosphere so that they will hear You speak and see You work in their lives. Right now I pray for all of my neighbors by name. and I ask, God, that You will reveal Yourself to each one of them.

Day 15, January 25: to value integrity

1 Samuel 16:7b: The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.

Proverbs 4:23: Above all else, guard your heart. For EVERYTHING you do flows from it.

Matthew 5:8: Blessed are the PURE in heart, for they will see God.

If a tree falls in a forest and no one is there to hear it, does it make a noise? Whether a noise is heard or not, the fallen tree is dead, and there is now a hole in the forest. There is impact. It has been said integrity is what you do when no one is looking. Does it matter what you do when no one is looking? Do you think there is really an impact? How about with your relationship with God?

God looks at the heart. We cannot hide this from Him. The core of who we are, He knows. What we look at, think about, talk of, and act on is all made clear to our Creator. Integrity is from the heart.

Poor integrity does not protect the heart; rather, it tries to destroy it and disobeys God. Good integrity protects the heart, keeps it pure, heals, and ultimately obeys God.

Consistent poor integrity that disobeys God is defiance to God. It slowly builds a brick wall in between us and God until we can hardly hear Him at all. Poor integrity hinders our connection with God.

Good Integrity is not being perfect. It is humbling, repentant, and obedient to God even when no one is watching. Read more about private behavior in Matthew 6:5-6 and Matthew 25:31-46.

reflect:

- Do you value integrity?
- Why does God choose to look at the heart of a person? How might God use your integrity to impact the people around you?

prayer:

Father, I know you can see my thoughts and know them completely. I want to be obedient to you. Allow others to see that you change me from the inside out.

journal

Day 16, January 26: to be cleansed of sin

Psalm 25:18: Look on my affliction and my distress and take away all my sins.

Nehemiah 1:6b, 8-9 (NIV): I confess the sins we Israelites, including myself and my father's house, have committed against you. We have acted very wickedly toward you. Remember the instruction you gave your servant Moses, saying, 'If you are unfaithful, I will scatter you among the nations, but if you return to me and obey my commands, then even if your exiled people are at the farthest horizon, I will gather them from there and bring them to the place I have chosen as a dwelling for my Name.'

In a meeting of diverse Christian leaders someone said, "the church in our city needs to repent." One response to the statement was, "what do we need to repent for?" Then the individual asking the question went on to talk about all the good things the church in that city was doing and finished by trying to make the case that there was not a need for repentance and the seeking of forgiveness from God, but rather the favor of God was resting on the city.

1 John 1:8-10 says, "if we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us."

The scriptures reveal the sinfulness of cities such as Sodom, Gomorrah, Nineveh, and other cities too. Those that repented and turned to God were blessed and those that did not, well, some of them do not even exist anymore.

God loves to take a sinful city and turn it into a revival center. He did just that in Antioch, Ephesus, Jerusalem, Nineveh, and more recently in Cali Columbia, Fiji, Guatemala, Uganda, Brazil, and hopefully very soon in our own community.

How does it happen that an entire community or city repents to the extent that it gets God's attention and a transformation begins to occur? It begins by individuals getting honest with God, confessing their sin, and crying out to Him for forgiveness and freedom.

The real question is not, can it happen in our community, but will you allow it to happen in you? Let's be honest before God about those things in our heart. Confess our sins to Him and repent!

reflect:

- Imagine what our community would look like if a true transformation occurred among Christ followers. What are some things that would look different?
- Will you pray for the revival to begin in you?

prayer:

Holy God, I understand that a city or region cannot receive Your blessing if it is built on sin and bloodshed. That type of foundation causes the people to labor and gain nothing. Lord, we humbly ask Your mercy and for Your forgiveness to be poured out in the community we live in. Lord, at this time I also name the specific sins that I am aware of such as injustices or covenant breaking, and I repent of them. I ask that You use me in my community wherever you desire so that You are glorified and seen in our midst.

Day 17, January 27: to experience revival

Psalm 86:6: Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

Psalm 80:18-19: Then we will not turn away from you; revive us, and we will call on your name. Restore us, Lord God Almighty; make your face shine on us, that we may be saved.

It is pointed out that 2 Chronicles 7:14 is addressed specifically to Israel. That is true. But surely the passage shows God's heart for any people, any land.

What does God want from us? First, we must humble ourselves. We must admit that God is God and we are not. We must submit to God and come to Him in brokenness and repentance.

2 Chronicles 7:14: If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Second, we must pray and seek God's face. No revival or awakening comes without prayer. Extensive prayer. Fervent prayer. Corporate prayer. Continual prayer.

It is worth noting that the prayer here is focused on seeking God's face and not God's hand. We are seeking God for Himself and not for what He gives us. We are locked in on God's glory, not on our need.

Third, we must turn from our wicked ways. God wants obedience, not religious ceremony. We cannot just say the words of repentance and pray the prayers of repentance. We must do the deeds of repentance and obey God in every part of life.

If we do these three things, then God promises to respond in three ways. First, He will hear us. He will hear those prayers. Second, He will forgive our sin. He will remove our sin as far as the east is from the west. And third, God will heal our land. He will pour out His favor and blessing upon us.

In 1861, Abraham Lincoln had just been elected President. The nation was tottering on the brink of war. There was cruel slavery in the land. The President faced widespread opposition and hostility. He issued a proclamation for our country, a proclamation which expresses the spirit of this passage.

"Whereas a joint committee of both houses of Congress has waited on the President of the United States and requested him to recommend a day of public humiliation, prayer and fasting to be observed by the people of the United States with religious solemnities, and the offering of fervent supplications to Almighty God for the safety and welfare of these states, his blessing on their arms, and a speedy restoration of peace. And whereas it is fit and becoming in all people at all times to acknowledge and revere the supreme government of God, to bow in humble submission to his chastisement, to confess and deplore their sins and transgression, in the full conviction that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and to pray with all fervency and contrition for the pardon of their offenses and for a blessing upon their present and prospective action. Therefore I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do appoint the last Thursday in September next as a day of humiliation, prayer and fasting, for all the people of the nation. And I do earnestly recommend to all the people, and especially to all ministers and teachers of religion of all denominations, and to all heads of families, to observe and keep that day, according to their several creeds and modes of worship, in all humility, and with all religious solemnity, to the end that the united prayer of the nation may ascend to the Throne of Grace, and bring down plentiful blessings upon our country."

Day 18, January 28: to uphold righteousness and justice

Please join us tonight at Fair Haven Church for a Prayer Walk, where you will be guided to several stations displaying prayer ideas throughout the church. The walk will take place between 6:15-8:00pm, and you may walk and pray at your own pace. Instructions will be available in the Library.

Psalm 89:14: Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne; love and faithfulness go before you.

Matthew 6:33: But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

My stomach dropped into my shoes as my eyes grew big. I had just heard that there are more slaves in the world today than at any other point in history. How can that be true? In the progressive post-abolition culture that we live in, how can there be over 27 million slaves worldwide? And how could there have been over 1,000 calls to the National Human Trafficking Hotline in the past four years from the state of Michigan? Surely slavery doesn't happen here in West Michigan. But it does, and the reason is because there is heartbreaking injustice in the world.

As Christ followers, God makes it clear that we are to take a stand against injustice and fight for those who do not have the ability to fight for themselves. "Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow." (Isaiah 1:17 NIV) When I compare this command to the statistics of injustices like human trafficking, poverty, homelessness, domestic abuse, and so many others, I begin to feel helpless. How do we even begin to act justly when injustice seems to be taking over? Where do we start?

The best place that we can start is where many great Biblical leaders before us have started. With prayer. Look to the examples of men like Moses, Ezra, and Nehemiah who turned first to God and pleaded for His guidance and intervention. These men saw God change the attitudes of kings and rulers to move in ways that were beyond what they had imagined. The

rulers of their day who were once set against God allowed a nation to be freed from slavery, a temple to be rebuilt by an exiled people, and a city wall to be built up in only 52 days. Each of these men were guided in their work by the One who has a passion for those under unjust oppression.

There is an overwhelming amount of work to be done to solve the injustices in our world today. So where do we begin to stem the tide of heartbreak? The best place, the only place to start, is on our knees asking God to give us His wisdom and discernment as we work to uphold justice in our circles of influence.

Don't hesitate to ask boldly for Him to move the hearts of those with greater influence as well – our leaders, politicians, and media. Our call is to uphold righteousness and justice in the world around us, but God, just like the leaders whose stories are recorded in the Bible, God does not leave us alone in that task.

reflect:

- What injustices cause your heart to break?
- Where is God giving you influence to fight injustice?

prayer:

Father God, Your Word shows that You care deeply for those that are suffering under injustice. Thank You for Your father heart that upholds the oppressed. I ask that You would be with our leaders and work through them as You have so many times throughout history. Give them a passion to establish just laws and the wise discernment they need to solve issues. Where there is a lack of passion, move in their hearts to create an urgency to uphold justice. Give me a fire to stand for those who are suffering all kinds of injustice. Show me how I can work to influence those around me, and move in my own community to show Your love and compassion. May Your Kingdom come even now!

Day 19, January 29: to experience God's presence and power

Psalm 43:3-4: Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell. Then I will go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my delight. I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.

I remember the first time I really felt the presence of God. Not those moments of 'Jesus Chills' where you know the Spirit is leading you on to something, but the first time there was weight and a person alongside, that Presence when the Holy Spirit wasn't just prompting, but came down in force. It all happened when I was 17 and had just met up with the person I was dating at the time. We were living in separate towns over the summer, and our relationship wasn't a good one. We were untrusting, bitter, and often vaguely angry at each other, so most times when we met, it was an opportunity to fight like cats and dogs. However, that day instead of the bitterness and anger I expected, I saw peace in her eyes. I saw a change; I saw someone with depth. We talked for two hours and then parted ways. While I was starting my old maroon Ford Tempo to go home, I muttered a quick but sincere prayer of, "God I don't know what she has with You, but that's what I need." I then started to drive home.

And then it happened. It felt like something descended on my little car, and for the first time I knew peace. I felt so relieved, I laughed to myself and then I cried, realizing all the hurt I had done to others. I then realized that people who were laughing and crying should probably not be driving 60 mph down country roads, so I pulled the car over and prayed

about what was happening. I talked to the Holy Spirit as He dwelt in my little Tempo... and life has never be the same.

reflect:

- Have you met and encountered the Holy Spirit of God? When and where was that? What led up to that encounter?
- How are you different because of that moment? What has changed in and around you because of that?
- As we begin to draw our time of fasting to a close, where has God shown up?

prayer:

God, I pray that Your Spirit comes down in real and powerful ways in my life. Come alongside me today and demonstrate who You are. Show me the power of Your radical love, show me who I am because of what You have done, and show me how that can impact those around me with Your will and love. Come alongside me in my interactions with others, in my conversations with You, and in how I treat my family and my friends. Be near to me, show me Your presence and Your power, and make me a different person because of how You love me. But more than anything, I pray that You show up in my life. I acknowledge that there is no church, there is no faith without You, and so I pray that You are present and vibrant in all that I think, say, and do.

journal

Day 20, January 30: to be filled with God's glory

Psalm 22:27-28: All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.

Habakkuk 2:14: For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

At a time when Israel was rebellious, immoral, and indifferent towards God, Moses prayed, "Lord, show me Your glory!" God was quick to respond to this prayer. And Moses saw with his own eyes a portion of the glory of God. But he also heard the voice of God declaring His glory:

God defined His glory by describing His nature. "I am the Lord, God! I am compassionate, merciful, loving and forgiving. And I am perfectly just and will not excuse the guilty."

"Yahweh! The Lord God! The God of compassion and mercy! I am slow to anger and filled with unfailing love and faithfulness. I lavish unfailing love to a thousand generations. I forgive iniquity, rebellion, and sin. But I do not excuse the guilty. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children and grandchildren; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations." Exodus 34:6-7

So when we pray for God's glory to come, we are praying for His nature to overwhelm our nature. We are seeking His nature to drive out the influence of sin nature, demonic nature, or any influence in a region or culture that is counter to Him.

resentment in many people. Holiness is rare. Morality is in rapid decline. And the church of Jesus Christ is in a battle for its existence. In America, 3,500-4,000 churches a year close their doors. Churches lose 2.7 million people a year to nominalism or secularism. And 1,500 pastors a month are leaving the ministry.

This hour for us is not unlike the time when Moses prayed this great prayer. We, too, are at time when our nation and the world have never been so contentious with God. The name of Jesus stirs deep

Moses could have prayed, "God meet our needs." But this circumstance demanded so much more than "meet our needs." He prayed, "Show me Your glory!"

We are in a desperate place today. We join our hearts in intercession to pray, "God, show us Your glory!" Overwhelm the numbness of our hearts with Your fire. Revive me with Your presence. Show Your glory in the church. Show us Your glory in America and all over the world. "Father God, Show us Your Glory!"

reflect:

- Will you begin to pray, "Lord, show us Your glory" so that the world will see and know Him?
- What does it look like to be the 'salt and light' in the work place, school, or neighborhood you live in?

prayer:

Sovereign God, I pray that the believers in our community would be a city set on a hill and 'salt and light' to the world. I ask that we would influence other nations with righteousness. I pray You give me Your perspective on reaching this world with the Love of Jesus. Lord, instill in me a passion to join You in the mission of pursuing people to know You so that You are glorified among all nations and peoples. Lord, may I hunger and thirst after You and desire that for all people.

journal

Day 21, January 31: to continue to seek God first

Psalm 9:10: Those who know your name trust in You, for You, Lord, have never forsaken those who seek You.

Jeremiah 29:13: You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

1 Chronicles 29:13: Now devote your heart and soul to seeking the Lord your God.

Colossians 3:2: Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

I remember when I first met my husband and was interested in him. I looked for opportunities to run into him. I deliberately sought out ways I could have a conversation with him. I was curious about him and wanted to learn more about him, and I confess that I chased after him. We laugh about it now because he was more shy than I was, and I was determined to get to know him. And it worked. We will be celebrating our 30th anniversary this year.

For the last 21 days, we have been chasing after God as we pray and fast. We have deliberately chosen to focus on Him and seek His presence. We have deliberately chosen to take time to read His Word and listen to His voice. For some of us, we can honestly say we didn't really 'hear' from God in a profound way during this time. For others, this has been an amazing time of growth, and we have felt His guidance and direction about something we were seeking. Regardless of what we have learned through this time or if we have 'cheated' on something we were going to fast from, these past 21 days have been crucial to us because we have obeyed God's command to seek His presence. It is always a beautiful thing when we chase after God and we put Him first because we desire to know Him more. And He promises us that when we seek Him, He will be found.

As we conclude our 21 days of prayer and fasting, it is important to ask, "Now what?" How can you remain committed to seeking Him? Very simply, decide to love God and seek Him. That's right, decide. Look for opportunities to spend time with Him and to learn from Him. Daily. Decide to chase

after Him and not the things of this life that quickly distract us from Him. Daily. Give Him your whole heart. Daily. Look for Him in each day, through people, circumstances, the Bible, and creation. Daily. It will take intention, effort, desire, and time. But it will be so worth it as your relationship with Him grows, develops, and you fall more and more in love with Him. Hebrews 11:6 says that God will reward those who earnestly seek Him. Will you continue to earnestly seek after the God of this universe who loves you completely and desires to walk with you daily? The reward will be great because God is great!

reflect:

- How will you continue to pray daily and seek God through Scripture now that our 21 days of prayer and fasting are ending?
- Will you pray daily for a hunger and a thirst to chase after God and seek His presence?
- What will you commit to intentionally doing so that you are seeking God daily?
- Please pray for the worship service today, January 31st. Pray that this time of prayer and fasting will accumulate into a beautiful time of worship as we conclude with communion. Please wear all white.

prayer:

Father God, thank You for these last 21 days of focusing on You. Thank You for the promise that You will be found when I seek You. Thank you that You don't hide from me but that You constantly draw me near to You. Please put a hunger and a thirst in my life for You Lord. You are so beautiful. So amazing. So forgiving. So good. And I am deciding to chase after You with all of my heart from this day on. Daily. Lord, may I put You first and seek Your face. Daily. I love you, Lord and I want to love and know You more. Amen.

