

STAPLE

BE BRAVE

21 DAYS
OF PRAYER & FASTING

21 Days of Prayer & Fasting

The purpose of our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting is to provide an opportunity for the Church and for you to seek the face of the Lord Jesus Christ, to learn to hear His voice, and to fall more in love with Him. The greatest purpose of prayer is knowing God more intimately. As a church, we spend 21 days every January seeking the Lord together, but you can start this study at any time you are ready to grow more in your relationship with Jesus Christ.

If you study the life of Jesus Christ, you will discover He spent the entirety of life pursuing His Father and only doing what He saw Him doing. When Jesus ascended into heaven, He continued to stay in close contact with His disciples through prayer and the ministry of the Word. Today, Jesus Christ continues to pray for all the saints. The book of Hebrews tells us, "...He always lives to make intercession for them" (Hebrews 7:25). If you are a believer, you can know that today the Lord Jesus Christ is praying for you!

Whether you are a seasoned veteran in prayer or just learning how to seek Him, my prayer for you is that you would be prompted to spend more time with Jesus and enjoy Him more and more every day. This 21 Day Prayer Journal is simply a tool to help you seek God and learn how to hear His voice. Jesus told us in John 10:27, "My sheep know my voice." As you grow in your love and desire to pray, I hope that you hear the voice of the Lord more clearly and fall more in love with Him.

Many people neglect prayer because they question if they are praying the right way, saying the right things, posturing themselves correctly or focusing at the right time of the day. Let me encourage you that our Father wants to hear you, and the more you spend time seeking Him, the more you will enjoy God and the more you will understand prayer. Prayer is not simply a religious activity in which we engage, but rather a practice of knowing the One true God and falling more in love with Him.

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If you study the life of the Lord Jesus Christ, you will quickly realize how much He loved to spend time with His Father in prayer. Mark 1:35 says, “In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up and went out and departed to a lonely place, and was praying there.” The night before Jesus selected His Twelve Apostles, He stayed up all night in prayer. Before He distributed the five loaves and two fish, He prayed. When He sent His disciples to the other side of the lake, He went up on a mountainside by Himself to pray. On the night He was betrayed, He gathered His disciples to pray and rebuked them because they could not stay awake to pray with Him. Even in the final moments of His life on the cross, He was praying to His Father and trusting Him.

I believe if we want to grow in Christ, we too must take the time to pursue Him. This pursuit should not come out of obligation but rather from a desire to know the person of Jesus Christ even more. However, many believers feel that prayer is nothing more than a religious ritualistic experience of which they are hopeful God will approve, so that we can have our desires met. This posture limits you from engaging with our Almighty God.

As you continue to grow, you will realize the purpose of prayer is NOT to have your requests answered, nor is it to appease God so He doesn't interfere with your life, nor is it so that you will appear more spiritual to each other. God wants you to know Him. The more time you spend with someone, the more you actually know them. When your desire is to know God and be honest and transparent with God, He will reveal Himself to you. The reality is that the more you know God, the more you will love God. The more you love God, the more you will willingly serve God. The more you willingly serve God, the more joy you will experience. The more joy you experience, the more you will tell others about God. The more you tell others about God, the more you will yearn to spend eternity with God. The more you yearn to spend eternity with God, the more you will be an influence for God in every relationship and every circumstance in your life. You see, the way to experience every good and perfect gift from God is to always start with prayer.

Warning

The more you desire to spend time with the Lord, the more opposition you will experience. The moment you set time aside to spend time with Jesus, the more distractions you will encounter. Your mind may start to wander, and you may even wonder if your prayer time is even making a difference at all. However, if you persevere, you will realize the more you spend time getting to know God, the more you are going to love Him.

A second challenge as you grow in prayer will be that you will begin to love what God loves and start to hate what God hates. This may not seem like a warning and may be the very reason you picked up this book. However, the challenge is that the more you love the Lord, the more you will have a disdain for this world's system and sin that keeps us from experiencing God's best. Some of the thoughts you used to have and the ways you used to live will bother you. It will also frustrate you to see people not living to glorify God. As God gives you His heart, I would encourage you to spend more time praying that He would grant mercy to those living in their sin.

My personal experience of growing with Christ is a greater love for Jesus, a sincere appreciation for how He saved me, and a yearning for Him to return to the earth in all of His glory. I don't hate anybody because the Bible teaches me to love my enemies and to pray for those who persecute me. However, I have a massive disdain for who I was before I was saved and the ways God has continued to grow me into His image. As I write this, I wish I could tell you that I have now arrived and, therefore, it's all good. However, the closer I get to the Lord, the deeper I see my own personal depravity and am far more concerned about the ways God is still redeeming me than I am concerned about His work in others.

Do You Know The Lord?

Before you begin this study, consider if you truly know the Lord and are born again. Many people skip this step and make the false assumption that they already know God. The Bible makes clear that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. Furthermore, the Bible tells us that sin kills us and therefore all are born spiritually dead. What makes this even worse is that the Bible tells us we are blind to our condition so that we can't even see it and are spiritually dead to hearing the Word of God apart from His grace. The result of this condition is that if we die in our sin, we will be dragged to an eternity in hell. This physical, spiritual, emotional, and mental torment –where there is not even a glimpse of God's goodness—is a reality. Isolated and alone (because relationships are a gift) people go to hell every day by the thousands.

Therefore, it is imperative to share the Gospel of Jesus, who became incarnate flesh and laid down His life on cross to take the punishment we deserved. Jesus Christ took the full wrath of God for all the sin of humanity. The good news is that Jesus Christ rose from the dead. This work of God validated that Jesus Christ was indeed God's One and Only Son and is willing to forgive anyone who would repent of sin (recognize that you are consumed with it, knowing it has killed you, believing that it will send you to hell and then turning from it) and trust Jesus Christ (believe that God's One and Only Son died for you, took the penalty you deserved, rose from the dead, and wants to give you life) by faith would have eternal life. The Eternal Life is the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, who comes to make His home with anyone who comes to Him by the simple act of faith.

Have you trusted Jesus Christ by repenting of your sins and believing He died on a cross as the God-man to forgive you and rose from the dead to give you life. If not, perhaps you can start your 21 Days of Prayer by asking Jesus Christ to be the Lord of your life.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, I believe that I am a sinner and if I die in my sin,s I will spend eternity in hell. But today I recognize you as the God-man who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead. Right now, I turn from my sins and trust you as my personal Lord and Savior. Amen.

Fasting

We now come to the topic of fasting. Fasting is the setting aside of food and hunger pains to train your physical body to become more dependent upon the Lord. Therefore, fasting is not simply skipping a meal (although there is physical benefit in this) but rather using the time you would have spent eating to seek the face of the Lord. When a Christian fasts, he is substituting the time he would have used for eating and gaining physical strength to pursue the Lord and grow spiritual muscle. While the Bible does not mandate fasting, it is certainly assumed.

Certain seasons stimulate fasting. Fasting is way to seek the face of the Lord more clearly and let Him truly see your hunger for Him. Sometimes fasting will help when we lack wisdom, direction, or clarity. It may be when circumstances seem insurmountable or it could be a time when regular prayer does not seem to be working. As a church, we fast to start the calendar year for 21 days. Therefore, we invite people to join us in a variety of ways.

Again, you do not have to fast, nor may it be in your best interest. If you have a health condition, are pregnant, or your doctor advises against it, I would encourage you to heed that wisdom. However, if you sense the Lord leading you to participate in a fast, then take baby steps. Perhaps you could choose one meal throughout the 21 days to set aside time for Jesus. Maybe you could choose one meal a week or one meal a day. Others may choose an entire day or days, and some may even go the entire 21 days without food. Whatever you decide I strongly encourage you to start small and then increase as your spiritual muscle grows. For instance, if you have never fasted before DO NOT START by fasting for 21 days, as you won't make it. Even if you endure without food,

it will be a miserable experience, and your prayer life will not be enhanced. Remember, the purpose of this is that you spend more time in prayer, NOT simply skip meals.

While fasting is specifically refraining from food, in the event you cannot fast from food, choose a spiritual fast from something that gains much of your attention. For instance, television, social media, radio, news, movies, sweets, coffee, alcohol, shopping, etc. are things you may choose to set aside for the purpose of pursuing the Lord. Therefore, during these 21 days, YOU choose what YOU will do. What do you sense will be a good way for you to fall more in love with Jesus. I believe that even if you don't fast but seek the face of Jesus, you will grow. If you can add fasting in addition, that would be great. But keep in mind, the purpose is spending more time with Jesus so that you will hear His voice and fall more in love with Him, NOT about how many meals you skip.

Choosing how to fast should also be done with great care and seeking the Lord. Do NOT let anyone trick you into fasting or falsely get you to think you are less of a Christian if you do not fast. Fasting is personal and must be decided upon with the Lord. The key is that YOU choose. Don't compare. Don't share. Just do what you sense would be a good step. If you want to add more once you have started, that is fine.

How Should I Use this Journal?

This journal is for you to learn to grow closer to Jesus Christ. Every day, I would encourage you to read the Scripture passage and the short devotional that follows so that you are ready to hear the Lord. Once you have spent some time meditating on the Word, there are some prayer prompts designed to help you to consider how to pray. These questions are very easy to follow and there are NO WRONG ANSWERS. This is not an assignment to turn in but a guide to help you know Jesus Christ better. Therefore, if there is only one of the questions you focus on for that day or the Lord prompts you in a different direction altogether, that is fine.

On the opposite page are four specific questions that will be the same every day. First start by writing down the date when you did this study. This will be a great tool for you as you continue to grow in your relationship with Christ. I promise you, reflecting back on where you were, will be an encouragement to you.

Once you have written down the date you may begin to answer each of the four questions. As you apply these four questions for the 21 Days, you will build a habit that you can continue to use once your journal is complete. Simply pick new Scriptures and follow the same habits of spending time with the Lord.

The first question starts by asking you to consider what God is specifically saying in His Word. Knowing and praying God's Word will help you grow more than anything else in the world. So, write down in your own words what God has specifically said in His Word. This practice will help you understand the Word of God and trust Him more.

The second question invites you to write down how/what/for whom you are being prompted to pray. Writing down how the Lord is specifically leading you through His Word to pray is a great discipline that will grow your relationship with Jesus Christ. The good news is that the Holy Spirit will often prompt you for how to pray. Sometimes this will involve a person, a situation, a mandate, or something personal that the Word of God has illuminated. Please use the space to write down your answers as it will be fun to look back on how the Lord has responded and how you have grown in your prayer life.

The third question provides the opportunity for you to write down the wisdom that God revealed to you as you spent time with Him in prayer and the Word. These are the specific insights that He has shared and how they have impacted you. As you write these truths down, you will be amazed at all God is revealing to you. You will also enjoy going back and remembering where you were and what you were learning in different seasons.

Finally, the fourth question allows you to write down how you are going to trust the Lord as a result of your time in prayer. This is the application of the time you spend in prayer and is often the most overlooked component of prayer. When you are prompted to be faithful, it is important to respond immediately. This exercise will help you to daily consider the ways you can trust Him more and how you need to be obedient. As you continue to take steps of faith, the Lord will become more and more real to you. Taking these steps of faith will grow your relationship and allow you to hear the voice of the Lord more clearly and fall more in love with Him.

As an encouragement, don't worry if you are unable to fill in every blank every day. Remember, this is not a religious task of filling in the blanks. This is simply a guide to help you spend more time with the Lord Jesus Christ and fall more in love with Him. The same is true if you miss a day or two. Don't worry. Just start the journal where you left off and continue to grow. My prayer for you is that you love Jesus more at the end of the 21 Days of Prayer than when you began. Once you complete this 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting you will be ready to choose other Scriptures and continue your daily walk with the Lord Jesus Christ. May the Lord richly bless you as you continue to seek Him.



Dr. Jeff Schwarzentraub

Exclusive Content

Scan the QR code below to access exclusive content from Pastor Jeff for the 21 Days of Prayer & Fasting



Day One

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“Call to Me and I will answer you, and I will tell you great and mighty things, which you do not know.”

Jeremiah 33:3

What a privilege we have that the God of the universe beckons us to call to Him. There is a tendency to want others to notice us or to network with others so that we find personal meaning. However, God not only wants our attention but promises that when we call upon Him that He will answer and speak to us about things which we do not know.

This means that our Lord wants to communicate with us and share with us things which can only be received through prayer. Often, we look to friends, family, or acquaintances to fulfill us when we should first be looking to the Lord.

What are the things you have been seeking?
Where is wisdom needed in your life?
Where do you need help at this time?
How can you grow more in your faith with God?

The answer is simple: Call to Him.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you consider calling on the Lord for your greatest need? Will you pray for an area of your life that needs wisdom? Will you ask the Lord to provide insight into areas where you may be missing the mark?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Two

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“being a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”

James 1:8

Drawing close to God is a choice that we can continue to make throughout the day. How much do you desire the Lord to be involved in your life? Instead of living independently, God invites us to draw near to Him and promises that when we do, He will draw near to us. The choice is yours.

What circumstances and situations are you experiencing right now where the Lord could be of help?

How hungry are you for more of the Lord's goodness?

Taking the time to seek the Lord and grow close to Him is a choice that will bring great joy and hope.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you tell you Lord about several ways you recognize you are depending on Him? Will you ask Him to remind you of ways you have forgotten His grace and goodness in your life? Will you thank God for the fact that, as you draw closer to Him today, He will draw closer to you?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Three

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Have you ever wanted to know God’s will? Look no further. This verse makes simple statements with profound results. While this verse may not comprehensively answer all of your life questions, it indeed lays a foundation for you to set the course for hearing and obeying God.

Rejoice at all times. Perhaps you cannot rejoice about the circumstances, but you can rejoice that the Lord is with you in them.

Pray without giving up. Never stop seeking the face of God. Finally make it a habit to give thanks to God. Write them down. Pray over them. Tell God how grateful you are for His character and His deeds. These daily choices will lay a pathway for you to experience the Lord more and more.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you seek the Lord, will you spend time rejoicing in who He is and how grateful you are for your relationship? Will you continue to pray for something that you had stopped praying for in the past? Will you make a list of things for which you are thankful?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Four

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“Cease striving and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth.”

Psalm 46:10

For many of us, life is filled with activities and responsibilities that cause us to become human “doings” rather than human beings.

God asks us to pause for minute, to be still, and to cease striving. In all of the hustle and bustle, this may seem absurd; however, taking time to consider God and all the He is doing will bring great strength and harmony in your life.

You see, when you pause to consider who our God is and all that He has done, and all that He is doing, your focus will change. Instead of just “trying to get things done” or focusing on all the “have to’s,” you can begin to experience peace knowing that God is the One at work on your behalf.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you ask the Lord to quiet your heart and mind? Will you also ask Him to speak to you about you? Finally, will you ask the Lord to remind you that He is Lord of the nations?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Five

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“Therefore I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and dissension.”

1 Timothy 2:8

God has provided our world with those in leadership and authority and asks us to pray for them. Instead, blind trust or having a frustration with leaders, God invites us to seek Him to help these leaders use godly wisdom as they lead.

Praying for our leaders is required for the believer because those who are leading need God’s help. Regularly we are to pray for our President, Senate, Congress, and Supreme Court as well as governors, mayors, city officials, first responders, school boards, and anyone else who holds a position of authority.

When we pray for people, we learn that God is Sovereign and we are simply praying for His Mighty hand to rule in, through and over the leaders for whom we are praying.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you begin to pray for those in leadership in your church? Will you pray for those involved in the leadership of the Government? Will you pray for any other leaders who come to mind?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Six

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.”

Hebrews 11:6

If we desire to please the Lord, we must trust Him in the ways in which He leads us. This means that we need to actively take a step of faith because of our love for God.

Trusting God comes in a variety of ways in a variety of different seasons, but always requires courage and faith that the Lord will be true to His Word. Sometimes taking a step of faith could require a move, transition, forgiveness, honesty, transparency, silence, investment, anonymity, discomfort, patience, suffering, uncertainty, and, oftentimes, misunderstanding.

Therefore, we need to seek His face, trust what He shows us through His Word, and then act obediently. This pleases the Lord and allows us to experience God’s greatest rewards.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you ask the Lord to show you where you have been lacking faith? Will you ask the Lord to show you how to take your next step of faith? Will you ask Him for the courage to be obedient to what He shows you?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Seven

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

*“casting all your anxiety on Him,
because He cares for you.”*

1 Peter 5:7

We live in a world that expects you to be anxious and filled with worry, but God tells us this need not be the case.

When you have anxious thoughts, cast all of them upon Him because He cares for you. Not only is God willing to carry the burden, but He wants you know that His reason for doing that is because He cares for you.

When you are burdened and worried and anxious just throw it all upon the Lord. Trust that He can handle it and is willing to do it because of His great love for you. Stop carrying the burden and give it to the Lord.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you ask the Lord to show you the burdens you have chosen to carry? Will you cast all those burdens today on Jesus Christ? Will you ask the Lord to help you not to carry that burden anymore?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Eight

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.”

Matthew 16:18

Jesus Christ made a promise during His earthly ministry that He continues to keep nearly 2000 years later. Before Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead, He promised that He would build His church and that even the gates of Hades would not overpower it.

The Church of Jesus Christ is the vehicle through which He uses His saints to edify the saints and advance His kingdom. While the Church has suffered great harm from both inside and out, she still remains a testimony of God's Word.

Serving the Lord Jesus Christ through a local church is a must for every believer. The best way to grow spiritually is not only by attending a church, but by willingly using your gifts to serve the Lord with His people. The Church is the Bride of Christ and how you love and serve His Church demonstrates your love for Him.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you ask the Lord for how you can best serve the local church to honor Him? Will you ask God to use your local church to fullest possible extent for His glory? Will you ask the Lord for your local church to have a greater and greater influence for the Lord Jesus Christ?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Nine

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.”

2 Corinthians 5:17

When a person is born again by repentance of sin and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, they become a new creation. They are no longer what they once were but are now a fundamentally different being. They belong to Jesus Christ with an entirely new identity.

There is now a necessity for this new identity in Christ to grow so that new behaviors eventually accompany the new identity. The challenge for the believer involves focusing on Christ and the truth that you have been changed.

The reason some believers stunt their growth comes through the error of continuing to live their former identity while neglecting the truth of their present one.

This passage reminds us that we are completely forgiven and new and when we own that truth the Lord grows us in holiness that is accompanied with great joy.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you ask God to help you to let go of your former identity when you didn't know Christ? Will you ask God to reveal to you your new identity? Will you ask God to help you believe and live out your new identity?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Ten

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

***“Therefore as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord,
so walk in Him,”
Colossians 2:6***

When we receive the Lord Jesus Christ by faith, there is the expectation that we will continue to grow in the same manner. Becoming a believer is not simply adherence to a creed or praying a magic prayer, it involves a genuine repentance of sin and a trust in the finished work of Christ. This reorientation of life is the beginning of a journey with the Lord that continues as we receive more and more of His grace.

We didn't earn His grace when we were saved, and we don't earn his grace by good works after we are saved either. Rather, we depend upon His grace, fall more in love with Him, and willingly do what He requires because of our love for Him.

Ask the Lord today for a continued outpouring of His grace on your life.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you ask the Lord to continue to bestow His grace upon you? Will you ask the Lord to give you the hunger to continue to mature in your faith? Will you ask the Lord to reveal to you where your growth has been stunted so that you can repent and receive His grace?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Eleven

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.”

Matthew 11:28

In a world where fatigue and frustration are pervasive, the Lord calls us to Himself. The cure for this busy cycle of madness requires that we stop living independently of the Lord and rather come to Him.

He desires for us to posture ourselves in humility as we welcome Him into all areas of our life. Instead of continuing to strive and press, we look to Jesus Christ and make Him the priority in our lives.

This provides what so many pursue and, yet, so few find: Rest!

If you are looking for rest in the middle of your circumstances today, then pursue Jesus Christ and you will find the deep rest that your soul is craving.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you ask the Lord to give you rest?
Will you authentically share with the Lord all your burdens?
Will you trust the Lord today to carry these burdens for you?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Twelve

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.”

Philippians 4:13

As we meditate on the Word of God, we learn that when Jesus Christ is the source we can experience contentment in all circumstances.

In seasons of abundance or poverty, God is our Source and the reason that we can be content. This spiritual secret reminds us that in our life we experience “seasons” which continue to change, and yet, the Lord remains a constant for us on our life with Him.

When Jesus remains the focus of our lives rather than our circumstances, we experience His presence and know that regardless of difficulties or blessings, God is our strength.

Today, remind yourself that the God of the universe is willing to be your strength if you will allow Him.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you ask the Lord to grow you in contentment? Will you ask the Lord to remind you that Jesus Christ is your strength today? Will you thank God that everything He wants to accomplish will be accomplished in His way?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Thirteen

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

***“The Lord is good,
A stronghold in the day of trouble,
And He knows those who take refuge in Him.”
Nahum 1:7***

Have you ever wondered where to turn when you are in trouble? While the world might provide a temporary answer that ultimately will not satisfy, the Lord presently invites you to Him for the help that you need.

Since He is the Creator of the world and Omnipotent (all-powerful), there is nothing you can bring to Him that He is unable to handle.

He also promises to grow His relationship with you. He is very well acquainted with those who trust Him in the difficult times. Sometimes, God engineers circumstances in your life so that you will seek Him.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you rely more on the Lord's goodness to help you during your time of trouble? Will you thank the Lord that He is present and listening to you right now? Will you ask the Lord to help you with any trouble you are facing in your life?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Fourteen

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

***“I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord
In the land of the living.”***

Psalm 27:13

Have you been going through a time where you have trusted the Lord and still not experienced the outcome for which you have trusted? That’s not uncommon.

The reality is, the bigger steps of faith you take, the more trust is required. Sometimes we falsely believe that faith gets easier as we grow with the Lord; however, God continues to stretch our faith so that each new step of faith we take is in some ways more difficult than the last one.

Mark it down...the greatest step of faith you will ever take is the next one. The good news is that we need not fear because we are told we can expect to see God’s goodness right here presently where we are living. Therefore, trust God, pray, and expect to see His goodness in your life.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you confess that you have experienced despair because you have tried to remain in control? Will you ask the Lord to remind you that He is in control of all your circumstances? Will you ask the Lord to give you the faith to believe that you are going to experience His goodness?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Fifteen

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.”

Hebrews 13:17

God appoints pastors and elders in local church to build up the saints for the work of ministry. If you have godly men who lead and the Word of God that is being faithfully and accurately proclaimed, then take a moment to thank God for those men and ask God to unleash more and more grace upon them.

Serve in such a way in your church that is a blessing for those leaders to experience your example. Serving as a leader in the local church is not an easy task, and those men and their families are constantly under spiritual attack. Therefore, your prayers are a necessary grace that helps them to accomplish the ministry for which God has called them.

The more you pray, the greater fruitfulness you will see in your church and the more faithful you will see those men.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you lift up your pastors and elders in your church by name and ask the Lord to encourage and build them? Will you ask the Lord how you can be a member of Christ's church in a way that is a blessing to the leadership? Will you ask the Lord for a church that continues to be faithful and honoring to the Lord Jesus Christ?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Sixteen

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.’ God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Genesis 1:26-27

God designed two genders and gave you yours in utero.

One of the reasons He designed gender was because of His love for marriage and family. In a culture that attempts to redefine these two institutions, we should pray for every marriage and every family. We shouldn't just wait until we hear of a challenge to a marriage or a family; we should consistently be praying for every marriage to honor God and for those families to pursue the Lord.

Consider today all the marriages and families you know and spend time writing them down and praying for them. Ask God to bless and encourage families to grow together and be a blessing to others as they continue to seek the Lord.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you thank God for the fact that He made you male or female in utero? Will you ask God to bless your marriage (if married) and several other marriages, too? Will you pray that God will open the wombs of women and bless every child in every family you know?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Seventeen

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung around his neck, and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.”

“But Jesus said, ‘Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.’”

Matthew 18:6, 19:14

There is no doubt that Jesus Christ has always had a special love for children and appreciates those who depend upon Him like a child.

In our world that aborts babies, neglects children, and selfishly focuses on money, careers, influence, and personal happiness, Jesus remind us about His focus. He loves children because they can still be molded and shaped for His glory. He loves their dependency and trust and wants that to grow in a relationship with Him.

He wants every adult to understand and act in a way that will help children focus their attention on Him. He also wants us to consider what a difference we can make in the lives of children around us. Perhaps there are ways you can use your skills and resources to help make a difference in the life of one of several children. Perhaps you could adopt, mentor, train, or encourage the next generation and perhaps you can grow more in having a true dependency in the Lord like that of a child.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you bring the names of children you know before the Lord? Will you ask the Lord how you may be of greater service to the children in this world? Will you also ask how you could grow in having more of faith like a child?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Eighteen

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’”
Matthew 28:18-20

Since Jesus Christ has all authority in both heaven and earth, we need to listen when he gives us a command.

Before Jesus left the earth, he entrusted His church with the mission of the Gospel. This means we are not only to be ready to share our faith but also to make disciples. This means we are to invest our lives in others so that they too can grow to maturity in the Lord.

We are not called to wait until we are perfect or know all the answers, but rather, we are to get involved in the church and spend time investing in other people. God even uses our imperfections in the process to not only grow others but to grow ourselves.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you ask the Lord to reveal to you who you need to disciple because His mission is His priority? Will you ask God to grow you as a disciple-maker? Will you also ask God to give you a passion for multiplication in His Kingdom?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Nineteen

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,”

Ephesians 6:18-19

As we spend our lives with our focus on Jesus Christ, one way that we can pray is for God to open up doors so that we will have opportunities to share the Gospel. Not only do we need the Lord to open up doors for us, but we also need Him to help us in being bold so that we will have the courage to share the Good News when the circumstance presents itself.

One way to become more aware of opportunities for sharing the Gospel is to pray that God would provide them. When we pray in this way, our minds begin to consider how the Lord will answer this prayer, and while we are waiting for the Lord to direct our conversations, we are asking the Lord to give us courage.

Few things will grow a believer more than praying for evangelistic opportunities and having the faith to act when the situation presents itself.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will ask the Lord to give you an opportunity to share your faith? Also, will you pray for the awareness of when that is happening? And finally, will you pray for the courage to boldly share the Gospel of Jesus Christ?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Twenty

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory;”

Matthew 4:8

Not only did the God-man, Jesus Christ, defeat the devil with His Word, but He reminded us of a very important principle.

We are called to worship the Lord Jesus Christ and serve Him only. All of us were created to worship and give our best to God. This is where God receives the greatest glory, and we receive the greatest joy.

However, if Jesus Christ is not to whom we give our full allegiance, then we will find something or someone else to worship, which is called idolatry. Allegiance may manifest in sinful patterns of behavior or may involve worshipping a blessing rather than the One who provided the gift.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, ask the Holy Spirit to show you if and where you have any idols. Will you repent of the idols that are hindering your worship of Jesus Christ alone? Will you spend time today making your life an act of worship to the Living God?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

Day Twenty-One

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

“And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.”

Romans 8:28

Have you ever been confused because you love the Lord and therefore do not understand why in the world you must endure the circumstances that you face? This is a question every believer asks as they continue to journey with the Lord.

The good news is that God is the One behind the scenes either allowing or unfolding the situation in your life for your good and the good of those around you.

When we reset our focus on the Lord and trust that every circumstance we endure is ultimately a blessing for us and a blessing for others, then we can persevere.

God is loving and benevolent and uses all things and all circumstances we have for our good.

Prayer Prompt

Today as you pray, will you thank God for authoring or allowing your current circumstances? Will you ask God for wisdom for your next steps? Will you thank God and trust Him for bringing about His best in your life?

What is God clearly speaking through His Word today?

How/what/who are you prompted to pray (for) today?

What wisdom or insights did God reveal to you today?

What must you do to trust God by faith today?

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