

A Call To Prayer and Fasting

Wednesday February 17th to Saturday April, 3rd

Introduction:

Three unique situations recorded for us in the New Testament show a connection between fasting and prayer.

- 1 Seeking His face. The prophetess Anna “never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying” (Luke 2:37, NIV).
- 2 Seeking His hand. Jesus instructed His disciples about a demonic stronghold, saying, “But this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting” (Matt. 17:21, NASB).
- 3 Seeking His heart. The church at Antioch was seeking God’s will in regard to sending out Saul and Barnabas: “As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, ‘Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.’ Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away” (Acts 13:2-3, NKJV).

Reasons for fasting:

Fasting helps us focus. And prayer directs that focus to the One who alone can fulfill His promises, bring breakthrough to impossible situations and clearly reveal His preferred will.

Never has the world been so ready for a global move of God. And is it possible that His people can participate in helping usher that in?

These New Testament stories clearly indicate that God desires a partnership with His people, and that He often moves to act on their behalf. No human strategies will ever replace the spiritual disciplines that usher in God’s power.

Human suffering, sex trafficking, persecution, natural disasters, racism, mass killings, domestic violence, terrorism, culture wars— it seems as if our world is more broken than ever and needs a divine intervention.

People are desperate.

I am believing that this time of fasting and prayer will release an avalanche of divine breakthrough

My theology rests very simply in a God who invites us to pray and a belief that He will respond to the prayers of His people.

After all, prayer was His idea, not ours.

I am convinced that a church-wide commitment to approach the throne of God on behalf of our hurting world will not be in vain.

If the church doesn't step up in this most crucial hour, who will?

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Invitation:

I am inviting you to encourage you to be part of this amazing opportunity for us as a congregation to fast and pray together

We want to shake things up in the heavenly realms.

We want to experience personal and corporate breakthrough, as never before.

We want to be part of ushering in God's promises and plans.

We want to experience closeness to God that will melt away the constrictions of this present world.

While We are not specifically giving fasting instructions, it is vitally important to see the spiritual accelerant that fasting is.

It helps bring focus and discipline.

It changes our routine and prioritizes our spiritual direction.

It helps clear away the clutter and allows us to hear God's voice more clearly.

Combined with prayer, fasting takes us into a spiritual stratosphere that wars against Satan's strongholds.

I am asking you consider fasting something that would be a personal sacrifice for those 40 days.

Some will fast from food or particular foods.

Others will choose activities.

From a personal standpoint, I'm contending for some things that I really desire God to do.

I want to experience an encounter with God as never before. I need to "seek His face," I plan to "seek His hand," and I want to "seek His heart."

