



CHRISTIAN
COMMUNITY CHURCH

JANUARY 5-25, 2026

SATURATE ET ARUTAS

FASTING GUIDE AND PRAYER
JOURNAL



Welcome to SATURATE 2026 at Christian Community Church Ithaca!

This year, from January 5-25 we are consecrating times of prayer and fasting to seek the Lord as a time of refreshing, reflection, and renewal both individually and collectively as a church. Serving as an annual reset, SATURATE 2026 will prove to be a remarkable journey as we rediscover God's goodness, presence, power, and promise in each of our lives for the days ahead.

21 Days of Prayer & Fasting

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The purpose of a fast is to set aside a specific span of time for restricting certain foods or practices as a physical commitment to seek God through deeper personal engagement and fervent prayer.

When we combine the spiritual discipline of fasting, with prayer and meditation, we can experience a more focused time of closeness with our Lord and seek His wisdom and help.

Derek Prince said, "Fasting intensifies prayer." We have found this to be very true. You can find many of Derek's teachings on his website.

Foreword

Four Types of Fasting

1. Complete Fast

In this type of fast, you drink only liquids, typically water with optional light juices.

2. Partial Fast

This fast is sometimes called the “Jewish Fast” and involves abstaining from eating any type of food in the morning and afternoon. This can either correlate to specific times of the day, such as 6:00am to 3:00pm, or from sunup to sundown.

3. Selective Fast

This type of fast involves removing certain elements from your diet. One of the most popular types is a “Daniel Fast” i.e. ultimatedanielfast.com

4. Soul Fast

This fast is a great option if you have health issues that prevent you from fasting food or if you wish to refocus certain areas of your life that are out of balance. For example, you might choose to stop using social media or watching television for the duration of the fast.

Preparing For More Glory

“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled faces, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.”

Matthew 5:6

As we step into this new season, God is inviting us to prepare our hearts for more glory—not simply more activity, growth, or influence, but a deeper manifestation of His presence transforming our lives from the inside out.

The glory of God is not only something we witness; it is something we are changed by. Scripture reminds us that as we behold Him, we are continually transformed from one degree of glory to another. This means expansion always begins with encounter. God’s desire is not to add more to our schedules, but to impart more of Himself into our lives. As we create space to seek Him—through prayer, worship, repentance, obedience, and surrender—the veil is lifted, and freedom increases. The Spirit moves among us to heal, restore, awaken fresh hunger, and shape us into the image of Christ.

Preparing for more glory requires more than expectation—it calls for consecration. It calls us to lay aside distractions, renew our devotion, and posture ourselves with unveiled hearts before the Lord. We prepare not by striving, but by beholding. By choosing daily to turn our eyes toward Him, we open ourselves to the transforming work of the Spirit.

As we journey together, let this be our prayer: “Lord, make us a people ready for Your glory. Transform us so that Your presence is seen in our lives, our families, our church, and our community.” One degree at a time, God is preparing us for more—more freedom, more holiness, more love, more revival, and more of His glory.

—Apostle Bill Themelaras

21-Day Personal Prayer Guide

The following is a 21-Day SATURATE 2026 Personal Prayer Guide with devotional Scripture Readings, Reflections, suggested Prayers and a place to Journal each day.

Foreward

SATURATE FASTING SCHEDULE

WEEK #1: JANUARY 5-11 | DAYS 1-7

“Daniel Fast”: (no bread, meats, sweets, or alcohol)

7 days of No bread, meats, sweets or alcohol. We will eat 3 meals-per day (or less-your choice) on the Daniel Fast. No snacking during the day, and we will only drink water & 100% fruit juice throughout the day.

Learn more information about the Daniel Fast here: <https://ultimatedanielfast.com/ultimate-daniel-fast-food-guidelines/>

WEEK #2: JANUARY 13-19 | DAYS 8-14

6am-6pm water only Fast: You may eat any type of meals that you would like before 6am or after 6pm. Please drink plenty of water during the fasting times.

WEEK #3: JANUARY 20-26 | DAYS 15-21

1 meal per day Fast: You may eat one meal of your choice at any time on these days, but only one meal per day. You may drink liquid (i.e., water) throughout the day while you are fasting.

NEW TO FASTING?

For individuals who are new to fasting and have no health conditions that prevent them from doing so; are encouraged to follow the Week 1 Daniel Fast guidelines for the entire 21 days.

Those with health conditions that prevent fasting from food are encouraged to participate in the Soul Fast for the full 21 days.

Please consult your healthcare provider before participating in this fast, particularly if you are under medical care or taking prescribed medications.

Foreword

Day 1 | Jan 5
Stir Up A Hunger

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.”

Matthew 5:6

Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me shall not hunger, and whoever believes in me shall never thirst.”

John 6:35

Devotion

In Matthew 6, Jesus said those who hunger for righteousness will be satisfied. The “will be” here implies a conditional promise—satisfaction only comes if we are hungry. Then, in John chapter 6, after multiplying the loaves and fish to feed the 5,000, Jesus declares to another crowd that He was the bread—the sustenance we need for all of life.

Hunger is required in order to desire bread. Before we begin this 21-day journey, let’s ask ourselves, are we spiritually hungry? If not, let’s be real and ask ourselves why not? Is it because we are already full of other things life has offered us? Are we so satisfied with things that we have neglected our spiritual relationship with Jesus—the one who declared himself the source of all life? Often when coming down from the holidays, we are so tired from the busy-ness of the season—parties, family gatherings, shopping, and friends—that we come into another year unfocused and spiritually tired. We haven’t been with the source for all we need.

Bread represents something we all have access to. It is a basic food available to most throughout the world. Jesus promises if we come to Him, we will be filled in the inmost places and not ever be hungry again. John chapter 6 is an invitation to come to Jesus as the source for everything we need. He desires to fulfill every longing within us.

In order to be that source, we must make time daily to be with Him and truly get to know Him. The Bible says Jesus often withdrew to be with the Father to pray. If Jesus needed to include prayer in His daily routine, how much more must we need it?

We must be diligent to make time to be with the Lord. Schedule it into your day based on your own personality. Not a morning person? Then carve out time during lunch or before bed. Do what works for you, but get alone to talk and listen to God. Allow Him to fill you up, restore you, and create a deep spiritual hunger in you.

Journal

May today be the start of a daily routine, where you and Jesus commune together in His presence.

Reflect

- What things are filling you up that you need to get rid of in order for your spiritual hunger to increase? (i.e. social media, entertainment, shopping?)
- What time will you set aside every day over the next 21 days to talk and listen to God?

Prayer

Jesus, I surrender my schedule to you over the next 21 days and ask you to give me an increased hunger to spend more time in prayer, worship, and Your Word. Please give me a greater awareness of Your presence, a deep desire for you, and a heart to know You more deeply. Amen

Day 1

Day 2 | Jan 6

Draw Near To God

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

Psalm 24:3-4

“Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

Hebrews 4:16

Devotion

In Christian life, being faced with serious insecurities about approaching God can be common. Thoughts like this can bring up all sorts of feelings—like feeling unworthy, uniquely disqualified, or feeling completely unaccepted at times.

So why the struggle? For many of us it has a lot to do with the propensity to sin. Feelings of remorse for sins that we have committed is quite natural. However, without coming to terms with what Christ has accomplished for us, we may find ourselves in a constant cycle of guilt and shame for some of the things we have done. (Rom 5:8; II Cor. 5:17-20) In moments like these, instead of our first thoughts being: “God loves me,” “Christ died for me,” “I am forgiven,” or “I am a child of God,” we automatically disqualify ourselves—thinking that all of this is dependent on our own performance. The truth is not so!

Our confidence in drawing near to God is not based on our performance—good **or** bad. It is based entirely on what Jesus accomplished on the cross when He said “it is finished”. (John 19:30) Us coming to God with boldness is based on the finished work of Jesus on our behalf; in demonstration of God’s great love for us. (John 3:16; Rom 5:8; Rom 1:16; Heb 4:16; I John 2:1-2; I John 3:1)

Strangely enough, what we find is that the very things in our lives that appear to disqualify us—sin, weakness, failure, flaws, etc.—provide convincing proof that God’s love remains true in spite of our human condition. If someone says they love us, but they are not familiar with our past failures or current weaknesses, we may not be sure that they really love us. However, if they **are** fully aware of the good and the “ugly” yet love you anyway, you know that you truly are loved.

Praise God! He knows it all and loves us anyway! Our sin and weakness become our opportunity

Journal

to really know He loves us. We can really trust His love for us.

Today we draw near to God. We do this by uncovering the “ugly” side. We confess our sin knowing that God is ready to forgive us. We reveal the part of our life that puts His love for us to the test (at least in our minds). Praise God, He proves His love. He forgives and loves us anyway.

Reflect

- 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. Amen

Day 2

Day 3 | Jan 7

Giving God Your All

“And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment.”

Matt. 22:37-38

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”

Romans 12:1

Devotion

Giving God our all isn't really an option for those who are truly Christ-followers. When we give our lives to Jesus, we invite Him to be our savior and our Lord. Lord means just that, He is Lord, we are his servant. He is in charge, we live surrendered. He doesn't want half-hearted devotion. He wants it all. When you look at the greatest commandment in Matthew 22:37-38, Jesus commanded us to love God with all of our heart - our affection and devotion; with all of our soul - our will and emotions; and our mind - our intellectual knowledge. This is all of us - body, soul and spirit and it's what is required.

Throughout scripture Jesus gives instructions to “pick up your cross and die daily”, to leave our father and mother and follow him, to lay down our lives for a friend. These are examples of what Jesus meant when He invited us to come follow him.

But our Savior doesn't ask anything of us that He didn't already himself do for us. He literally gave up everything - His place in heaven with the Father to confine Himself to a human body in the form of a baby. The creator of all became the created. He took on flesh and surrendered himself to hunger, fatigue, pain and a brutal death on a cross. He did all of this, so we might be justified to a holy, sinless God and have a relationship with Him. But He didn't stop there, we then are invited to everything God offers the son. Jesus took our place, so we could be co-seated and co-heirs with him in heaven - sons of God. Jesus gave His life for us all and now as Romans 12:1 says - we can present ourselves as living sacrifices to God.

Journal

Before Christ died, a literal sacrifice (death) of an animal was required to atone for sin. Once Jesus died, all sin - past, present and future, for all mankind was forgiven. Death was no longer the punishment required for sin because Jesus paid the price once and for all.

Jesus gave Himself for all. How could we NOT give Him our all?

Reflect

- What area(s) in your life have you not fully given to God and why?
- What can you do today to give that to Him?

Prayer

Father God, you deserve all of me. Today I choose to surrender and give you those areas I've held onto because of fear, entitlement or pride. I thank you for the cross and that Jesus willingly gave all of Himself for me, that I might live and be in right relationship with you Father. Expose any areas I may not be aware of that I am holding onto. I choose today to give you all of me, that my life would glorify and honor you completely. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen

Day 3

Day 4 | Jan 8

Reset The Desires Of Your Heart

One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in his temple.

Psalm 27:4

Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

Psalm 37:4

“For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel.”

Ezra 7:10

Devotion

When it comes to setting our hearts in the proper place, there may be no better example (aside from 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). 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). He was supremely concerned about holiness and the purity of God's people (Ezra 9). He ultimately led God's people to repent like few other scenes we read in scripture (Ezra 10).

The point is that all of Ezra's success can be Biblically directed back to the place where he first set his heart. (Ezra 7:10) 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 today?
- 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. Amen

Day 5 | Jan 9
Lead Me In Righteousness

"You will make known to me the path of life; In your presence is fullness of joy; In your right hand there are pleasures forever."

Psalms 16:11

"But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."

Matthew 6:33

Devotion

Righteousness is the condition of being in right relationship with God, demonstrated through a life that aligns with His character, His will, and His standards. When we ask God to lead us in paths of righteousness, we choose to walk aligned to who He is, what He likes, and what He requires. How do we know who God is, what He likes and what He requires? It is all written for us in the Word of God. The Bible is our guide for life - our instruction manual that reflects the nature of God and who He is.

Much of the Church today is illiterate when it comes to knowing the Bible. We look to preachers to teach us, but never dig into it for ourselves. In order to be righteous - like God, we must know Him by studying His word. As we read the word, we can invite Holy Spirit to instruct and give us understanding of what is written. We must become students of God's word if we want to walk in righteousness.

We also grow in our knowledge of God by spending time with Him in prayer and worship. God desires to reveal himself to us, we simply must make time. Prayer should be a daily practice of talking to God but also listening to him. When was the last time you really sat and listened for God to speak to you? Did you write down or respond to what He said? Worship also allows us to experience God's presence in a tangible way. When we worship God (and it isn't always in the form of music), we invite his presence to invade the space we are in.

As our understanding of God grows, our desire to become like Him often increases. We begin to align our desires and actions to His. We become more like Him as we spend time with Him.

This season is about aligning our lives to the will of God and growing in our walk with Him. Making extra time for Him at the beginning of the year is vital to setting the course, but it must become a regular part of our ongoing routine

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as Christians. Just like a 21 day workout regiment is not effective if we quit on day 22, we must form new habits that keep us on the path of righteousness. We must regularly tune out the noise, so we can hear His still small voice and follow His path for our lives.

Reflect

- What practical things must you implement in your daily routine in order to be in right relationship with God?
- In what area(s) of your life have you not been walking in righteousness and why?
- What can you do to change that?

Prayer

Lord, will you open my eyes to see the areas of my life where I am not walking on the path of righteousness? Change my thoughts, desires and actions to align with who you are. I desire to be like you and to please your heart. I repent of my actions and ask for grace to grow that my life would please you God. Amen

Day 5

Day 6 | Jan 10

Be Strong In The Lord & In The Power Of His Might

*for you have been my refuge,
a strong tower against the
enemy.*

Psalm 61:3

*For you, O God, have heard
my vows; you have given me
the heritage of those who fear
your name.*

Psalm 61:5

*My eyes have seen the downfall
of my enemies; my ears have
heard the doom of my evil
assailants.*

Psalm 92:11

*Be strong in the Lord and in the
power of His might.*

Ephesians 6:10

Devotion

As we near the end of the first week of fasting, you may be tired (depending on what type of fast you've done). You may be wondering how you will be able to fast for two more weeks. It reminds us just how often in life we feel tired—physically, spiritually, or emotionally. We have so many things pulling at our time and making us tired. Our lists of daily tasks 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? We may find ourselves asking, “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.

In John 15:1-4, Jesus says, “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. This can be especially difficult when there are so many other things fighting to be at the top. The Bible is very clear though: if we are to bear fruit, we must stay connected to the vine. He will prune us 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. If we put God first and stay connected to Him, He will give us the strength and power to do the tasks He has set before us.

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 that 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. Amen.

Day 7 | Jan 11

Finding And Fulfilling Your Destiny

*...lead me in the way
everlasting!*

Psalm 139:24

*You gave a wide place for my
steps under me, and my feet
did not slip.*

Psalm 18:36

*The steps of a man are
established by the Lord,
when he delights in his way;*

Psalm 37:23

*Our heart has not turned back,
nor have our steps departed
from your way;*

Psalm 44:18

Devotion

One of the many challenges we face early on is to decide what we want to be in life or what we want to do with our lives. As children, we are often asked “what do you want to be when you grow up?” Underneath questions like this are unspoken pressures to **decide**. Then somewhere around your junior or senior year in high school, it becomes spoken with a deadline affixed. However, finding and fulfilling our destiny can only be done in God. It requires an effort on our part to seek Him for what He has in store for us. (Jer 29:11–13; Psalm 32:8–9; Prov 3:5–6)

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 as an encounter with the divine.

Jeremiah wrote that God has a plan for your life and when you seek Him, you will discover your destiny

(Jer 29:11–13). Moreover, you will find that His plan is far superior to yours.

Joseph found that holding on to the dream is tough when you face prison time and accusation. David saw that the words of the prophet can seem fade away when you find yourself hiding and living in caves. Joshua discovered that the wisdom and guidance imparted to you by your mentor can become a lonely place when he is gone. 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 then commit to follow His plan for us.

Reflect

- Where do you believe God is leading you right now?
- 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. Amen

Day 8 | Jan 12

Soul Surrender

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation.

Psalm 42:5

“For whoever wishes to save his life [soul in Greek] will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.”

Matthew 16:25

Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers. For I was very glad when brethren came and testified to your truth, that is, how you are walking in truth. I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.

3 John 1:2-4

Devotion

God created us, body, soul and spirit. Oftentimes as believers we focus on our spiritual walk with God, or learn how to care for our physical bodies, but we forget the third part of ourselves - the soul. Here, our mind, will and emotions often dictate how we perceive things and feel about them which affects the way we act and live.

When our souls aren't surrendered to God, we may try to control situations and people in our lives. Anxiety, fear or shame can affect how we think or feel, causing us to react and respond in ways not aligned to God's word.

The Scriptures above encourage us to surrender our souls to God's will, to be anchored and walk in truth, and to put our hope in God. When we live this way we aren't swayed by emotions or the circumstances we face. Our past does not dictate how

we respond and interact with God, because His truth does not change. We hold on to an unwavering faith in God who is the same yesterday, today and forever.

A surrendered soul trusts God no matter what we face because His perspective is outside of time and space. He sees the end from the beginning and knows what we need even before we do. Surrendered is a deep-seated place of trust in a faithful, unchanging God who works all things for our good. It allows our spirit man (who's in relationship with God) to dictate how we respond because we know He is in control.

Reflect

- Are you living with a surrendered soul and trusting God in every aspect of your life? If not, what areas are you not surrendered in?
- How can you become more surrendered in your soul during these Times of Refreshing and trust God more deeply?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Word that anchors our souls to Your truth. Thank you that you are trustworthy and as we walk in relationship with you, you give us supernatural peace and hope. God, we ask for a greater understanding of what it means to walk in Soul Surrender. Help us release whatever we are holding onto because of fear, anxiety or shame. May we surrender our thoughts, fears and emotions to you completely and learn to walk anchored to hope because we know you're in control of our lives and those we know and love. We choose to trust you today, in your powerful name. Amen

Day 9 | Jan 13

Family Matters

“One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.”

Psalm 145:4

“And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

Acts 16:31

“And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.”

Galatians 3:8

Devotion

God is a covenant-keeping God to all generations. He is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob who passes blessings on from one generation to another. As we see above, it is imperative that we talk to our children, nephews, nieces and grandchildren about what God has done in our lives and how He has proven himself faithful. These testimonies are essential to share in order that his blessings continue throughout our lineage. We must proactively communicate Biblical truths about who God is. It is our job to model important spiritual practices such as prayer and worship, reading the Bible, and interceding for others. In addition to modeling these disciplines, it's important to DO them together as a family and instruct them how to do it on their own.

Our culture is crowding out the importance of family time. Many families do not eat meals around the

table together each day—some not even all week. We've allowed sports and club participation to drive our schedules. We do not prioritize family time to connect and check in on one another and ask what God is doing or saying. This is essential to cultivating relationships with our kids and grandkids, nieces or nephews.

We must make time to be together as families to talk and teach them about spiritual truths. If we don't, we relinquish our responsibilities as parents/uncles, aunts to “raise up children in the way they should go” to secular systems and social media influencers who are not instilling godly principles, but self-seeking, godless principles that will confuse their identities and cause them to turn to other things rather than God.

We must take back our place as spiritual gatekeepers in our homes and teach the generations what faith-filled prayer looks like, how to live in obedience to God's word

and how to actively listen and participate with the Holy Spirit in our everyday lives. Let's start the new year with a renewed commitment to carve out time with our families and practice spiritual disciplines together.

Reflect

- What priorities need to shift in this season to create more family time?
- What do you need to adjust as a parent, aunt, uncle or grandparent to actively share what God is doing in your life to the next generation?
- What things can you do to help your children (or kids in our families) pray, read the Word or learn how to hear Holy Spirit's voice?

Prayer

Father, I pray for the next generation to know the reality of who you are and what you're like. I repent for allowing busyness to crowd out my responsibility as a parent, grandparent, aunt or uncle to pass on your truths to them. Help me to carve out time and prioritize spiritual disciplines in our home so they begin to encounter you for themselves. May we never grow tired of speaking of your amazing works. Amen

Day 10 | Jan 14

Kingdom Relationships

“Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?”

Amos 3:3

“In addition to all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity.”

Colossians 3:14

“Therefore be imitators of God as dear children. And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma.”

Ephesians 5:1-2

Devotion

The Christian life was never intended to be a solo journey of trying to do this all on our own. 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. (Acts 2:41-42) What we do each week in church is an expression of a shared belief in Jesus – His body, a community of faith that gains strength and courage through worship.

You see, everything in the Kingdom begins and ends in relationship.. A full and meaningful life following Jesus is built on much more than just one hour a week in church, it requires not only personal devotion but also 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 worshiping together is critical to becoming the people God desires for us to become.

Reflect

- Who is your family, your community of faith in the larger context of the church you attend?
- In what ways do you express love, acceptance, grace, and encouragement with them?
- What elements of prayer and worship are regularly missing from your time with them? Make a list.
- How do you intend to incorporate those things into these circles of relationships?

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. Amen

Day 11 | Jan 15
Recharge, Refresh, Refocus, Renew

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul."

Psalm 23:1-3

"Be still and know that I am God! I will be honored by every nation. I will be honored throughout the world."

Psalm 46:10

"The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

John 10:10

Devotion

So much of life feels like a battle. We fight for relationships, promotions, to make ends meet, and to just plain survive. But God hasn't called us as believers to simply survive. He has called us to live an abundant life. He's called us to walk in victory. Sometimes in order to do that, we must slow down, change our perspective and allow God to recalibrate our souls.

Psalm 23 says "he makes me lie down...", other translations say, "he lets me rest..." Rest is a requirement for taking care of our souls. We must rest. God created Sabbath rest so that we would stop and recuperate. We are not made to press forward 24/7 meeting deadlines and goals while burning out. God desires us to slow down, reflect and realize He is the only one in control of the things we care about.

Psalm 46:10 says "be still and know..." again the writer is telling us to stop and quiet ourselves in order to reflect. So often anxiety and worry creep in because we forget to stop and pray about the things that concern our hearts. Peace comes as we realize we cannot control the behavior of our teenager, or the way our friends think of us, or if our spouse will give us the attention we desire. A whispered prayer of "Help Father" is one of the most powerful prayers we can pray. A prayer of complete surrender, asking Him to intervene on behalf of the situation or person we are carrying.

As we surrender the cares of our hearts to His capable hands, we recalibrate our hearts and minds to His Lordship in our lives. We realize He is the shepherd who leads, guides and cares for every part of our lives. In surrender and stillness we acknowledge our complete need of God.

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

Heavenly Father, 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. Amen.

Day 12 | Jan 16
Preparing For The More

"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"

Luke 11:13

"You have crowned the year with your bounty, and your paths drip with fatness."

Psalms 65:11

Devotion

We often settle into a "less than" mindset even as believers. This comes from not understanding who we are in Christ. The moment we ask Jesus into our lives, we become sons and daughters of God. He desires to give good gifts to His kids - blessing our lives and pouring His favor on us. God's word said Jesus came to give us abundant life. Abundant literally means MORE than enough, overflowing in large quantities, plentiful. When was the last time you described your life as abundant?

As sons and daughters of God, we have full access to all of God's kingdom which includes healing and wholeness, freedom and joy, abundance and provision, restoration, peace, acceptance and love. We have access to ALL of God's blessings as sons (and daughters).

"Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us."

Ephesians 3:20

The enemy loves to convince us that we must earn God's love. He often deceives us much like he did Eve by maligning God's character. He convinces us we must "perform" or act a certain way in order to receive God's love or blessings. But inheritance doesn't cost us a thing. We step into the fullness of Christ and all that is His when we recognize who we are called to be. As Sons we are co-seated with Christ in heavenly places. The enemy has no power over us because Christ lives inside of us in the person of Holy Spirit. We have full access to God the Father and Jesus the Son through Him. He is all-knowing and our guide on how to live. When we walk in obedience to God, we gain greater access to all that He has purposed and planned for us.

What would happen this year if you began believing God for MORE? God gave the widow MORE oil when her supply was about to run out. Jesus took the 5 loaves, 2 fish and fed the 5000 and there was

MORE than enough left over. This is the same God we serve today and He desires to bring increase into every one of our lives! Let's be expectant this year of the miracles we need. Let's allow Holy Spirit to increase our faith and wait expecting Him to do exceedingly, abundantly far above all we could ask or imagine!

Reflect

- What are you believing God for MORE of this year?
- What obstacles do you need to overcome in order to walk in that blessing or favor?
- What can you declare over your life to increase your faith and begin to shift your mindset so you can receive God's blessing?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, the giver of all good things, help me believe you for MORE! Increase my faith in who you are and in your desire to bless me. Help me to walk in obedience to your will. Increase your favor on me God and allow me to step into all that you have purposed for my life. I choose to believe and wait to see all that you are going to do on my behalf this year. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen

Day 13 | Jan 17
Empowered By The Spirit

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 1:8

be filled with the Spirit

Ephesians 5:18

Devotion

Being empowered by the Holy Spirit implies a transformation of both heart and mind. This transformation is tied to our conscious awareness of the indwelling of the Spirit in our daily lives. (Rom 8:11-16)

John’s gospel records that the the Holy Spirit—‘the Comforter’—would not just be with us but in us forever! (John 14:16-17) One of our main goals in life, as followers of Christ, is to become aware of His Presence in our lives and focus less on our shortcomings and our inadequacies.

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 set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

Romans 8:5

This verse implies the reality of what Jesus came to accomplish. He became sin for us, (II Cor 5:20) dealt the death-blow to sin’s hold

on us, and now removed the residue of sin’s power. This is no less than Christ’s promise to us to live our lives empowered by the Spirit—no longer by the sinful passions of the flesh. This type of mindset on the flesh brings death, but the mindset on the Spirit is life and peace. (Rom 8:6)

The very work of the Spirit invokes the idea of cleansing, or purifying, by literally being the ‘Living Water’ flowing in power from within. (John 7:37-39; John 4:10-14; Isa 12:3) The book of Ephesians speaks of Christ and His bride: “that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word.” (Eph. 5:26; John 15:3)

The living water of the Spirit and living water of the Word are ever-present to do their work—we must simply say “yes” to His will and way in us and through us! (John 4:10; 14; John 7:37-39; John 15:3; Isa 59:21)

Jesus started the church the way He wanted it—empowered by the Spirit to carry out His word in all

the earth. His intentions for the church today haven't changed! (Acts 2:17-21)

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! Amen

Day 14 | Jan 18
Do You Need A Faith Lift?

"And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."

Hebrews 11:6

"And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

Luke 1:45

"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

Romans 10:17

Devotion

Many times, life's hurts and disappointments cause us to waiver in our faith. We look at God through these lenses instead of remaining steadfast in the knowledge that He never changes and He is always good. He is faithful, all powerful, all knowing and his purposes for us do not change. No matter what we experience or how we respond, His intentions for our lives are unwavering. Jeremiah 29:11 is a familiar passage that says, "For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." God's plans for us are good and for our good.

The conflict often occurs when our free will gets in the way. God has given us the gift of free will which allows us to make choices for our lives and future. Sometimes our decisions do not align with what God has planned and we get off track. When we are outside of God's

will, we can experience trials and pain causing our faith to decrease.

Here, at the beginning of the New Year, do you need a "faith lift"? Do you need to recognize again that God's dreams for you are greater than your own? That He has things in store for you that are "exceedingly, abundantly far above all you could ask or imagine"? His ways are higher than ours, and in this time of prayer and fasting, we must align our faith and our hearts to what God desires to do in and through us. We cannot settle for a sub-par faith because God is able to do the impossible. When we struggle, we can choose to focus on the mountain of problems we face or we can look to the One who is greater than every hard situation or circumstance we face. We cannot please God if we do not walk in faith. He is moved by our faith and desires to work in alignment with us when we stand firm.

Journal

Ask God today to increase your faith this year, to allow you to see above your circumstances and to grasp His purposes and plans for your life. That you would see Him for who He truly is—all powerful, all knowing and good. He desires to move on your behalf.

Reflect

- What can you do to partner with God to increase your faith this year?
- What problems, situations or circumstances do you need to surrender to God in order for your faith to increase?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, increase my faith in you this year. Allow me to see you for who you truly are. Shatter every box I have put you in and allow me to grasp the truth that you are the God of the impossible. I surrender every situation I am facing in this season and I trust that you will see me through. I believe that your promises for me are good and I trust you with my future. I want to walk in faith that I would please you. Increase my faith today, God—give me a “faith lift”, that I would honor you with my whole life. In your powerful name I pray. Amen.

Day 14

Day 15 | Jan 19

What Is On Your Mind?

"For as he thinks within himself, so he is."

Proverbs 23:7

"And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

Romans 12:2

"and that you are to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,"

Ephesians 4:23

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, think about these things."

Philippines - 4:8

Devotion

The Scriptures have a lot to say about our thoughts and the way we think. Because so much of what we think about and the way we think is tied to the direction of our words, actions, our thoughts, and our deeds. Thoughts create words, words create actions, actions form habits and habits form our character.

New York Times best selling author Craig Groeschel in his book *Winning The War In Your Mind* states that: "Our lives are always moving in the direction of our strongest thoughts." Therefore, the need to pay attention to what is on your mind and begin to challenge our assumptions of how we interpret the world around us becomes a matter of "thought" or "mind management." The whole idea of "critical thinking" and the

way we think even from a Biblical perspective seems to be a lost art in our current culture.

The whole idea of the "renewed mind" is crucial to our proving what God's will is. (See Rom 12:2) By challenging those things that are contrary to God's word, the process of transformation begins. The challenge is to replace worldly concepts, negative thoughts, and undisciplined thought patterns and not just accept them as normal. This process requires that we fill our minds with the truth of God's word and to establish a "mind set" that is set on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God - for we have the mind of Christ. (See Col 3:1-2; 1 Cor 2:9-16)

By using the "weapons of our warfare" we can change the way we think by taking every thought

captive [whether good or bad] unto the obedience of Jesus Christ. (See II Cor 3:3-6) Identify, challenge, and change!

Why not start this year with a fresh commitment to challenge those unruly thought patterns and renew your mind today. The journey begins now!

Reflect

- What is on your mind that you feel needs to change this year? Make a list.

- What are you allowing to dominate the way you think about yourself, God, others and the world around you? Make a list.

- On a scale of 1-10, how committed are you to change the way you think in 2026?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, you know my thoughts from afar. Help me to align my thoughts with Your thoughts and my ways with Your ways throughout all of 2026. Amen

Day 16 | Jan 20
The God Chasers

"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

"Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His face continually."

Psalms 105:4

"You will seek Me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart."

Jeremiah 29:13

"When You said, 'Seek my face', my heart said to You, 'Your face, O Lord, I shall seek.'"

Psalms 27:8

Devotion

God is looking for followers who will diligently seek Him. He rewards our pursuit of Him because He desires to be known by us. He longs for us to pursue Him with all we have. He invites us to know Him—to seek after him and to experience His presence in tangible ways. He rewards those who pursue His presence.

We often become distracted in our pursuit of God. We pursue programs and church services that make us feel good. We love to listen to sermons about God's blessing and favor. We become perfunctory in our pursuit of God, or fall into a trap of "using God" for what we need or want, rather than cultivating a genuine relationship with Him. Even good things keep us from pursuing God - serving the church or the poor - doing things for God, rather than being with Him.

God desires to encounter us in powerful ways. He wants to use us to bring real change in the earth - to bring aspects of heaven to the earth. In order to do that we must know God in a real way, not just know about Him. We must carry His heart for others, we must break out of religious duties and walk in step with His spirit day by day. God desires to break into our ordinary moments to encounter our hearts and move us to impact the world. He longs to use us to bring spiritual freedom to those who are bound, to bring His love to the lost and broken and to release healing to the sick and dying.

God hates lukewarm Christianity and is calling us to pursue Him with passion and zeal. David said in Psalms 27:4 - "One thing I have asked from the Lord, that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the

beauty of the Lord.” David was captivated by God and chased after God with his whole heart. He knew God in the mundane moments of herding sheep on the back hill way before he knew him in the palace. God desires us to be like David—a man chasing after God’s heart.

Reflect

- What is your current spiritual temperature in your pursuit of God and why?
- What is keeping you from chasing God wholeheartedly?
- What adjustments can you make in your routine to spend more time pursuing Him and His presence?

Prayer

God, I want to pursue you with my whole heart. I do not want to be lukewarm in my relationship with you, but I desire to know you and be known by you. Reveal the areas in my heart where I am going through the motions and maybe doing things for you rather than doing things with you. Increase my desire for you and your presence. Increase my sensitivity to hear your voice and respond to your invitation of intimacy. Jesus I love you and today I choose to wholeheartedly pursue you. In your name I pray, Amen.

Day 17 | Jan 21
A Recipe For Revival

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

2 Chronicles 7:14

Then we shall not turn back from you; give us life, and we will call upon your name! Restore us, O Lord God of hosts! Let your face shine, that we may be saved!

Psalms 80:18-19

Devotion

Scriptures like these are most often used in Christian circles to describe what happens when God's people heed the call to seek His face and pray.

Even though II Chronicles 7:14 is specifically addressing Israel, the passage shows God's heart for any people—any land. This includes the present condition of the church and our communities. The Psalm 80 passage referenced here also uses language that, when addressed to God in prayer, holds a promise of God coming in a fresh way. It speaks of God coming to restore and to revive so that His face (meaning "His Presence") would shine upon us once again. Experiencing revival happens on both a personal level and collectively, as the body of Christ—the church—or, in our case, Christian Community Church Ithaca.

The first directive is to humble ourselves. We must admit that God is God and we are not. This, too,

implies that we submit to God and come to Him in brokenness and repentance.

The second is to pray and seek God's face. History records that no revival or awakening comes without prayer—extensive prayer, fervent prayer, corporate prayer, continual prayer. We are to be 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 are to turn from our wicked ways. God wants obedience, not religious ceremonies. We cannot just say the words of repentance and pray the prayers of repentance without actually repenting. (Matt 3:8; II Cor 7:10) We cannot just say we're sorry, we must bring forth fruit in keeping with our 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.

Reflect

- During this time of prayer and fasting, have you humbled yourself before God?
- How will you continue having a humbled state before God when our 21 days of prayer and fasting end? Is there a practice you can commit to, such as kneeling before Him at the beginning of every day to recognize Who He is?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I pray for a marketplace revival to sweep through our community and for revival to break out in Your streets, in schools, government, business, media, entertainment, and congregations – especially in Your congregations as we are reflecting who You are. I ask, Lord, that You raise up dedicated Christians who will become a voice to reform our region and to make a difference in the lives of all who live here. Amen.

Day 18 | Jan 22
Believe God For The Impossible

“Jesus looked at them intently and said, with man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”

Matthew 19:26

“Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

Ephesians 3:20-21

Devotion

As humans, we often try to confine God to what we understand Him to be. Instead of believing that He is all-powerful, all-knowing, self-sufficient, and outside-of-time-and-space, we box Him into what we know and understand. The best we can do is imagine Him as some type of superhero with a combination of all the superpowers we can think of. However, the reality is that God is greater, bigger and more powerful than we can comprehend or imagine.

God has always existed and will always exist. He is self-sufficient, meaning He does not need anyone or anything to survive. Our finite brains can't comprehend these facts and while we say we “know God can do all things,” we might doubt this even if we believe it for everyone else. What we often lack is a true understanding of the character and nature of God.

Scripture says, “He works all things for our good.” So the delays we experience are for our good? The

promotion we didn't get was for our good? Yes! God is always working behind the scenes and if we trust him we can believe it's **all** for our good.

Matthew says with God all things are possible. We can choose to stare at the mountains we face or look to the God who created them. We can focus on our problems or we can stare at the One who can solve them. What we focus on will determine how we live. Will we walk in fear as we look at our finances or will we declare the favor of God over our income? Will we be offended by the friend who isn't talking to us or will we pray for the reconciliation of God to heal our relationship? Will we lash out at our spouse who isn't fulfilling our every need or thank God for the partner He has given us to walk with? We must believe in the One who is able to take care of all we care about.

In Mark 9:24, the father of the boy with the unclean spirit says to Jesus, “I believe. Help my unbelief.”

Spend time today asking God to help you in any area where you don't believe that He can intervene.

Reflect

- What mountain(s) are you facing that feels "too big for God"?
- What testimony do you already have where you have seen God move on your behalf?

Prayer

Father God, I know you are able to do the impossible, but I sometimes limit you because I am not sure you'll do it for me. I confess that this is unbelief and as your child, I trust you really are working all things for my good. Today, I declare that I believe, but ask you Holy Spirit to help my unbelief. I surrender my impossible situations to you and trust you. I declare you are the God of the impossible and that you will bring me through this in victory. Amen.

Day 19 | Jan 23
Prayer Changes Things!

“And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.”

Matthew 21:22

Devotion

Prayer is one of those subjects that requires a lifetime of learning.

In the context of Matthew 21 there are many lessons to be learned about prayer, most of which can be missed if one is not inclined to follow the cues.

In this chapter Jesus restored the order of the Temple (located in Jerusalem) by driving out the money changers—He made this declaration: “My house should be called a house of prayer.” (Matt 21:13)

The Temple at that time was the most sacred place on earth according to Jewish tradition. It was known as a place of worship, sacrifice, and prayer. In God’s eyes it was never to be a place of commerce and trade. (II Chron 7:1-22)

On their way out of the city that day, Jesus being, hungry from His journey, comes to a fig tree having no leaves and no fruit. The hidden lesson embedded in the story is He is looking for fruitfulness. Finding no fruit He cursed the fig tree and His disciples heard it. (Matt 21:18) Later we find out that in response to His words the fig tree

had withered immediately that day from the roots up. (Matt 21:18-19)

As they had passed by that same area the next day, they came to the withered fig tree. The disciples questioned Jesus as to how such a thing like this could have happened. Their thoughts may have been: “In one day the fig tree had completely dried up and died. How is that?” (Matt 21:18-19) He spoke, the tree died, His disciples heard it, and they saw it with their own eyes. It could only be one thing: His words transcend time and space and believing prayer changes things!

Reflect

- Make your house, (your temple) a house of prayer—I Cor 3:16; Matt 21:13 Commit yourself today!
- Get rid of anything that might hinder your petitions; worry, doubt, unbelief etc.
- Have faith in God—which means having the God kind of faith—Matt 21:21; Mark 11:23; Heb 11:6; Rom 10:17; Heb 6:12 Learn to persevere in faith!
- Speak to your mountain—release your faith with your words and petitions—Matt 21:20-22; Phil 4:5-6
- Be clear in your request—know what you are asking for—I John 5:13-15; Matt 6:10
- Use your “in Christ” authority position properly—Matt 21:23; Eph 2:18; Eph 3:12; Heb 4:16; Luke 10:19

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I come before you now as your child. I ask for a greater understanding of what prayer is and how I can pray more effectively this year. Help me to use my authority as a believer in Christ and to boldly pray the prayers that will bring change on the earth according to your will. Amen.

Day 20 | Jan 24
Develop Your Spiritual Senses

“Your ears will hear a word behind you, “This is the way, walk in it,” whenever you turn to the right or to the left.”
Isaiah 30:21

“But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.”

Hebrews 5:14

Devotion

As we approach our devotional reading for today, let us be mindful of the fact that prayer was never intended to be a one-sided conversation. Rather, prayer is an invitation to participate with God about things that He may want to add or bring into the conversation. Asking God for direction—either for ourselves or for those things that we are praying for—could be asking the Lord to intervene, or to step into whatever we are praying about. “Your kingdom come, Your will be done,” is our most common and effective request. (Matt 6:10)

Once a petition like this has been released, we should always remain open in prayer. Expect the Lord to speak to you with even greater prayer clarity. Pray those things that you receive from the Lord into the situation you are praying for. (Ps 5:3; Isa 65:24)

One of the ways to remain open in prayer is to begin to pay attention to some of the subtle things that seem to capture your attention as you go through your day.

Sometimes you may need a level of increased curiosity which, when pursued, leads you to find out what the Lord may be wanting to say. Those seemingly unimportant things may just be the very things that God wants to show you and speak to you about. There may be a hidden lesson in them—not hidden from us but intended for us to find. (Mark 4:11)

A good example of this is when Moses finds the burning bush. The Scriptures tell us that as Moses became aware that the bush was burning and was not consumed. He turned aside to investigate. Something moved him from the inside and he gave the burning bush his attention. Then as he moved closer, the Lord called out to him from the midst of the bush. (Exo 3:1-6)

It began with Moses becoming curious about something that captured his attention.

Reflect

- What are some of the ways that you are sensing the Lord may be speaking to you?
- In what ways are you able to recognize the Lord's leading and direction? Be specific.
- What are some of the distractions that you may need to avoid to get better at discerning Gods' ways?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, help me to recognize Your leading, and direction as I develop the spiritual senses that you have given me. May I hear Your voice and follow. Amen

Day 21 | Jan 25
Find Your Boiling Point

“not lagging behind in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, devoted to prayer;”

Romans 12:11-12

Devotion

Research shows that water only boils at 212°F when at sea level. Any change in atmospheric pressure or elevation can alter the temperature at which water boils. As hot as 211°F may be, water still won't boil until it reaches that 212°F threshold. Keep that in mind, reread the verses in Romans above, and think about how this applies to our daily lives this year.

In this chapter, the apostle Paul begins to describe what life in the Spirit looks like. He shows this in the context of being placed or connected to the many other members of the body of Christ. (Rom 12:4-7)

The entire chapter seems to be packed with behavioral directives that are driven by values—particularly in those verses. Values are a set of deeply-held beliefs or convictions that are Word-centered, and described as clear, Holy-Spirit-derived outcomes of our faith. (Romans 12:9-21 starting with the word “love” in verse 9 and ending with “do not be overcome with evil” in verse 21)

Paul's advice here suggests to us all as followers of Christ today that we should be sure that we make every effort not to shrink back to a former place in the kingdom (“not lagging behind in diligence” Rom 12:11). We should instead be fervent in spirit—serving the Lord, rejoicing in hope, persevering in tribulation, and by all means devoted to prayer (Rom 12:12).

The phrase “to be fervent in spirit” here implies an increase in our spiritual fervency—literally to be at the boiling point in our commitment to follow Christ. The whole idea can be summed up in a commitment of oneself to a faithful, whole-hearted pursuit of all that is Christ. There is no half-way in when it comes to Jesus. It's Christ **in** all, **for** all, and **to** all.

The notion here suggests that we should not give into the temptations of thinking: “I've done enough,” “I've given enough,” “I have served enough,” and/or “I have prayed enough.” All of these thoughts will cause us to lose focus and fall short of God's best for our lives. Devote yourself to a new level of fervency this year and watch what happens!

Reflect

- On a scale of 1-10 what is your current level of spiritual fervency in serving the Lord?
- What are you willing to do to change that to a solid 10 or more?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, I desire to be at the boiling point in my commitment of serving You. Help me to know what this new level of commitment may require. May my hunger for Your word and my thirst for Your Spirit increase in every area of my life this year. Amen

Additional Resources

Daily Prayer Focus

For each of these 21 days, we want to be sure to focus our prayers on certain topics to help us to get started as we pray. Once mentioned or covered you can move on to other related prayer topics as the Holy Spirit directs. Please be sure to incorporate the Scriptures into your prayers to add authority, direction, and clarity as you pray. Although not limited to these only, these will serve as a starting point as we pray.

Monday: Businesses

Tuesday: Families (Turnaround Tuesday*)

Wednesday: Government

Thursday: Students and Education

Friday: Pastors and Leaders

of CCC Ithaca , Board of Directors & Apostolic Overseers

Saturday: Entertainment, Arts & Media

Sunday: The Church (at large)

*Turnaround Tuesday is focused prayer for wayward sons and daughters to turn back to Jesus.

Additional Prayer Focuses

Not focused on a particular day like the topics above, these are some other areas that you may want to focus on during your daily prayers. Feel free to include them as the Holy Spirit directs.

Revival

The Harvest

The Poor

The Elderly

The Fatherless

Law enforcement

Economic issues

Pastors and Leaders

A Year of REACH:

Local, Regional, National, & International

As part of our SATURATE this year, we want to focus our prayers on Local, Regional, National, and

International issues as we anticipate the Lord to move in a sovereign way across our region and world!

Locally

Pray for our local communities of Central NY, Tompkins County & Ithaca.

Awakening, Revival, and Renewal for our churches,

schools, governments, business communities, personal economic recovery, a down-turn in crime, violence, drugs and for a mighty harvest that is ready to be reached!

Regionally

Ask the Lord to move powerfully upon the state of New York as a continuation of our prophetic journey!

CCC Ithaca has a major part in what the Lord is doing in this region. PRAY!

Nationally

The issues facing our country today puts us in a unique position to pray and to affect change in our current and future realities. There is always a need to stand in the gap and pray for our nation. Petitions for heart-

felt repentance across the board are needed; Requests for unity and God's order to be restored in our government institutions; in our streets; our schools; our homes and in our churches!

Internationally

CCC Ithaca has a global presence in a good number of nations. Our international mission partners and churches in each of these locations are on the frontlines in strategic hotspots for the Gospel today.

Ask the Lord to bring forth a bountiful harvest of righteousness in each of these locations and more in places like: Jerusalem, South Africa, Cuba, Jamaica, Scotland, China, India, Thailand, Myanmar and Singapore.

In Each of These Locations, We Pray For:

Workers - Matthew 9:37-38; John 4:35-38

Open Doors - Colossians 4:2-3; I Corinthians 16:9; Revelation 3:8

Fruit - John 15:8, & 16; John 13:35

Finance - Philippians 4:19; Haggai 2:9; Luke 12:32

The Harvest! - Mark 4:29; Joel 3:13; Revelation 14:15; John 4:35

Resources

Quick Reference Scripture Guide

The following are a few Scriptures that you can use when praying for each of our related topics each week.

Families: Eph. 5:1-2; Psalm 112:1-10; Deut. 6:6-7; I Cor. 1:10; Josh. 24:15; Acts 16:31; I Kings 8:57; Exd. 20:12; Prov.6:20; Eph. 3:15; Prov. 17:6; Eph. 5:25; Eph.5:22; Eph.6:4

Businesses: Deut. 8:18; I Chron. 12:32; Neh.6:9; Prov. 15:22; Prov. 16:3&9, Prov.15:21; Prov. 20:18; I Cor. 12:4-6; Eph. 2:10; Exd. 31:3-5; Exd.35:10; Colo.3:23; Prov.14:23; Mark 8:36; Luke 12:15

Government: Psalm 135:6; Psalm 22:28; Prov.21:1, Dan.2:21; Prov.19:21; Prov.12:1, Dan.4:35; Psalm 29:10; Dan.2:44; Rom.13:1; Acts 17:24; I Peter 2:15-17; Psalm 33:12; Titus 3:1; I Peter 2:13; Acts 5:29; Gen.50:20; Rom.8:28; Psalm 75:7; Prov.29:2, Isaiah 46:10; Job 42:2; I Tim.2:1-2.

Education: Acts 7:22; Eccl.12:12; Dan.1:17; Colo. 1:28; Psalm 119:99; I Cor. 3:19; Colo.2:3; Prov. 9:10; Psalm 32:9; Eccl. 7:12; Isaiah 54:13; Prov.1:5; I Cor. 1:26; Prov. 16:16; John 7:15-16; Prov. 22:6; Prov.16:22; Prov. 9:9; Prov.4:7

Students: I Peter 2:9; Deut.31:6; Jer.29:11; Psalms 78:4-7; Phil. 4:13; Isaiah 40:29-31, Isaiah 54:13; II Chron.16:9; I Tim.4:12; Matt.22:37; I Cor.16:9; I John 2:14; Psalm 119:11; Psalm 119:105; Matt.5:8;

I Cor.10:13; Exd. 20:12; Gal.6:9; Isaiah 41:10; Rom.15:13; Matt.11:28-30; Psalm 144:12-14; Joel 2:28-29

Entertainment, Arts & Media: Eph.2:2; Eph.6:11; II Cor.2:11; II Cor.10:3-5; II Cor.4:3-4; I Cor.2:14; I Cor.10:11-13; II Tim.3:1-5; I John 2:15-17; Rom.8:7; Jer.17:9; Matt.24:37-39; Rom.13:11-14; Phil.4:8; Heb.3:12-13; James 1:14-15; I Peter 1:13-16; Psalm 90:12; Hosea 4:6; Amos 5:15; Matt.7:13-14; Mark 7:21; Luke 21:36; John 8:32; Rom.12:2; II Cor. 11:14; Gal.5:17; Eph.5:15-17

The Church: Matt.16:18-20; Eph. 1:22; Eph.2:20-22; Eph.4:11-13; Rom.8:31; I Cor.2:9-10; Gal.6:9; Phil.1:6; Phil.2:13; I Thes.5:24; II Tim.1:7; Heb.10:36; Isaiah 55:8-9; Isaiah 40:31; Luke 18:27; Eph.4:1-3; II Chron.7:14-15; Rom.14:19; Heb.10:24-25; Rom.12:5; Eph.4:1-3

Prayers for the HEALTH of the church:

Power: Acts 1:1-14; 2:1-13; 3:7-41
Community: Acts 2:42-47; Acts 4:32-35

Boldness: Acts 1:8; 4:13; 23-31;

May we be filled with the Spirit's POWER. May we experience true COMMUNITY. May we proclaim or share Christ in BOLDNESS.

Prayers for the MISSION of the church:

Holistic: Acts 6:1-7

Merciful: Acts 7:54-59; James 2:12-13

Life-Giving: Acts 3:6; 5:12; 9:36-43

Reconcilers: Acts 10:1-34; II

Corinthians 5:17-21

May we be HOLISTIC in our approach. May we be MERCIFUL where there is hatred. May we be RECONCILERS where there is division. May we be LIFE-GIVING where there is hopelessness.

Prayers for the FUTURE of the church:

Surrendered: Acts 12:1-17

Sent: Acts 1:8; Acts 8:4; 13:1-3

Salvation: Acts 4:12; Acts 16:25-34

May a continual AWE of Him be our motivation. May MULTIPLICATION send us on mission everywhere. May His SALVATION reach every person!

Five Basic Steps/Stages For Effective Intercession:

To help make our prayer times more meaningful and productive, please consider the following five steps or stages to go through each day.

Adoration: Adoration begins by aligning yourself with our Source of Hope at the start of each day's prayer topics. Approach God by telling Him just how wonderful He is and begin to thank Him for His amazing goodness.

Repent: Once you have aligned yourself with Who God is - there may be some things that are standing in the way of our receiving the Lord's full promise during each day of TOR this year. Whatever that might be, quickly repent and put it to rest under the blood of Jesus. (See I John 1:9) This may require some Holy Spirit follow throughs or directives to obey.

Intercession: With a renewed sense of grace and forgiveness this type of intercession is simply asking for the Lord's kingdom to come and for His will to be done in each of the areas that we are seeking God for each day. (See Matt . 6:10) Be bold in faith, ask big prayers and let your request be made known unto God in full assurance of His answers to our prayers.

Meditation: Going deeper still! During each of your prayer times, you may find yourself slowing down a bit to meditate on the Scriptures (to think more deeply upon that which you have read) for each of these prayer topics. The insight here may prove to be a more meaningful time of prayer, intercession and Bible reading. Pray in the Spirit and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you.

Activation: The activation part of our ToR 2026 journey is meant to move us towards putting what we are receiving from the Lord into practice on a daily basis. Activation requires not just being hearers of the word but doers thereof. (See James 1:22-25)



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