



New Song
Community Church

Prayer with Fasting

Info for Week of Prayer with Fasting, July 2022

What might happen if we seek God through Prayer and Fasting with all our hearts, souls, minds and strength?

What might NOT happen if we don't?

Theme scripture for the week of prayer with fasting:

“the only thing that counts is faith working through love.”

Galatians 5:6b (NRSV)

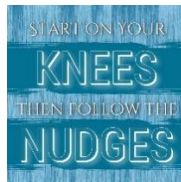
Fasting is not about ritual or earning points; it's about love for God and people. Fasting expresses love for God by looking to Him instead of food, cooperating with Him in His work to make a difference in peoples' lives.

Fasting ...

- giving up food to focus on God MORE than normal
- accepting God's invitation for deeper relationship, not a religious ritual
- about intimacy and alignment with God, not earning points with God
- a spiritual experience using physical food that allows God to work in ways not otherwise possible.
- bigger than us - about God working through us to benefit others

Prepare for the Week of Prayer with Fasting

- ➔ ASK God HOW and WHEN He wants you to fast, then listen and obey
- ➔ PLAN: schedule unhurried, uninterrupted time with God
- ➔ COMMIT to participate in the all-church Prayer Gathering, Wednesday



During the Week of Prayer with Fasting ...

- † PRIORITYZE your daily appointment with God – start with **surrender** and **praise**, then focus on **conversation** with God
- † Live in conversation throughout the day – KNEES and NUDGES
- † PRAY the Fasting Prayer each time you want food: “Lord, I love You more than food. What do You want to say?” Then listen.
- † REDUCE noise – pull back from things that pull in the wrong direction
- † DOUBLE DOWN when it gets hard – call a friend, refocus, remember

***What might happen if we seek God through Prayer and Fasting?
What might NOT happen if we don't?***

➔ Prayer Requests as you fast

1. Individually - Ask God what He wants you to specifically pray for.

2. Pray for “us” – your church family and beyond... That we become and make more and better disciples of Christ. Out of the theme scripture, Pastor Herb senses 3 words. Pray for them as you sense God lead.

“the only thing that counts is faith working through love.”

- ➔ **“Mission”** – that God will lead us to reach the lost & disciple Christians.
- ➔ **“Truth”** – that God will reveal more and more what is real and true.
- ➔ **“Love”** – that God will lead us to live love as Jesus did.

† Pray for Pastor Herb and one another as God leads.

Types of Fasting

- Normal/Juice Fast - abstaining from all food and consuming only water and some juices.
- Daniel Fast - a biblically based partial fast from all foods except fruits, vegetables and nuts, drinking only water.
- Partial Fast - any type of a) giving up some specific foods or b) giving up all foods at designated times.
- Combination/Rotational - using a variety of any of the above.

Times of Fasting

- Week-long Fast – all day, all seven days
- Several Days Fast – all day on certain days
- Partial Day Fast – specific meals every day or certain days

Prepare for Your Fast

Prepare Your Spirit: refuse dread, choose to expect Jesus will work. The rewards far, far, far outweigh the sacrifice.

Prepare Your Body: ease off foods that cause cravings such as sugar, caffeine, junk food and Do not binge before or after.

Keep the Gems of Your Fast

Expect insights, lessons, instructions, assurances, and more during fasting and prayer. OBEY whatever He says. Then hold on to what you gained by writing them down and, more importantly, putting them into practice.

***What might happen if we seek God through Prayer and Fasting?
What might NOT happen if we don't?***