



REACHING PEOPLE.
CHANGING LIVES.
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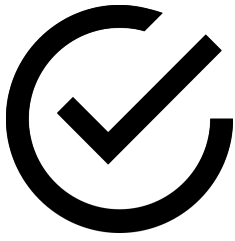
DAYS OF PRAISE

JANUARY 10 - APRIL 10

DEVOTIONALS

WEEK 4





30 MINUTES OF PRAYER
30 MINUTES OF READING THE WORD
30 MINUTES OF WORSHIP / PRESENCE / REST

DAY 22

MONDAY

For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline. 2Timothy 1:7 (NLT)

Fear is flesh opposing faith, ignoring opportunity, and placing confidence in the perception of self and not obeying the instruction of God. Don't let fear rule your passage in life, but let faith become the race you run into your destiny. There you will find the wind of His Spirit blowing behind you instead of blowing against you. Favor will always pursue your faith.

What is the Challenge of this verse?

How can you apply this to your life?

What will you work to change?

Prayer





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DAY23

TUESDAY

'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.' Acts 17:28 (NIV)

What most of us consider "living life" is just a vain pursuit of happiness. Only when we understand that life is the reflection of the relationship we have with Jesus do we live satisfied.

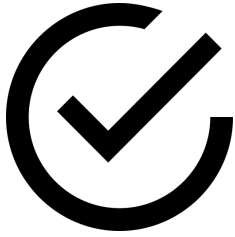
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Prayer





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DAY24

WEDNESDAY

Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, "We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it." But the men who had gone up with him said, "We can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are."
Numbers 13:30-31 (NIV)

You will only seize the opportunities your beliefs allow you to see.

What is the Challenge of this verse?

How can you apply this to your life?

What will you work to change?

Prayer





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DAY25

THURSDAY

My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.
Psalm 51:17 (NIV)

I'm not a broken man but choose to exist in a condition of brokenness; aware that the pride of my heart is defiant and resistant to the heart of God.

What is the Challenge of this verse?

How can you apply this to your life?

What will you work to change?

Prayer





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DAY26

FRIDAY

Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)

God orchestrates the events that order our steps.

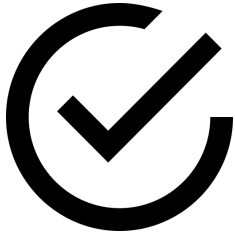
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DAY27

SATURDAY

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.
Romans 12 :14-16

One of the greatest tests of a growing character is learning to celebrate the advancements of those who have contributed to your set backs.

What is the Challenge of this verse?

How can you apply this to your life?

What will you work to change?

Prayer





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DAY28

SUNDAY

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" Romans 10:14-15 (NIV)

Who's your Kingdom assignment today? There is at least one person God has appointed your life to touch and reach with His love that will reset its course to discover Him in a life changing way. Do not be so distracted with the issues of life that you miss your mission today. We are changing a city by reaching lives, by touching lives with love.

What is the Challenge of this verse?

How can you apply this to your life?

What will you work to change?

Prayer

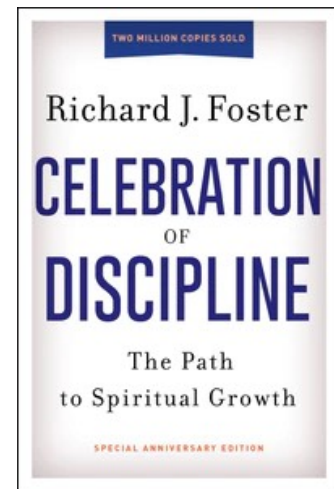


CHALLENGE FOR THIS WEEK:

Continue **FASTING** for one whole day this week, sun up to sundown, specific meals or even something more intense based on your abilities. As you fast, pray for Montclair Tabernacle and ask God to continue to speak to our church and to do a new work in us.

Truths about fasting: (Celebration of Discipline)

It is sobering to realize that the very first statement Jesus made about fasting dealt with the question of motive (Matt. 6:16–18). To use good things to our own ends is always the sign of false religion. How easy it is to take something like fasting and try to use it to get God to do what we want. At times there is such stress upon the blessings and benefits of fasting that we would be tempted to believe that with a little fast we could have the world, including God, eating out of our hand.



Fasting must forever center on God. It must be God-initiated and God-ordained. Like the prophetess Anna, we need to be “worshiping with fasting” (Luke 2:37). Every other purpose must be subservient to God; like that apostolic band at Antioch, “fasting” and “worshiping the Lord” must be said in the same breath (Acts 13:2). C. H. Spurgeon wrote, “Our seasons of fasting and prayer at the tabernacle have been high days indeed; never has heaven’s gate stood wider; never have our hearts been nearer the central glory.”

God questioned the people in Zechariah’s day, “When ye fasted... did ye at all fast unto me, even to me?” (Zech. 7:5). If our fasting is not unto God, we have failed. Physical benefits, success in prayer, the ending with power, spiritual insights—these must never replace God as the center of our fasting. John Wesley declared, “First, let [fasting] be done unto the Lord with our eye singly fixed on him. Let our intention herein be this, and this alone, to glorify our Father which is in heaven.” That is the only way we will be saved from loving the blessing more than the blesser.

Once the primary purpose is firmly fixed in our hearts, we are at liberty to understand that there are also secondary purposes in fasting. More than any other single discipline, fasting reveals the things that control us. This is a wonderful benefit to the true disciple who longs to be transformed into the image of Jesus Christ. We cover up what is inside us with food and



other good things, but in fasting, these things surface. If pride Controls us, it will be revealed almost immediately. David said, "I humbled my soul with fasting" (Ps. 69:10). Anger, bitterness, jealousy, strife, fear—if they are within us, they will surface during fasting. At first we will rationalize that our anger is due to our hunger; then we know that we are angry because the spirit of anger is within us. We can rejoice in this knowledge because we know that healing is available through the power of Christ.

Fasting helps us keep our balance in life. How easily we begin to allow nonessentials to take precedence in our lives. How quickly we crave things we do not need—until we are enslaved by them. Paul wrote, "'All things are lawful for me,' but I will not be enslaved by anything" (1 Cor. 6:12). Our human cravings and desires are like a river that tends to overflow its banks; fasting helps keep them in their proper channel. "I pummel my body and subdue it," said Paul (1 Cor. 9:27). Likewise, David wrote, "I afflicted myself with fasting" (Ps. 35:13). That is discipline and discipline brings freedom.

Numerous people have written on the many other values of fasting such as increased effectiveness in intercessory prayer, guidance in decisions, increased concentration, deliverance for those in spiritual bondage, physical well-being, revelations, and so on. In this, as in all matters, we can expect God to reward those who diligently seek him.

