

DEVOTIONAL GUIDE JANUARY 6-26, 2025

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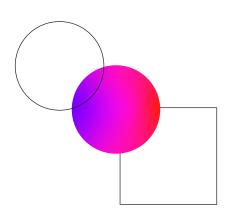
Welcome!

As we embark on a new year at **Bethany Church**, we want to make it a priority to seek God first in prayer and fasting. We do this collectively as a church through **21 Days of Prayer & Fasting**. Together, we faithfully seek God first, trusting His power alone to create a lasting impact in our lives.

This resource is designed to help you walk with our church for the next 21 days. We encourage you to use this booklet as a prompt to journal any **thoughts**, **dreams**, and **prayers** God lays on your heart.

Thank you for partnering with our church as we **seek God intentionally** for the next **21 days!**

Week 1:



Praising!

Something incredibly significant happens when we choose to praise the Lord. In Psalm 100:4, the psalmist instructs us to "Enter his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise." Whenever we come into the Lord's presence, we should come with a heart of praise. Take a moment and think of all the endless reasons to give our Lord praise. He's our deliverer, He's our healer, He's our loving Father, He's the King of Kings and Lord of all. He loves it when we praise him. Not only does the Lord love to hear our praise, but amazing things can happen when we praise Him. There are examples throughout the Bible when God's people praised Him, it released them from chains, it caused brick walls to fall, and some were protected from the fiery furnace!

Praise changes our perspective from looking at our problems to **looking at our mighty God**. As we begin this **first week of** 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting, **let praise fill your heart!**

January 6, 2025

1

SOAP: Luke 13-14

John 1:14 **"The Word became**

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."

Daily Reflection:

January 7, 2025

2

SOAP: Luke 15-16

Gratitude

I Thessalonians 5:18
"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Daily Reflection:

January 8, 2025

3

SOAP: Luke 17-18

John 5:30

"By myself I can do nothing; I judge only as I hear, and my judgment is just, for I seek not to please myself but him who sent me."

	Daily Reflection	bn:

January 9, 2025



SOAP: Luke 19-20

Authenticity

Ephesians 4:25

"Therefore, each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body."

Daily Reflection:

January 10, 2025

5

SOAP: Luke 21-22

John 10:3-4

"The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice."

Daily Reflection:

January 11, 2025

6

SOAP: Luke 23-24

Colossians 1:16-17

"For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together."

Daily Reflection:

January 12, 2025

7

SOAP: Acts 1-2

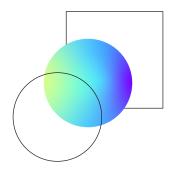
Creative & Worship Team

Psalm 150:1-2

"Praise the Lord.
Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens. Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his surpassing greatness."

Daily Reflection:

Week 2:



Favor!

The theme for our second week of 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting is favor. What does it mean to have God's favor? How do we walk in God's favor? Favor is a blessing or gift from God, it's not earned. It can be characterized as His divine kindness. We receive God's favor when we live our life surrendered to Jesus, fully trust Him, and walk in obedience to His Word. It is God's favor to grant us forgiveness and eternal life. Not only can we walk in God's favor, but we can have favor from the people around us. Here are some biblical examples of those who had God's favor and favor with people: Joseph had God's favor throughout his many trials, Ruth had favor with Boaz, Esther had favor from her king, David found favor with the Lord, and Jesus found favor with God and with people. Favor with God and with people is what the early church experienced during the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

Favor is something we can ask the Lord for as we begin our second week of 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting. January 13, 2025



SOAP: Acts 3-4

Psalm 90:17

"May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish the work of our hands for us yes, establish the work of our hands."

Daily Reflection:

January 14, 2025



SOAP: Acts 5-6

John 17:20-21

Jesus' prayer for all believers: "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."

Daily Reflection:

January 15, 2025

10

SOAP: Acts 7-8

Romans 15:13
"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Daily Reflection:

January 16, 2025

11

SOAP: Acts 9-10

Acts 2:17

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams."

Daily Reflection:

January 17, 2025

12

SOAP: Acts 11-12

Acts 4:31

"After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly."

Daily Reflection:

January 18, 2025

13

SOAP: Acts 13-14

Acts 20:27-28

"For I have not hesitated to proclaim to you the whole will of God. Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood."

Daily Reflection:

January 19, 2025

14

SOAP: Acts 15-16

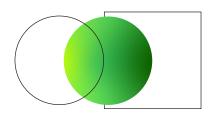
Deacons, Elders, & Leaders

Acts 6:6-7

"They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith."

Daily Reflection:

Week 3:



Daily Saved!

Our theme for the third week of 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting is seeing people daily saved. This must be our heart cry and passion to see the lost found because this is our Father's heart and passion. Jesus' instructions to His followers in Matthew 28:19 is to "go and make disciples..." These words were not just suggestions, but a command. As we pray and fast this week, who do you know that's far from God? Write their name down below. Commit to praying for them daily. Ask Him to send laborers into that person's path. We know according to James 5:16 "The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." Our prayers are vital to seeing those daily saved.

	CON	IMIT	TO	PRA	YING	DAILY	FOR:
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January 20, 2025

15

SOAP: Acts 17-18

Acts 8:4

"Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there. When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all paid close attention to what he said."

Daily Reflection:

January 21, 2025

16

SOAP: Acts 19-20

2 Corinthians 9:11
"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."

Daily Reflection:

January 22, 2025

17

SOAP: Acts 21-22

Acts 9:17-18

"Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord—Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here—has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized..."

January 23, 2025

18

SOAP: Acts 23-24

Perescuted Church & International Crises

I Peter 4:12-14

"Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you."

Daily Reflection:

January 24, 2025

19

SOAP: Acts 25-26

Acts 13:2-3

"While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off."

Daily Reflection:

January 25, 2025

20

SOAP: Acts 27-28

Acts 16:9-10

"During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them."

Daily Reflection:

January 26, 2025

21

SOAP: 1 John 1-2

Acts 17:22-24

"Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship—and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands."

Daily nellection.

What is Prayer & Fasting?

A GUIDE TO 21 DAYS

PRAYER

Here are a few ways you can begin a powerful and personal daily prayer time with God.

1. PICK A TIME AND PLACE

We can pray anytime, anywhere. We encourage you to pray spontaneously, but we don't need to leave prayer up to spontaneity. Pick a consistent time when you can be alone with God.

2. LISTEN BEFORE YOU SPEAK

Prayer is a conversation. Just as God speaks to us through the Bible, He is listening when we pray. When you sit down to pray, let God have the first word.

3. PRIORITIZE THE SPIRITUAL

We should spend as much time praying for our souls, for the salvation of our loved ones and for the spread of the gospel as we do praying about anything else.

4. ASK FOR ANYTHING

Jesus invites us to keep asking, interceding and praying. God knows what's best for you, and He's listening, so don't be afraid to pray and ask Him for anything!

BIBLE READING GUIDE

Bible reading and personal devotions are foundational parts of these 21 days. Choosing a spot and even a specific place where you will seek God every day is important. If you miss a few days, it is usually not advisable to try to catch up - simply pick up at the next reading. The key is to stay with it and not give up. A great, simple way to journal as you read the Bible is to use the SOAP method.

SOAP stands for:

SCRIPTURE - Read prayerfully. Take note which scripture(s) catches your attention and mark it in your Bible.

OBSERVATION - Focusing on that scripture, tune in and listen to what God is saying to you through His Word. Ask the Holy Spirit to be your guide and show you what God issaying.

APPLICATION - Think of how this verse(s) applies to your life right now. Use your journal to write how this scripture applies to you today.

PRAYER - Wrap up your SOAP time in prayer and talk to God about what you've just read.

FASTING

The goal of fasting is to draw nearer to God. Biblical fasting always has to do with eliminating distractions for a spiritual purpose; it hits the reset button of our soul and renews us from the inside out.

Do not let what you eat or do not eat become the focus of your fast. Your personal fast should present a level of challenge to it, but it's very important to know your own body and follow what the Holy Spirit leads you to do. Keep the main thing the main thing, which is drawing closer to God.

TYPES OF FASTS

COMPLETE FAST - In this type of fast, you eliminate all solid foods and drink only liquids (typically water and light juices). Complete fasts should only be done after consulting with your doctor.

SELECTIVE FAST - This type of fast involves removing certain elements from your diet. One example of a selective fast is the Daniel Fast, during which you eat only fruits/vegetables and drink only water. Another example would be choosing to eliminate one or more specific types of foods from your diet (e.g. red meat, processed/fast food, sugar, etc.).

INTERMITTENT FAST -

This fast involves abstaining from eating any type of food for certain portions of the day. This can correlate to specific times of the day (such as from sunup to sundown) or specific meals. It is recommended that you eat a light meal(s) during the other portions of the day.

ACTIVITY FAST - This fast involves abstaining from a regular activity or habit, such as television, social media, news/talk radio, secular music, recreational shopping, secular books/magazines, etc. An activity fast can also be done in combination with any type of dietary fast.

Acts 2:47

"Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."



ONE DYNAMIC CHURCH. MULTIPLE LOCATIONS.

WYCKOFF - WASHINGTON TWP - WANAOUF - PARSIPPANY - UNION - PATERSON - ON INF