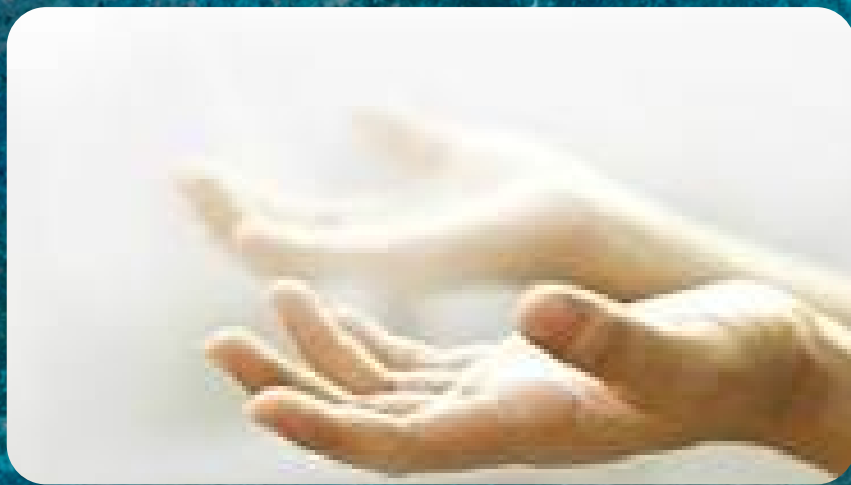


# **21** DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING

**8-28 September 2023**



**One person fasting is powerful. It will affect that individual.**

**But when a group of people begin to fast, it is multiplied strength and power.**



# Seek His Face

*Psalm 27:8 (NKJV) When You said, "Seek My face,"  
My heart said to You, "Your face, Lord, I will seek."*

Fasting is not about twisting the arm of God to answer our prayers. It's about aligning our hearts to His. He already knows all of our needs.

Our first priority is to seek His face. In Psalm 27:8, God was inviting the Psalmist to seek His face and he responded, "Your face, Lord, I will seek".

To seek the face of God is to come before Him and simply seek His presence.

Let us come and seek His face. Not His blessings, not for breakthroughs, just Him and Him alone.

## **Prayer**

Lord, I say to you, "Your face, Lord, I will seek". Give me a fresh hunger and thirst for you.





# Worship

*Psalm 103:7 He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel.*

*Psalm 24:5-6 He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.*

*Psalm 105:4 Look to the Lord and His strength, seek His face always.*

God's hand is important for it is the hand of protection and pleasure (Psalm 16:8,11), the hand of power (Psalm 89:13) etc. But the Word of God instructs us to seek His face, not His hand.

One of the ways to seek the Lord is to adore and worship Him. To worship Him in the sanctuary together with other believers, but more importantly in our secret place. In these few short verses, the Psalmist repeatedly said, "I will praise you". As we fast, let's spend time to praise and adore Him.

## **Prayer**

Lord, help me to seek you earnestly and diligently. I worship and adore you.





# Desire

*Psalm 42:1-2 As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?*

To seek God diligently is not a task, a routine for the Psalmist. It was a real desperation. Here he describes his longing for God as a deer that pants for the streams of water. Imagine a deer running through the woods, literally dying of thirst. Frantically searching for a stream to drink from. Water is life. The Psalmist was expressing how he so desperately needs God, that he could not live another moment without the presence of God. Such desperation invites the attention of God. Deep calls to the deep (Psalm 42:7).

During this season of prayer and fasting, may God deepen our hunger and desire for Him. May our hunger and desire for God be much more than the hunger and desire for worldly things. As Jesus said, "men shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God".

## **Prayer**

Father, I pray for a fresh hunger and desire to seek you and to study your word.





# Repentance

*2 Chronicles 7:14 Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins and restore their land.*

2 Chronicles 7:14 exhorts us to seek His face as well as to turn from our wicked ways. Repentance is a change of mind, a turning away from our own ways of living and turn to God. Sin is a big barrier when we try to draw near to God, to seek God's face. Some believers want closeness with the Father but feel unworthy because they have not fully grasp the love and forgiveness available to them. Others come from the opposite direction. They believe they can sin at will, and their sins will have no effect on their relationship with the Father.

The Good News is that Christ has paid for our sins. There is a simple plan for our sins and it does not involve shame, guilt or condemnation. It is as simple as confession, repentance and forgiveness.

## **Prayer**

Lord, I bring my life into submission to you. Help me to align my heart attitudes, my desires, my dreams, and my agenda to your will and your kingdom agenda. I resist every work of darkness in my life, my thinking, my emotions, my family and my children, and command it to go completely.





# Humility

*2 Chronicles 7:14 Then if my people who are called by my name will humble themselves...*

It starts by humbling ourselves. David prayed, "Yet when they were ill, I put on sackcloth and humbled myself with fasting." (Psalm 35:13). Ezra needed to cross a dangerous territory with a large group of people and little children. So he said, "I proclaim a fast there at the River of Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God" (Ezra 8:21). Fasting is one of the ways that we express our humility before God. It is our "body language" to God, to indicate how serious we are to seek Him and to hear His voice, and to know and obey His will.

## **Prayer**

Father, forgive me for my pride. I humble myself before you and ask that you will pour out your strength and grace upon my life.





# Seek His Word

*Matthew 4:4 Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"*

Jesus fasted in the wilderness when he was tempted by the Devil. Yet Jesus responded, "Men shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God". What had Jesus heard just before that time of fasting? Matthew 3:17, "And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my son, whom I love, in whom I am well pleased". Those words sustained him when his identity and significance were questioned by the Devil.

When we fast, we are telling God that we desire Him more than food. That indeed, His word is more important than bread.

To seek the face of God is to know Him intimately. The Word of God reveals His character and His heart to us. Meditate and journal on His word today. During this time of prayer and fasting, let us feed on His Word. Let His word sustain us.

## **Prayer**

Lord, help me to be like Mary and choose what is more needful. Help me to return to you with all my heart.





# Build an altar

*Genesis 28:17-19 He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven." Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz.*

Jacob built an altar in Bethel. An altar is a place of interaction with God. It is a portal into the spiritual dimension. Here, Jacob had a vision of angels going up and down a stairway from heaven. He realized it was a gate of heaven.

An altar is built through consistency. Jacob's grandfather built the altar there years ago and Jacob now revisited the place. Through consistency, a portal is opened up even in that geographical location.

We can build an altar in our individual life, in our family and in our church through consistently coming into that place and time to meet with God. For example, praying consistently at a certain time in the morning in our living room, etc.

## **Prayer**

Father, I pray that during this 21 days of breakthrough prayer and fasting, help me to build an altar of prayer in my family.

