

BEGINNING WITH GOD

FOUNTAIN of The Living Word Church

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s the New Year begins the Church has dedicated the month of January to prayer and fasting. To make this possible we have put together this guide for a time of fervent prayer and fasting. The purpose of prayer is for God's Will to be established here on earth and, in our lives. Prayer has always been about God's Will (1 John 5:14-15). In devoting ourselves to prayer, you must singularly endeavor to prepare yourself for God's perfect will to be done in your life, in the church and here on earth. We have to pray in order to receive God's desires for us in 2022, and for our joy to be full.

HOW DO I START PRAYING?

Be anxious for nothing (Phiilippians 4:6). Do not pray anxious prayers. Find the Scripture that promises you what you are praying for. In John 15:7, Jesus said, "If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you" (NKJV). Get ready to approach God as your loving Father who gave His Son to save the world with a promise of eternal life, for you.

Remember all the benefits of the Cross based on Hislove for you (1 John 4:9); His Grace (Titus 2:11); and His Mercy (Psalm 107:1): "Oh, give thanks to the LORD, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever." (Psalm 136):

- Thank God for the privilege of being His child, with unhindered access to Him.
- Thank the Lord for washing away your sins and healing your body by His Blood and the protecting power in His grace over your life.
- Thank Him for the freedom and the purchase of your soul with His own life.
- Thank God for divine empowerment to do all things through the strength that Jesus supplies.
- Thank Him for divine provision and innumerable blessings of heaven
- Thank Him for making us heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ Jesus. (You are now ready to make your requests known to Him)

HERE ARE A FEW PRAYER POINTS TO GUIDE YOU

- 1. **Pray for your eyes of understanding to be opened**: I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you, the riches of His glorious inheritance in His holy people. (Ephesians 1:18)
- 2. **Pray for strategic wisdom in your life**: If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him (James 1:5)
- 3. **Pray for the knowledge of His will in your life**: We have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His Will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding (Col 1:9)
- 4. Pray to be rooted and grounded in the love of Christ: Eph 3:17-19
- 5. Pray for healing of your body: He himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by His wounds you have been healed (1 Peter 2:24)

PRAYING AND FASTING FOR 2022

Prayer should not be a ritual, but a real time of fellowship with the Trinity: the Father, the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit. This starts on the first night of 2022 at the cross-over service, to usher in the New Year. Please make it a priority to be in that service. Fasting starts Sunday, January 2 and ends Monday, January 31. Ask the Lord for strength and utterance (Zech 10:1). Members of the Church are expected to spend at least one hour a day with the LORD throughout the entire month. Remember the admonition in Jude 1:20 (TPT) "But you my delightfully loved friends, constantly and progressively build yourself up on the foundation of your most holy faith by Praying every moment in the Holy Spirit"

hile worshiping God, do not just take a laundry list to Him; rather, take your love and thanksgiving to Him. Rather, give Him high quality sacrifice of praise. Spend time to minister to the LORD. (Heb 13:15).

- 1). Spend time in the word and meditate on those Scriptures on which you base your prayers and faith. Always find Scriptures that promise you what you are praying about. (John15:7).
- 2). Make definite requests not a generic prayer. Ask in such specific terms that when the answer comes you can identify it. If for instance you are asking for blessing...question will be, "what particular blessing?". God wants to know exactly what you want Him to do for you. (Matthew 20:9-33).
- 3). "When do I stop asking?" Stop when you have inward peace that the answer has been granted.
- 4). Switch to thanksgiving and do not waver. You pray *until you have that inward assurance* that the answer has come; then stop asking and start praising God. Let your 'yea be yea'... If you believe He has answered you, then remain steadfast, giving glory and honor to His name, until you testify, (James 1: 6-7).

FASTING

asting is not a payment for what God gives. We always receive freely as the Bible says; there are no specific instructions in the Bible on how long to fast or how many meals to skip. We see that people miss meals during their fasting but there is no instruction in the Bible from the Old Testament to the New on how long a fast should last or how many meals to miss. Therefore it is up to you and the Holy Spirit on how you want to fast. We do not recommend fasting for:

- Pregnant Mothers
- Infants and children under the age of 13 (there are child abuse laws and we are commanded to obey those in authority).
- Mothers who are breast-feeding.
- Those using medication; they should please consult their doctors as to how to fast without aggravating their situation.

ong fasts must be done only if the LORD GIVES THAT INSTRUCTION; never fast on presumption. Fasting does not change God, for God does not change. Fasting does not take the place of Jesus Christ as the only way to God. Fasting does not eliminate the need to pray in Jesus name because only faith in Christ opens the door to Heaven; His name alone has authority and recognition in heaven. We come to God trusting in the Blood of the Lamb and the Name of Jesus and, not in our good works and holiness.

John 14:6 (NLT) - Jesus told him,
"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. No one can
come to the Father except through Me"

Once again, remember to pray to the Father in the name of Jesus ... Tell God what you need, and thank him for all He has done. "Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus" Philippians 4:7 (NLT)

IF YOU NEED FURTHER HELP: LIKE FINDING APPROPRIATE SCRIPTURES TO USE OR FURTHER CLARIFICATION, KINDLY REACH THE PRAYER MINISTRY TEAM ON: <u>E-mail</u>: prayer@ftlw.org <u>Tel:</u> (862) 253-985

