

BOOKLET

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ntroduction

Dear Acts Church partners,

Welcome to U-Turn 2023!

This U-Turn, we are rallying our church to grow deeper in holiness through a time of intentional consecration with 21 Days of fast and prayer. Hebrews 12:14 commands us to "Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord." And, our Lord Jesus Christ taught us in The Beatitudes, Matthew 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.". Our desire for all our partners is to see God in this 21 Days through a personal and powerful encounter with Him, as we grow in holiness.

It is time to humble ourselves and turn to God with all our hearts (2 Chronicles 7:14). He promised us that if we were to diligently seek Him, He will be found (Proverbs 8:17).

Have a blessed and breakthrough-filled U-Turn!

Prayer Board

A Simple Guide to Fasting

As you come into 21 days of prayer and fast, here are some guides on the following pages. Jump to:

How to **Enjoy the** 21 Days

How to Fast

How to Involve **Others**

What to Pray for



A DAILY APPOINTMENT WITH JESUS

Jesus longs for us, His Bride, to come to His side (Song of Solomon 2:10).

As we spend time and abide in Him,

- We bear Fruit (John 15:4)
- We find our Way out of difficulties (Hebrews 4:16)
- We find the Truth that sets us free (John 8:32)
- We find Life out of what has died (John 14:6)



A DAILY HEART OF THANKSGIVING

- Rise up with Thanksgiving and Praise each day (1 Thessalonians 5:18)
- Have a Prophetic and an Eagle's perspective of each situation, whether personal or national.
- Let the Holy Spirit birth prayers that flow from the Father's will.



A DAILY COMMITMENT TO PRAY

- Jesus is the Answer for our Nation's needs.
- He is the Solution to our struggles with sickness, relationships, financial problems, etc.
- As we pray daily, may His life, purity, power, compassion and forgiveness be poured out on His people at every level of our society (John 10:10).



A DAILY OBEDIENCE TO ACT

Faith without action is DEAD (James 2:17, 20).

- Act to break the lethargy of inaction!
- Move with passion and creativity to obey the Spirit's prompting.
- Be conductors of God's Power and Love to those around us.

HOW to Enjoy the 21 Days

Set aside significant time to seek God in prayer and fasting. It may be half-anhour or one hour. During that special time, spend time in Worship and Word.

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting

How to Fast

How to Involve **Others**

What to Pray for

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: How to Enjoy the 21 Days



WORSHIP HIM

Sing to the Lord OR sing along to your favourite worship songs.

READ ALOUD THE WORD

—according to the passages assigned for each day in this devotional.

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: How to Enjoy the 21 Days



PRAY THE WORD

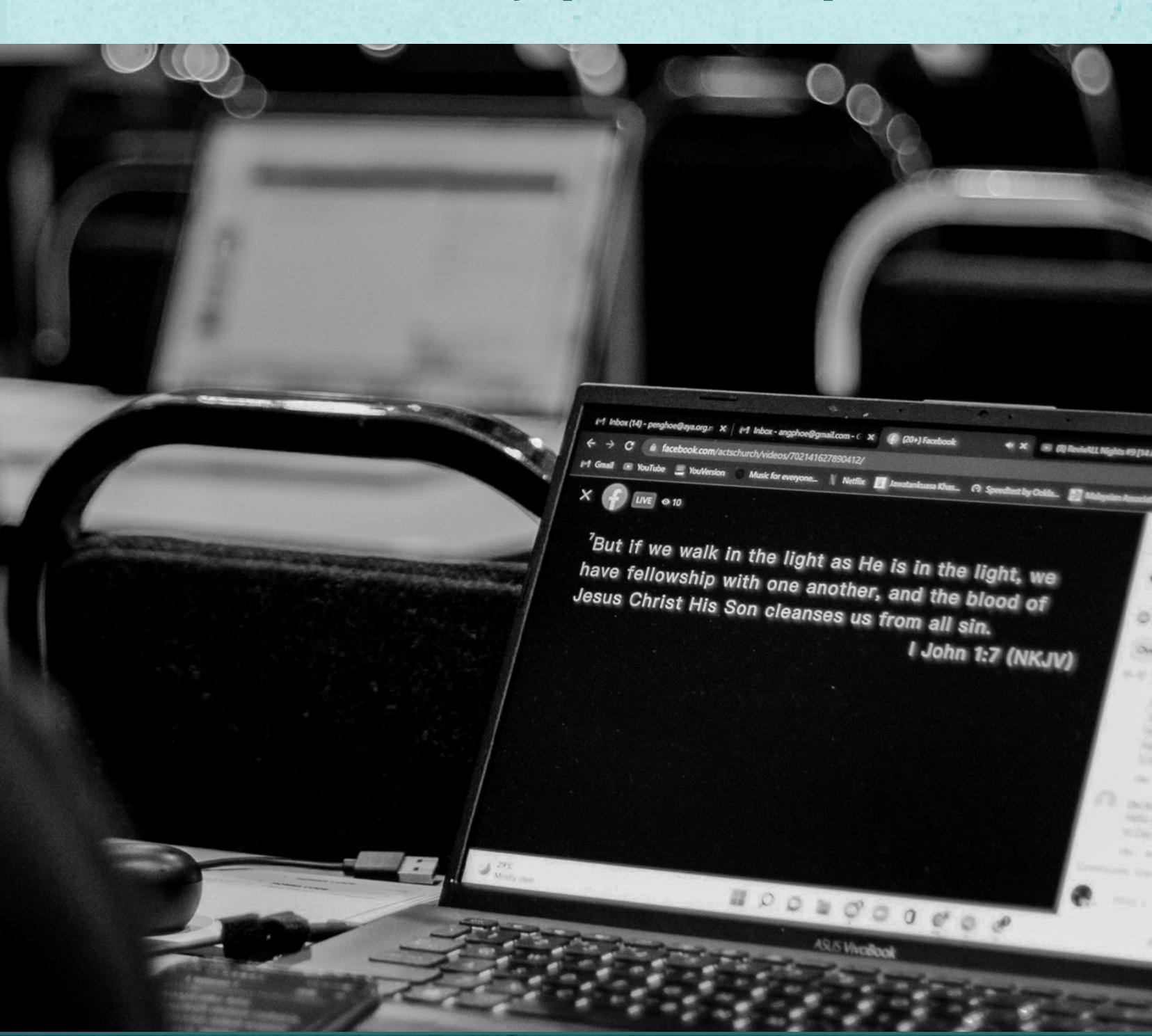
Arise in faith, and in the authority of Jesus' Name, claim the promise and power of His Word which is alive and active!

ADOPT AN ATTITUDE OF PRAYER

-as you go about each day's duties at home, at work or at school. Apply what you learn from the Word into tangible action.

Devotions

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: How to Enjoy the 21 Days



SCALE DOWN YOUR NORMAL ACTIVITIES

Slow down so that you can spend time in prayer & waiting upon the Lord. You can also opt to lessen/fast from media usage, e.g. TV, games, social media.

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: How to Fast

How to Fast

Deciding what to abstain from is one of the choices you must make when preparing to fast.

The other is about the type of fast you will undertake.

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting

How to Enjoy the 21 Days

How to Involve Others

What to Pray for

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: **How to Fast**

A Simple Guide to Fasting



Total Fast

Abstain from solid food for 24 hours. Take only water.



Partial Fast

Abstain from solid food for any extended part of the day. e.g. Sunrise to sundown. Take only water.



One Meal Fast

Sacrifice one full meal a day. e.g. Breakfast, lunch or dinner.



Daniel Fast

Abstain from meat and other favourite delicacies. Take only small portions of fresh vegetables, fruits and juices.

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: How to Involve Others

HOW to Involve Others

For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them. (Matthew 18:20)

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting

How to **Enjoy the** 21 Days

How to Fast

What to Pray for

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: **How to Involve Others**



FAMILY

Agree to fast and pray as a family. Decide on the type of fast every member of your household is comfortable with. For family devotion, read and pray the Word given for the day.

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: How to Involve Others



HOMES

Fasting together as a Homes is easier than doing it alone. Choose a specific type of fast. Schedule a specific time each day for each member to synchronize prayer as he / she fasts. Yearn for personal and national revival. Cry for God's visitation in your Homes, Acts Church and the community.

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: How to Involve Others



REVO GROUPS

Inspire a few members of Acts in your work area, campuses or schools to fast and pray with you. For example, utilize tea breaks or lunch breaks, recess breaks to fast and pray through prayer items together.

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: What to Pray for

Mat to Pray for

The next page will list a suggested area you can pray for concerning your personal breakthroughs, missions, evangelism, church and nation.

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting

How to Enjoy the 21 Days

How to Fast

How to Involve **Others**

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: What to Pray for



PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

- Regular quiet time & prayer life.
- Personal habits & character development.
- Family life, studies, career, relationships, health, ministry...



EVANGELISM & MISSIONS

- Salvation of family members and friends.
- God's favour as we invite friends and family to church.
- International church plants Iskandar, Singapore, Bekasi, Karawaci, Chiang Mai, Yangon, Osaka, Melbourne, Gaborone, Mochudi, Pretoria, London, Bristol, Edinburgh, and the planting of Acts Germany.
- Revival among Age Groups across church to reach the lost...
- Rural development programme outreach.

A Simple Guide to Prayer & Fasting: What to Pray for



CHURCH

- For God's presence & anointing.
- SPO, Board of Elders, Pastors.
- Homes Leaders, Dream
 Team Leaders, Revo Group
 Coordinators; for new leaders to rise up.
- Local church plants Subang Jaya, Cyberjaya, Nilai, Petaling Jaya, Ampang, Cheras, Klang, Semenyih, Kota Kemuning, Bandar Utama and Seri Kembangan.



NATION

- Government: Pray for leaders of the nation.
- Country: Recovery from the pandemic, health of the economy social justice system, freedom of religion.
- Righteousness to prevail in the nation.
- Revival for the nation of Malaysia.



21-DAY PRAYER & FAST 18TH MARCH - 7TH APRIL 2023



Week 1: 18 March -24 March

Week 2: 25 March -31 March

Week 3: 1 April -7 April

Week 1: 18 March - 24 March

Day 1: 18 March

Day 2: 19 March

Day 3: 20 March

Day 4: 21 March

Day 5: 22 March

Day 6: 23 March

Day 7: 24 March

Jump to:

Week 2: 25 March -31 March

Week 3: 1 April -7 April

Day 1

Scripture of the Day **Exodus 15:11**

18 March

Short Devotion

Today's verse marks the crescendo of the Song of Moses, an ancient hymn that celebrated God splitting the seas to provide safe passage for the children of Israel out of Egypt and then causing the waters to close back on the enemies pursuing them. But the song was also a reintroduction of God's character to the Israelites, who have lived too long in a pagan society and have had their ideas of God polluted by other gods.

Moses declares that no other gods or power can even compare or come close to being anything like the Lord, and one thing so unique about Him is that His holiness is glorious and majestic.

As we start this season of prayer and fasting, let us draw near to God in repentance and humility, for our God is Holy. But like Moses, let us also see the divine purity of God as something beautiful to be desired and not a burden to be feared.

Day 1

Scripture of the Day **Exodus 15:11**

18 March

Reflective Questions

Have we allowed other idols and powers in our life (money, fame, fear, ambition, desires ...etc) to colour our perception of who God is, and affect our ability to trust Him?

Declarative Prayer

O Lord! God of our Salvation. There is none like You. You are glorious in holiness, and we are in awe of Your wonder. Forgive us for the times we have neglected Your ways or despised Your standards. Forgive us when we allow other idols and loves in our lives to dethrone You in our heart. Give us a new heart that loves and rejoices over holiness. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

To have a deeper desire for devotion, prayer and reading the Word of God

WEEK

W

Week 1

Day 2

Scripture of the Day 1 Samuel 2:2

March

Short Devotion

Hannah was an aggrieved and bitter woman, for her desire to have a child had not been granted by the Lord. Despite facing ridicule and depression, she went to the house of God yearly to pray for a child.

Desperate, she made a vow to the Lord, that if God would give her a child, she would dedicate him unto the Lord. It came to pass, by His grace, that God answered her prayers. When the time came, she went to the temple to dedicate her son to the Lord. Then she said her prayer from 1 Samuel 2:1-10.

v2 "There is none Holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God..."

Hannah was praising God with her voice for despite her sufferings and persecution, she experienced God's shelter.

Day 2

Scripture of the Day 1 Samuel 2:2

March

Short Devotion

A rock is figuratively a place of refuge. Man's refuge is limited, but refuge in God will weather any storm. None compares to God's holiness, righteousness, and sovereignty. Indeed, in all things God works for the good of all those who love Him (Romans 8:28).

Reflective Questions

Is there a desire in your heart that God has yet to answer? Will you offer what you desire unto the Lord just like Hannah did with her son?

Day 2

Scripture of the Day 1 Samuel 2:2

March

Declarative Prayer

Father, I ask that You grant the desires of my heart. May my desires be pleasing unto You and my heart be wholly after You.

You are never late, never early, and Your grace is more than enough for me. Help me Lord, with my unbelief and to fix my eyes on You. For there indeed is none like You, my refuge and strong tower. May I always give you the glory. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

To have a deeper desire for devotion, prayer and reading the Word of God

Day 3

Scripture of the Day Isaiah 57:15

20 March

Short Devotion

We often forget that Holiness is God's name and character as declared in today's scripture. This can lead us to have an unbalanced view of God, choosing to only focus on His love and grace in our everyday lives.

Yes, God absolutely loves us as His children, but there is also a condition that He requires of His children and that is we must have a contrite and humble spirit. This means having a brokenness within us where we realise that we truly need Him. A spiritual posture of repentance-choosing to turn away from our sinful ways and acknowledging that we are unable to do anything without the leading of His Holy Spirit.

And as we learn to humble ourselves before Him, God promises to bring revival to our spirits and to our hearts. The outcome of this is that we begin to experience a spiritualawakeningwherebywearerestored, refreshed, and renewed for His purposes in our lives.

Day 3

Scripture of the Day Isaiah 57:15

20 March

Reflective Questions

What can you do to draw closer to our Holy God and cultivate a humble heart?

Declarative Prayer

Father God, help me to remember that Your holiness requires me to have a posture of repentance and humility at all times. Show me the ways in which I have turned away from you and teach me to be totally dependent on You in every area of my life. May I begin to see and experience revival not only in my own life but also in the community that I am a part of. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Partners desire to be discipled and to disciple others.

Day 4

Scripture of the Day Revelations 15:4

21 March

Short Devotion

When combined with Revelations 15:3, this song resembles the song that the Israelites sang after crossing the red sea.

When we declare that God is Holy, we are saying that God is totally and utterly unique and unlike any other. In short, it means that God is in a league of His own. A level that is unreachable by any other being in this universe. When we start to understand this, we start to grasp why He should be feared and glorified.

The writer here understood that God is like no other and that is why they proclaimed that all nations shall worship Him once they come to know Him. When you fully grasp who God is, it is impossible not to worship Him.

At the time, the judgement in the verse most probably refers to the destruction of the Egyptian army who were swept away by the Red Sea just after the Israelites had crossed it safely. This judgement could be a good reminder of the consequences of choosing not to follow God.

Day 4

Scripture of the Day Revelations 15:4

21 March

Reflective Questions

If asked to describe why God is Holy, how would you put it in words?

Declarative Prayer

Thank You God for today. I pray that You will allow me to truly grasp how holy You are. I pray that I won't take You for granted, and that I will love talking to You every day. May I be able to glorify Your name, not just with words but with my actions as well. Help me to be more in tune with Your Holy Spirit and to always put You first ahead of all my earthly desires. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Every partner grows in their efforts to be a witness.

Day 5

Scripture of the Day Leviticus 11:45

22 March

Short Devotion

God says we should be Holy like He is. This is not a suggestion but a command not to be taken lightly.

As followers of Christ, we need to conduct ourselves in a worthy manner that represents well all that God stands for. He is a Holy God, blameless and with no fault, therefore, when we strive to be more like Jesus, remember that we should also strive for holiness.

As you read this verse during this U-Turn, remember where God has rescued you from. And while we can never repay him for the price He paid when He died on the cross for us, the least we could do is live holy lives in honour of His sacrifice.

Day 5

Scripture of the Day Leviticus 11:45

22 March

Reflective Questions

What areas of your life need to be more like Jesus?

Declarative Prayer

Thank You Lord, for loving me in my inequities. Create in me a clean and pure heart that I may live according to Your word and will. Teach me to live my life in ways that please You and give me a deep desire to live a holy life. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Outreach and discipling opportunities for Acts Osaka.

Day 6

Scripture of the Day Proverbs 9:10

23 March

Short Devotion

We all need wisdom and clarity in our lives. And today's verse informs us that true wisdom and insight comes from knowing and fearing God. But what does it actually mean to know and fear God?

A healthy fear of God stems from a place of intimacy. When we love God so much that we have a deep appreciation of His character (e.g. His holiness). We see so much benefit in His ways that we want our lives to be compatible with His character and pleasing in His eyes.

This fear is not debilitating or destructive, instead it leads us into deeper reverence, humility, and submission towards God.

In our current age, where the distinction between right and wrong is becoming increasingly obscure and muddled, we must remember to fear God and seek discernment from Him in our everyday decisions. Let us be holy, just as God is holy.

Day 6

Scripture of the Day Proverbs 9:10

23 March

Reflective Questions

What practical steps can you take daily to know God more and see the fear of the Lord as a good thing?

Declarative Prayer

Father God, thank You for You are holy and good. Holy Spirit, teach me to delight in the fear of the Lord always. Give me the wisdom to discern what is acceptable and pleasing in Your eyes so that I may live a life of holiness. May I grow to know You and love You more every day of my life. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Discipling and raising radical disciples in Acts UK -London, Bristol and Edinburgh.

Day 7

Scripture of the Day 1 Chronicles 16:29

24 March

Short Devotion

Have you heard the story about the 10 lepers who met Jesus?

In Luke 17:11-19, the Bible tells us they were outcasts who stood afar off. They cried out to Jesus, and He healed and sent them on their way. But the story doesn't end there - only one of them returned to Jesus, giving Him glory for all He had done and Jesus asks him, "Where are the other nine?"

While we may not identify with leprosy, oftentimes, we cry out to Jesus in our desperate conditions and He does come through. He provides, He heals, He saves, He sets us free, and He can do so much more!

Yet, let's not stop at the miracles! May we truly recognise Jesus for who He really is - not just what He has done. As we do so, we will find ourselves longing for Him, setting ourselves apart, giving Him all glory that's due to Him, again and again!

Day 7

Scripture of the Day 1 Chronicles 16:29

24 March

Reflective Questions

When was the last time you shared a testimony and gave Him glory? Find 10 reasons to give Him praise!

Declarative Prayer

Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for Your unfailing love and mercy towards us. Help me to come to You not just when I'm facing a problem, but to come to You in praise knowing You make all things work together for our good! We give You all the glory because You alone deserve it! In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Growth and discipleship in Acts Botswana and Acts Pretoria.

Week 2: 25 March - 31 March

Day 8: 25 March

Day 9: 26 March

Day 10: 27 March

Day 11: 28 March

Day 12: 29 March

Day 13: 30 March

Day 14: 31 March

Jump to:

Week 1: 18 March -24 March

Week 3: 1 April -7 April

Day 8

Scripture of the Day Romans 12:1

25 March

Short Devotion

The Christian life is a surrendered life.

The Apostle Paul challenged the Christians in Rome that although they have the free will to choose what they want to do, it is only reasonable that they pick up their cross daily as an act of worship to God.

He emphasises that sacrificial living should be a natural response to the forgiveness of sin and God's gift of eternal life. Paul tells his brethren to present their bodies as a living sacrifice, showing them that this is the path to maturity in the faith. A mature believer is not someone who is more learned but more submitted.

Since the presentation of animal sacrifices was a way to please God in the Old Testament, Paul is now pleading with his brethren to please God in a better way. By bringing their whole life (spirit, mind, and soul) into alignment with the image of the Son and the character of Christ.

Day 8

Scripture of the Day Romans 12:1

25 March

Reflective Questions

What are some of the things the Lord is telling you that needs to be sacrificed at the altar of obedience?

Declarative Prayer

Lord Jesus, I pray against the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. Make me reject them as they are not from the Father in Heaven. I declare a life of total surrender to the Most High God. Amen.

Prayer Point

Reaching of campus students and families for Acts Melbourne.

Day 9

Scripture of the Day Psalm 96:9

26 March

Short Devotion

We don't often associate beauty with holiness. In this context, beauty is not about the external or what we humans understand as beautiful. Instead, it's what God defines as beautiful. God's holiness has a wonderful and distinct beauty about it. It is beautiful that God is God. And that He is not like Man. It is a beautiful thing to be loved by a Holy God.

But what if we fall short of that holiness? How can we lift our face before God? Will He receive our worship? Here's the beauty of it all: Jesus Christ has made it possible! True worshippers are worshippers who worship in spirit and in truth, and the Father is seeking for that kind of worshipper (John 4:23).

The truth is we are often not good enough, but the truth is also that Jesus has died to cover our sin. Therefore, let's come before God with the knowledge that He is our Redeemer! More of Him and less of us!

Day 9

Scripture of the Day Psalm 96:9

26 March

Reflective Questions

What does true worship look like to you?

Declarative Prayer

Father God, I pray that every time we come before You, we will learn to worship You in the beauty of Your holiness. That it will always be less of us and more of You. Thank You that Jesus has made a way for us to come before You! Help us be that true worshipper that You seek. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Connecting and reaching new people at Acts Bekasi and Acts Karawaci.

Day 10

Scripture of the Day Psalm 103:1-5

March

Short Devotion

When someone has done a good thing for us, we would naturally thank and praise that person. Like what David wrote in the Psalms, God has been good to us. He loves us so much that even though we deserve to be condemned for our sins, He chose to forgive us. He shows compassion to us, heals us of our diseases, and satisfies us with good things.

Even though we may go through trials and tribulations, we can still trust that God will work all things for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purposes.

In light of His goodness and mercy, let us choose to bless His name who is worthy to be praised.

Day 10

Scripture of the Day Psalm 103:1-5

March

Reflective Questions

What are the good things that God has done in your life? List 3 of them down and spend some time thanking Him today.

Declarative Prayer

Father, I thank You so much for Your goodness over my life. Thank You for crowning me with Your love and tender mercies each day. Thank You that through the blood of Christ, I have been forgiven and my sins are washed clean. Thank You that my life is in Your hands. I choose to bless Your name today. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Discipleship among the young adults in Acts Chiang Mai.

Day 11

Scripture of the Day 1 Peter 1:13-16

28 March

Short Devotion

Have you ever prepared for an important exam at school, or a meeting at work, or a matter of grave importance as if your life depended on it? Naturally, you would get serious about disciplining yourself towards achieving that goal, and you would not hesitate to cut out any activity that would distract you.

We have a calling far greater and a goal that matters much more than that. As children of God, we are called to be transformed into the likeness of Jesus, to be holy as He is holy. If we are not intentional and proactive about it, we will easily slip back into living as our flesh dictates, causing us to stray away from the goal and miss the mark.

Therefore, let's be laser focused, alert and sober as we run towards the prize and promise that we have in Jesus Christ.

Day 11

Scripture of the Day 1 Peter 1:13-16

March

Reflective Questions

What bad habits do you tend to slip back into when you are not watchful, and what can you do about it today?

Declarative Prayer

Father God, thank You for this new identity and a high calling that I have as a child of God. Help me by Your grace to walk away from things that would distract me and help me to stay the course to live for Your glory. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Raising new young leaders to serve in Acts Myanmar.

Day 12

Scripture of the Day Romans 6:19

29 March

Short Devotion

The Greek word for 'slave' is 'doulos', which means someone who gives himself up completely to a master. Let's imagine, you are playing on a sports team in school and the teacher asks you to switch to the opposing team. You will probably have to change teammates, play on the other side of the field, and maybe even change to a different jersey. And because you can only play for one team, everything you do from now on is dedicated to helping your new team win. You will only be scoring goals for your new team.

Paul's writing reminds us to take Christ's death on the cross seriously. In other words, we are now on Team Jesus! And being on Team Jesus, we can no longer live like we did, and must choose instead to live righteously for Christ. In Romans 12:1, Paul presents a similar reminder for us to live a life that is holy and honouring to God.

Day 12

Scripture of the Day Romans 6:19

29 March

Short Devotion

Sometimes, when we think of holiness, we think of perfection, or devout religious people like monks or nuns in the monastery. The Hebrew word for holy means something that is set apart, and different from everything that is common. To be holy is not about being perfect, but as believers, we are called to be obedient and submitted to Christ in our thoughts, speech, and character. We are not to just go with the flow of the world around us.

Reflective Questions

Which areas of our lives do we need to submit more to God?

Day 12

Scripture of the Day Romans 6:19

March

Declarative Prayer

Lord, thank You for loving me and setting me free from my past. I am not perfect, but You love me and have forgiven me. Help me not to go back to my old habits but teach me to become more obedient to Your Word and Your plans for me. Transform me to become more and more like You. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Opportunity to connect and reach pre-believers in Acts Singapore and Acts Iskandar, Johor.

A Simple Guide to Fasting

Day 13

Scripture of the Day Romans 6:22

30 March

Short Devotion

In his letter to the Romans, Paul explained that when our old self was crucified with Christ, we have been set free from the power of sin. But now that we have been set free (Hallelujah!), we have instead become slaves of God.

The word slave has a negative connotation in our modern world. However, what it means here is that sin was once our master but now God is our master. God is the only free being in the Universe. When we give our lives to Him, He brings forth that same freedom which leads to purity and wholeness. Hence if God sets you free, you shall be free indeed.

Therefore, let us not misuse this freedom. Instead, let us present our bodies daily as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God. Let us no longer be conformed to this world. Instead, let us be transformed by the renewing of our minds in Christ and appreciate the beauty of a God who will never let us go.

Day 13

Scripture of the Day Romans 6:22

30 March

Reflective Questions

How can we be more disciplined and focused to live holy lives on a daily basis?

Declarative Prayer

Father God, please help me to present myself daily in obedience by putting You first when I wake up each morning, by not conforming to the world but by renewing my mind - by spending time in Your Word, by spending time in prayer throughout the day as prompted by the Holy Spirit. May I be acceptable and pleasing to You. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Children and Teens: To follow Christ with their whole heart and to be powerful witnesses for Him.

A Simple Guide to Fasting

Day 14

Scripture of the Day 2 Corinthians 7:1

March

Short Devotion

From our earliest schooling days, all the way up to our careers in the marketplace, it has been inculcated into our value systems that to gain acceptance from our family, colleagues and society, we must perform well.

In the previous chapter of today's scripture, God promised that He will be our Father and we will be His sons and daughters. Adopting us into His family just as we are, without consideration of our "performance", due to Christ's sacrifice on the cross.

In view of God's promise to adopt us, we are called to purify ourselves, to be holy as He is Holy, in reverence to God, just as any child would desire to think and act in accordance with their Father's values.

Other religions say to get accepted, we must first be holy. But God says because we are accepted, we must now be holy.

Day 14

Scripture of the Day 2 Corinthians 7:1

31 March

Reflective Questions

Have you been pressured to perform and pursue holiness to gain God's acceptance, or to put yourselves on a pedestal?

Declarative Prayer

Father, help us realise our role and responsibilities as Your sons and daughters to represent you to those around us. Give us the strength to live a life that reflects your holy character, removing all worldly contamination from our body, soul and spirit by relying on Your enabling work on the cross. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Campus: To live radically and courageously in their faith for Christ.

Week 3: 1 April - 7 April

Day 15: 1 April

Day 16: 2 April

Day 17: 3 April

Day 18: 4 April

Day 19: 5 April

Day 20: 6 April

Day 21: 7 April

Jump to:

Week 1:

18 March - 24 March

Week 2:

25 March - 31 March

Day 15

Scripture of the Day **Ephesians 1:4**

April

Short Devotion

Most of us will wonder if living a holy life is something we can ever actually attain or maintain. Maybe we know ourselves too well and know how we have missed the mark again and again.

"Why would God want a sinner like me?" we ask ourselves.

But His Word tells us that He chose us. When we are picked to be on a sports team, accepted into the university of our choice or offered our dream job, we feel privileged because of the potential they see in us and as a result we feel empowered and want to give our very best.

God sees everything. And yet He chose us. He has chosen to overlook our shortcomings and instead focuses on our potential to be holy! So let's strive to live a holy life, a life set apart for God. Not by our strength, but in and through the God who believes in us!

Day 15

Scripture of the Day Ephesians 1:4

1 April

Reflective Questions

How does knowing that God sees us as holy and blameless in His sight change our perspective of whether we can live a holy life?

Declarative Prayer

Thank You Lord for Your love and the privilege to be called Your own! Thank You Lord for seeing us as holy and blameless in Your sight.

God, we pray that You will help us to see our lives through the lens of what Your Word says daily. We will overcome! In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Young Working Adults: To be a positive influence in the marketplace.

Day 16

Scripture of the Day 2 Timothy 2:21

2 April

Short Devotion

Isn't it amazing that "we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10)? Definitely beyond amazing!

However, we also have a part to play in this according to 2 Timothy 2:21. And that is to purify ourselves from sin so that we can be ready in all seasons to abound in the work of the Lord. Faithfulness to God requires obedience and an active decision to yield unto God our sinful desires daily.

This sounds like hard work, but it's truly not through our might or power that this is accomplished, but by the Spirit (Zechariah 4:6). So as we obey, let us also continue to rest and rely on the Holy Spirit.

Day 16

Scripture of the Day 2 Timothy 2:21

2 April

Short Devotion

Let us make the conscious and certain choice today to live a sanctified life and disallow any condition to rob us of the honour of being used by God. Remember, the power of the cross has nullified our sins, we are dead to sin and alive in Christ! Victory over sin is possible!

Reflective Questions

What sin(s) do you need to be cleansed of today in order to be used for God's good works?

A Simple Guide to Fasting

Day 16

Scripture of the Day 2 Timothy 2:21

April

Declarative Prayer

Dear Lord, thank You for giving me a clean slate each day even as Your mercies are new each morning. Reveal any thoughts, intentions and deeds that displease You and thank You for forgiving me of my (name the sin). I know I can rise above them with the help of the Holy Spirit and the power of the cross. I want to be set apart for You, to honour You and to be used for Your good works in every season. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Family: Strong marriages and unity in families to enrich their neighborhood.

Day 17

Scripture of the Day Amos 5:14

3 April

Short Devotion

Throughout the book of Amos, the author reminds the Israelites of God's justice and judgement and calls upon the Israelites to repent from their ways.

As you read through Amos 5, you will see the words "Seek God and live" appearing time and time again. Amos reminds the Israelites that the way to live, or rather the way of life, should be centred on seeking God.

As followers of Christ, this is a reminder that we need to live a life that seeks God and His Kingdom first. In everything that we do and every decision we make in life, choose what is right and pleasing towards God first – not other sources of blessing, just as Amos urges the Israelites not to seek Bethel, Gilgal and Beersheba, but seek God.

As we seek to please God in our lives, God promises to be with us. As Jesus taught in Matthew 6:33, "Seek first His Kingdom and His Righteousness, and all things shall be added to you."

Day 17

Scripture of the Day Amos 5:14

April

Reflective Questions

Are there areas in your life or a decision you must make right now which you find difficult to trust God and choose to do the right thing?

Declarative Prayer

Father God, I pray that You will give me the desire to seek You and please you in everything that I do so that I can live a life that glorifies You. Forgive me for the times I have looked towards other places for blessings. Keep me grounded in Your Gospel and truth. May I always live a life that pleases and glorifies You. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

All Acts Churches (local and international) to experience God's revival fire and church growth.

Day 18

Scripture of the Day Colossians 1:21 -22

April

Short Devotion

Paul writes to the believers in Colossae, and chief among his teachings in Colossians 1 is the call to holy living. In verses 21-22, we are reminded that through Jesus Christ's death, we are reconciled to God by grace.

We who were once enemies of God, have been welcomed into His fold instead of punished. Therefore, as the redeemed people of the Lord, let us take off our old way of living and present ourselves as holy, blameless, and above reproach in the sight of God.

Let us be reminded of this great call to holy living. This is our second chance, a call to a better way of living. Let us start seeing it as a privilege and not a punishment.

Day 18

Scripture of the Day Colossians 1:21 -22

4 April

Reflective Questions

How can you answer God's call to holiness in your life?

Declarative Prayer

Dear Father God, today I come before Your presence with a heart opened to you and ready to embrace Your holy calling and work in a manner that is pleasing to You. Search my heart and mind Lord, and I pray that I will not perceive this holy calling upon my life to be a punishment but a pursuit of abundant life and freedom that I have graciously received through Jesus Christ. Help me to set my mind on the things of the Spirit and not be given to the demands of the flesh. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Every Homes (small groups) to grow; every partner to root down; connected and to serve alongside one another in God's House and to reach our community with God's love.

Day 19

Scripture of the Day Psalm 139:23-24

5 April

Short Devotion

As human beings, we have this age-old, knee-jerk reaction to hide ourselves from God in shame when we sin. Yet David unashamedly invites God to search his heart and even asks God to point out any sinful parts that are displeasing to Him.

Instead of trying to keep God far away from those parts of his life, David actively invites God into them because he knows that inviting God to search us and know us does not actually change anything about God's searching or knowing; God already knows all parts of us (Psalm 139:1). What it does change is the posture of our hearts.

In his pursuit of holiness, the posture of David's heart is one of openness and humility. It is this posture that leads him to recognise that only God can lead him along the path of everlasting life because true holiness is unattainable by our own human strength - we are holy only because God is holy (1 Peter 1:16).

Day 19

Scripture of the Day Psalm 139:23-24

April

Reflective Questions

Is there a part of your life that you struggle to let God into because of shame or fear of condemnation?

As you reflect on this and pray the prayer below, please trust that you can invite God into those areas just as David did, and that He can lead you in the path of repentance and everlasting life.

Declarative Prayer

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me, Lord, along the path of everlasting life. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Pray for wisdom, unity and stability upon our government, to govern this land well, that Malaysia will prosper.

Day 20

Scripture of the Day 1 Peter 2:9

April

Short Devotion

Priests, clergy, monks, are all rare occupations in this current age. And rightly so. In and through Christ, all believers have been conscripted into ministry. We are now all called out and all of us are to be set apart.

Serving the Lord and expanding His Kingdom is no longer an exclusive right to a select tribe. Instead, we are all now part of God's new royal priesthood, with Jesus as the High Priest.

God is most glorified when we are "set apart" in total devotion to God. This does not mean that we "separate" ourselves from the people around us who do not know God. Instead, like the priest of old, we are to carry God's light in our lives in such a faithful manner that even those who live in darkness become attracted to His glory.

Day 20

Scripture of the Day 1 Peter 2:9

April

Reflective Questions

As we pursue holiness in our individual walks, are we pulling people towards God, or putting them off "religion"?

Declarative Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank You that You have called us to be Your chosen people, Your royal priesthood, with direct unmediated access to You, through Your son Jesus Christ. Help us Lord, to work towards living a life that is in total devotion to You, obeying Your will. Stop us from becoming stumbling blocks to those around us, but instead, help us share Your mercy and glory with them. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Bless and speak peace over Malaysia.

A Simple Guide to Fasting

Day 21

Scripture of the Day 1 Thessalonians 5:23 **April**

Short Devotion

In this chapter, Paul talks about the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and how we should live as believers.

As you read this verse, it is good to pay attention to three areas: peace, sanctification, and being blameless. Peace is important in a relationship. Without peace, we can't have a healthy relationship. The believers in Thessalonica experienced peace as a result of the gospel of Jesus Christ preached by Paul. They lived in peace with each other as God gave them peace. We must never forget that God is the source of peace.

Paul prayed that God would sanctify them in all areas of their lives. It is God who convicts and changes us. We are all called to make a difference, which is a very high calling. But we can only make a positive change in the world when we allow God to change us.

A Simple Guide to Fasting

Day 21

Scripture of the Day 1 Thessalonians 5:23 **April**

Short Devotion

When Jesus comes back, He expects to see us blameless as His holy bride. It is true that we encounter many kinds of trials and temptations in this world daily. However, we should not use this as an excuse to stop trying. As we look forward to Christ's coming with great expectation, Paul is encouraging us to be blameless in our relationship with God, in our personal lives and in our relationships with other people.

Reflective Questions

What are some struggles you are currently facing in your relationship with God or with others?

Day 21

Scripture of the Day 1 Thessalonians 5:23 April

Declarative Prayer

O Lord, thank You very much for receiving us as Your sons and daughters. I pray that You will fill me with the power of the Holy Spirit so that I can fulfil my calling. Help me to always be alert and ready for Your second coming and sanctify me to live blamelessly in every area of my life. I pray that You will empower me so that I can preach the gospel boldly and make many more faithful disciples who will follow You. Use me to glorify You alone. In Jesus' name I pray, amen.

Prayer Point

Bless and pray for the peace of Jerusalem.