

The Way, Isaiah 35:8

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Developing a True Hunger for God Through Fasting

Jesus devoted time to teaching His disciples the rules of the Kingdom of God. In Matthew Chapter 6, he gave a pattern by which each of us is to live as children of God. It specifically addressed three duties of a Christian. Giving, Praying and Fasting. Jesus said "When you give", "And when you pray", "And when you fast". These are normal parts of a Christian life.

It could be that we are missing our greatest breakthrough because we fail to fast. In Mark 4:8-20, Jesus spoke of the thirty fold blessing. When you both pray and give as part of your life, that releases the sixtyfold blessing. But when you do all three, I believe that is when the hundredfold blessing is released in our lives. Another point brought out in Matthew 6:16-18 is that God delights in rewarding us when giving, praying and fasting are practiced in our lives, He says He will reward you openly".

As we begin to fast, we must prepare ourselves physically. If you have health concerns consult your doctor, especially if you have prescription medications or have a chronic ailment. We must also prepare ourselves spiritually by confession, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of weakness in our lives, forgiving all who have offended us and ask for the forgiveness of those we may have offended (Mark 11:25).

Get away from the normal distractions as much as possible and keep your heart and mind set on seeking God. When you fast, be sure to pray daily and read scripture. Allow time for God to speak to you, either through the word, or by the still small voice of the Holy Spirit whispering in your heart. The motive of the heart behind the fasting is more important than the length of the fast. The important thing is openness and obedience to the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Expect opposition from Satan when you enter a fast. Ask God for strength to overcome attacks of weakness, exaggerated hunger pains, nausea or headaches. As you start to fast always begin with a "clear goal", are you fasting for direction, healing, restoration, salvation of loved ones, financial difficulties? Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance. Also consider limiting how much time you watch TV and how much time you spend on things that are distracting, replace those times with prayer and Bible study. We have only one life to give to God; let's get control of our bodies and go for God with the best we have! God Bless You!

Reflections

“Who is this King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle... Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory” (Psalm 24: 8 & 10). The Lord strong—a strong tower is he. The Lord is mighty, a valiant warrior, the prince of peace, a wonderful counselor, comforter, and savior of all mankind. He is the King of Glory! The Lord of hosts is he!

As we celebrate this Christmas season, let us remember the true meaning, which is Jesus Christ. He is no longer a baby lying in a manger. His birth has passed. He has died and has been resurrected for each one of us. He is the savior of all sin. Christmas is a special time and one of my favorite holidays. Oh, if we could have this spirit of Christmas all year round, what a wonderful world this would be! My hope and prayer this season is that the Child of Bethlehem will be born not only in our memories, but anew in our hearts. The star that first pointed the way is the light that leads us out of darkness. Deeply celebrate God’s greatness this Christmas and ask yourself, “How Great is our God?”

Blessings in Christ,

Missionary Caroline Whittaker Leffall



Happy January Birthday!!!



Mother Tayes 03

Omar 03

Quairea 07

Tinker 13

Pyron 15

Maurice 21

Ryan 21



New Member Sister Tina

Holding her Certificate of Completion of the New Members Class.

We are excited to have you and your family with us.



FGPFC Annual Coat Give away is in process!

Just some of the children that were able to receive new coats.



FGPFC YOUTH SECTION

HAPPY Happy **NEW** New Year!!! **YEAR!**

Thank God for the completion of yet another year!
We pray that we will continue to grow in the Lord, keep sharing Christ with our friends, and consistently be available for His service inside and outside of the church. Youth, let's continue to pray about everything, for we know that the Lord is always near. God Bless You - *Sister LaShawn*

Praise the Lord for the Christmas Play Production
"Like A Thief in the Night".

Attendees said they were very impressed with the great performance. One young lady said she could tell that every play participant's performance came straight from their heart. THAT is what Christmas is all about. Thank you all who participated for being faithful in rehearsals and in playing your parts. We look forward to many more great performances!

Dates to Remember: Family Fellowship and Fun Night!
Friday January 22, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Each family is asked to bring a simple potluck dish. If you have any fun ideas for the evening, please see Missionary Carol Whittaker Leffall.

Did You Know -

- Today the Bible is the largest seller of all books published.
- The longest word in the Bible is Mahershalalhashbaz which is 18 letters long and can be found in Isaiah 8:1 and 8:3. It means "quick to the plunder, swift to the spoil."
- Daniel 4:37 contains all the letters of the alphabet except "Q."



A New Year's Poem

Instead of making a New Year's resolution, Consider committing to a biblical solution. Your promises are easily broken. Empty words, though earnestly spoken. But God's Word transforms the soul. By His Holy Spirit making you whole. As you spend time alone with Him, He will change you from within.

-- Mary Fairchild



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If you have an article you would like to submit for next month's newsletter, please see one of the newsletter team members Sisters Penny, LaShawn, Maxine, or Gloria. If approval is given by our leaders and space permits, your article will be included.

Inspirational Thought:

This brand new year offers many opportunities allowing us to throw off the weights that hinder our life journey. To do that, we need to change some of our thinking patterns. Proverbs 23:7 reminds us that "as we think in our hearts, so we are". So stop putting off that something you should

Health Tip: Look Forward to a Great Year!

Start the new year right by committing to make the lifestyle changes needed for improved health in 2010. Focus on balancing work and leisure, scheduling medical checkups, eating right, and getting enough exercise. Find time to relax, so stress doesn't get the best of you. A healthy body and mind set the stage for a spectacular year. God Bless!

A Prayer for Fasting

Lord, help me heed your call to fast and pray and seek your direction. I know fasting can accomplish much in me as well as in the situation or people I am interceding for. I need your direction and your strength to do it. My spirit is willing but my body often frail. Give me your wisdom, Lord, and help me to glorify you through my fasting. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Weekly Schedule of Service

- *Tuesday Fellowship & Worship Service -*
 - *7:00 pm to 8:30 pm*
- *Thursday Prayer - 7:00 pm to 7:45 pm and Bible Study 7:45 pm to 9:00 pm*
- *Sunday - Sunday School 9:30 am Morning Worship Service 11:00am*

Consecration Week

(Prayer & Fasting)

Consecration begins the last Tuesday of each month prior to the 1st Sunday. Fasting until 4:00 pm on Tuesday and Wednesday and all day Thursday until Friday Morning