

# SACRED SEASON

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING

STUDY GUIDE



JANUARY 4, 2021 — JANUARY 24, 2021

# SACRED SEASON

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING

STUDY GUIDE

## CONTENTS

4	<i>Introduction</i>
8	Sacred Season
10	And Then They Will Fast
12	Stay Afloat
14	I May Be Weak, But My God Is Strong!
17	Fast To Last
18	He Is My Delight
20	Remove It From Me
22	When You Fast
24	It Made Me Hungry
27	In The Waiting
29	Our Eyes Are Upon You
31	Wonder and Strength
32	Day By Day
34	Joy To Your World
36	Preparation For The Next
39	Comma, But: The Power Of Unified Prayer
41	So Much Better Together
43	Qualified In The Quarantine
44	Strength To Give
46	You Will Bloom Again
48	Strength In His Presence
50	And Then They Will FEAST
52	<i>Notes</i>

# I INTRODUCTION

## **SACRED SEASON 2021**

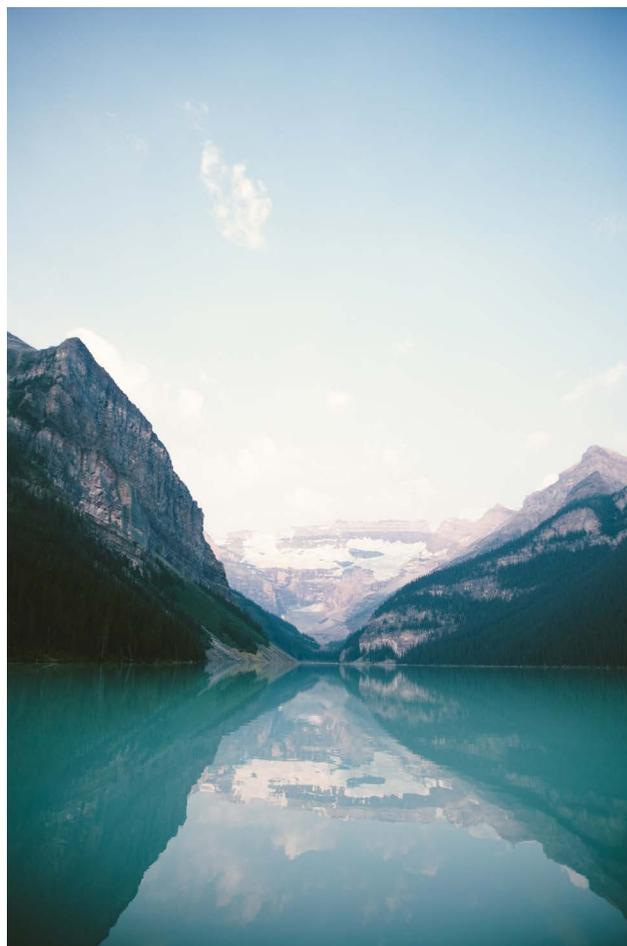
### ***THE YEAR OF MIRACULOUS STENGTH***

Sacred Season is 21 days of fasting and prayer devoted and dedicated to the pursuit of God's presence, hearing His voice and surrendering to His will and purpose for our lives. It is both a personal pursuit and a corporate commitment of our church, to annually set aside this time and honor God with the "first" of the New Year.

Matthew 6:33, Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you.

**The Chapel will be open Monday – Friday,  
Noon – 1:00 pm for Prayer during Sacred Season.**

The final day of our fast is Sacred Sunday. This is the day we bring our "first fruits" offering to the House. As we put God first, we establish Him in His rightful place in our lives. In doing so, He promises to bless our lives and make them prosper.





There are several types of fasting. The one you choose is between you and God. He will honor your best sacrifice.

#### TYPES OF FASTING

##### ***Full Fast***

Drink only liquids.

##### ***The Daniel Fast***

Eat no meat, no sweets and no bread. Drink water and juice. Eat fruits and vegetables.

<http://www.ultimatedanielfast.com/ultimate-daniel-fast-food-guidelines/>

##### ***Partial Fast***

A partial fast is from 6 am - 3 pm or from sun up to sun down. You can select to do a Full Fast, Daniel Fast or give up at least one item of food.

Whichever Fast you choose, remember, this is a fast (which means to restrict food for spiritual purpose). One of the most powerful lessons you can learn during this time is how to put your flesh in its rightful place and realize that you don't have to give in to the desires of your flesh. Invest most of your time and attention on the Lord.

Keep the main thing the main thing. Keep Jesus and your relationship with Him as the foundation of the fast.

Remember that it is the attitude of a heart sincerely seeking Him to which God responds with a blessing. May God greatly bless you as you join the Calvary family in our annual corporate fast and Sacred Season.

Scripture references for Corporate Fasting:

1 Samuel 7:5-6, Ezra 8:21-23, Nehemiah 9:1-3, Joel 2:15-16, Jonah 3:5-10, Acts 27:33-37

### **THE VISION**

The Bible is clear that without Vision, people perish (Pr.28:19) & that people are also destroyed because of lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6).

At Calvary we strive not just to be able to do, but more importantly we strive to see! It is the earnest heart of our leadership to lead with vision. We love vision, we need vision, we want VISION! But in 2021 we desire perfect vision. Vision and elevation are synonymous. High places yield a more expansive vision. The goal at Calvary is to constantly communicate the vision with clear understanding. It is our goal for our staff, dream team, leaders and attendees to SEE WHAT WE SEE!

Our Vision Statement is expansive, yet concise. We want to do ONLY the things we have been called to do, and do those things well. The Vision Statement of Calvary is simple yet profound. At Calvary we exist to Experience the Spirit, Embrace The Lost, and Live the Life with the core values of Love, Honor and Positivity.

We believe that as we obey God, each part of our vision, mission and core value statements will work together in a powerful and supernatural way to help us fulfill all that God has asked us to do.

### **EXPERIENCE THE SPIRIT**

We commit to be a church that is passionate about EXPERIENCING THE SPIRIT of God.

We passionately pursue the presence of God in a Spirit-filled, Spirit-driven and Spirit-charged atmosphere. The purpose of our weekly services is to provide a life giving church experience where the gospel is presented in a simple, relevant way and fueled by the Holy Spirit.

We Experience the Spirit through life giving relationships in small groups as we engage with one another in the Word and Prayer.

### **EMBRACE THE LOST**

We are committed to embrace a lost and dying world. Calvary exist to bring people into a relationship with Jesus Christ. One of our primary goals is to reach people far from God or disconnected from Him. We make it our responsibility to be the voice of hope to our church body and the surrounding community.

In addition to our Sunday services, we are focused on reaching people in all parts of our community and in every walk of life.

### **LIVE THE LIFE**

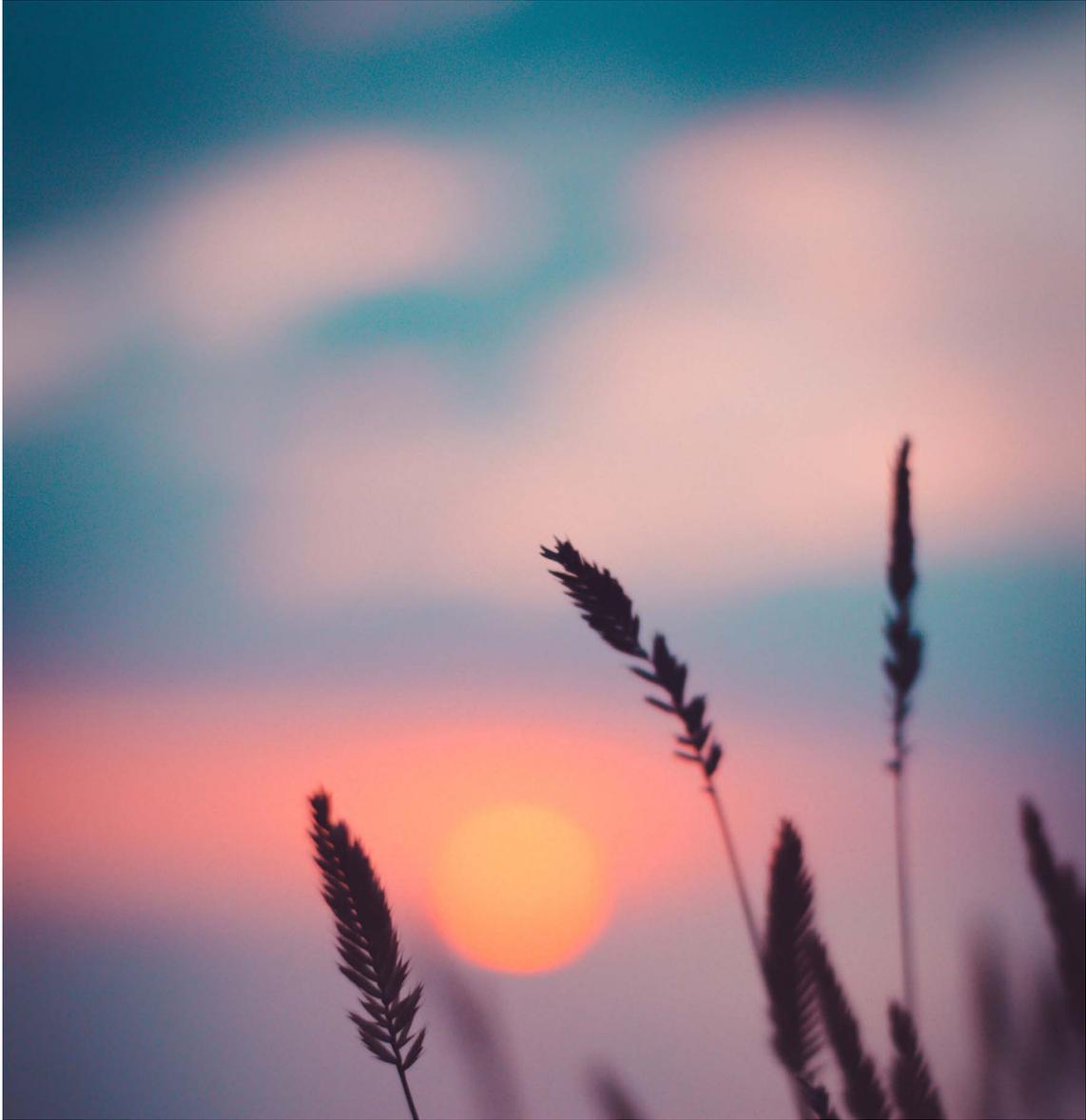
You were created on purpose for a PURPOSE.

We believe that Jesus came to give us life and life more abundantly (Jn.10:10). We also believe that we should live in such a way that honors God and his word. Holiness, sanctification, surrender, and consecration are marks of a dedicated follower of Jesus.

At Calvary we choose to live this kind of life. We also understand that life change happens in the context of relationships, and because discipleship matters, Small Groups have a simple purpose: to bring people together to enable us to grow in the life we have been called to live. God created us to live in community with others, and it is only then that we can experience the full life He intends for us.







# DAY 1

## AND THEN THEY WILL FAST

BY PASTOR DAWN RALEY

Then the disciples of John came to Him, saying, “Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but Your disciples do not fast?” And Jesus said to them, “Can the friends of the bridegroom mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.” Matthew 9:14-15

Scripture Reading: Acts 13:1-3, 14:23, 2 Corinthians 11:27

Jesus explains to these disciples of John that it will be the “need” of Him that brings his disciples to fast. In my own life, it has been the need for more of Him, the need to hear His voice, the need for His strength and power, the need of an answer or a breakthrough that has brought me to times of fasting with prayer. I believe we can all say after experiencing 2020 that we need more of Jesus. If the past year has shown us anything, it has shown us how desperately we need Him! Without Him, we don’t have what we need to overcome in this world. Fasting added to our prayer life brings results that cannot be experienced any other way. In the Old Testament, when people were in desperate times, such as Daniel or Esther, and they needed to draw near to the Lord to know His voice, they took their prayer to the next level and fasted. Fasting removes the distracting voices, it humbles you and positions you to hear His voice more clearly. It clears out the flesh, which so often dominates our thinking and leads us away from the awareness of His presence. Fasting causes your spirit man to take over and your spiritual ears can hear again!

AND THEN THEY WILL FAST.

**When?** Then - when we need Him. Do you need Jesus today? Do you need Him in 2021? Do you need His help, His strength, His presence, His renewal, His revival, His abundant life, His joy, His peace, His healing? It’s time, then, to fast. Whatever place and position you are in, it’s time to fast. The people of Ninevah in Jonah 3:5 were far from God and struggling with sin, but they humbled themselves before the Lord and fasted and God answered them. If He did it for them, He will do it for you. Fasting doesn’t have to be clothed in perfection, just “need”. When we draw near to Him, He will draw near to us.

**Declaration and prayer for today:** “In this chosen fast, I am destined and positioned to experience the voice of God, and the revelation of His truth for my life.”



# DAY 2

## STAY AFLOAT

PASTOR JACQUI DOMINICK

Jonah ran away from what God called him to do. His safe place was in the boat but he became an endangerment to so many. The crew members after casting straws made the decision to throw him over. He went over into a deep place, unknown, fearful, and YET God was with Jonah and He will be with you if you travel beyond where you are and what you were called to do.

Scripture Reading: Jonah 1

He will keep you afloat because He has a plan for you. Trust Him today to guide you. You see Jonah wanted to run away from his God given purpose but not you, stick to it until 'YOU' hear 'Well Done!' His hand is always there for you to hold; I know it was there for Jonah and it will be there for you.

Stay afloat, grab every promise in the word of God. Stay afloat, no matter what comes your way. Stay afloat even in the midst of your most trying time. Stay afloat when you get a bad report from the doctor. Stay afloat when your body has over taken you in pain....Stay Afloat!

Prayer: Father, in the precious name of Jesus, we truly Thank You for being there for us, no matter if we try to run from what you have purposed in our lives. We know that you have all power in your hand to reach out and touch us right where we are. Let us always remember that all good things come from you and no matter the distance, you will reach us in Jesus' Name, Amen.

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** Today and forever I will stay afloat no matter what a-sails me. God I'm going to trust you with all my heart and I declare, I'll NEVER let go of your hand.



# DAY 3

## I MAY BE WEAK, BUT MY GOD IS STRONG! BY PASTOR RONNIE WOODS

David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.” 1 Samuel 17:45

Scripture Reading: 1 Samuel 17

This is a story most of us have heard since we were children. It’s one of the most popular stories in the Bible. It’s also one of the most powerful stories in the Bible. The Israelites were under attack and they were at risk of losing everything to the Philistines. Goliath was mocking them and mocking God as well. All of the mighty soldiers of Israel were afraid. How often do we see this? Maybe we even experience it ourselves.

We serve God with all of our hearts, and we feel like our faith is strong, but when we’re faced with a real attack, we become afraid. David didn’t even have to think twice about it. Everyone around him said it couldn’t be done. No one else believed in him. David said, “The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.” I don’t believe David was underestimating Goliath at all, nor was he overconfident in his own abilities. He’d just seen God’s faithfulness his whole life. He knew he was too weak, he knew he was too small, but his faith wasn’t placed in his strength or his abilities. David knew that if he gave his best, God would handle the rest.

During this time of fasting, it’s time to ask God for miraculous strength. Instead of looking at a giant that is bigger than you, it’s time to start looking at your God who is bigger than your giant. Just remember this...

### **Declaration and Prayer for Today:**

My giants are big, but my God is bigger.  
I’m in a fight, but He will deliver!  
My battle is fixed, I won all along.  
I may be weak, but my God is strong!





# DAY 4

## FAST TO LAST

BY PASTOR DEMETRIUS MCCRAY

“And you shall be holy unto me: for I the LORD am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine.”  
Leviticus 20:26

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 3:16

The desire of God, even before the world began, has always been for a people unto Himself. In Isaiah 43:7, the Lord declares “everyone who is called by my name, whom I have created for my glory; I have formed him, yes, I have made him.” We were created by God and for Him. Genesis 1:26 even shows us that we were created in His likeness. To sum it all up, we were created by Him, for Him, and to be like Him. God’s will has always been that we represent Him on earth by what we say and what we do. God’s desire isn’t just that we participate in a sacred season, but that we are forever a sacred people. A people set apart unto Himself. A chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession! God’s people are not common. The opposite of holy is common (see Leviticus 10:10). We weren’t created to live common, preach common, work common, lead common, and even respond to life in a common manner. We are holy, set apart, uncommon! However, because we live on earth and within the constraints of time, we experience seasons. Some seasons are more pleasant than others.

Some seasons we feel conditioned (prepared) for. Some seasons we feel unprepared for. When Satan came to tempt Jesus in the wilderness, Jesus was already conditioned for the season of testing. That is what fasting and prayer does, it conditions the spirit of man to endure and to succeed during the seasons of

life. The desire of God in this season is that we “fast to last!” It is denial of the flesh in order to obtain endurance in the spirit. Fasting is more than a discipline, it is dedication. It isn’t merely abstinence from food, it’s a time of denial of self and dedication to God. Our dedication isn’t to the act itself, but to the God who has ordained it.

Along with fasting, we dedicate ourselves to the Lord through the reading of the word, prayer, worship, and even in our availability to Him on a daily basis. All of these things aren’t religious duties and practices, but the means by which God conditions us for the seasons of life. As we dedicate (set apart) ourselves unto the Lord, He is conditioning us for the seasons we are about to step into!

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** I belong to God and I was created to represent Him. As I dedicate myself to the Lord, He will condition me to manifest Him in every season of life. “I pray that from his glorious, unlimited resources he will empower you with inner strength through his Spirit” (Ephesians 3:16).

# DAY 5

## HE IS MY DELIGHT

BY PASTOR ASHLEE HARRIS

“The Lord makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him; though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand.”- Psalms 37:23-24

Scripture reading: Psalm 37:4; 2 Corinthians 1:20; Psalm 91:2

During this sacred season, let’s make time to get away and be intentional about taking delight in the Father! After a year filled with many troubles and trials, it’s so important that we begin our new year reminding ourselves of His faithfulness!

When we delight in Him, His Word tells us that He will make our steps firm or sure! Aren’t you thankful that going into 2021, we can stand on the promise that if we delight in Him, He will direct us! And this excites my spirit because I know that God will direct me only to places that will help me grow and flourish! Even if there are difficult places that He leads us to, and through, they are still beneficial places! And in the difficult moments of this next year, we can take solace in knowing that even when we stumble, God will not let us fall! His hand will be there to uphold us and comfort us! 2021 can be a year of Heaven’s favor in your life as long as you delight yourself in the Lord!

Choose to find peace in Him! Choose to find hope in Him! Choose to be close with Him! In so doing you will find yourself utterly delighting in Him, rather than your circumstances! Delight in the Lord and He will provide for you above and beyond your greatest expectations! As we fast and pray, 2021 will be our greatest year yet, and I will delight in Him!

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** “I will delight in the Lord in every circumstance! Even when I make mistakes, I will trust that the hand of The Lord will be there to lift me back up and direct me to a place of peace, hope, and love, as I keep my delight in Him!”



# DAY 6

## REMOVE IT FROM ME

BY PASTOR JAMIE HARTSGROVE

“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.” Mark 11:24-25

Scripture Reading: John 15:1-17, John 13:34-36

Cut off everything in me that may cause me to stumble. This season has been a desert season for so many. When challenges arise, we either rise to the challenge and bring others with us or we stumble and cause others to fall because of us. Take a moment to reflect, how did you get to where you are right now? Was it at the expense of others? What’s the damage assessment? What relationships need repair? What needs to be healed? What can you do to mend the fences? During the testing season we either draw to Him or drift from Him. We are called as children of God to be more like Him, but what’s getting in the way? The good news is we have another chance to get it right.

Fasting is a sacred time to reconnect to our root, Jesus Christ. When we are rooted in Him and spend more time with Him, our minds become more focused and filled with kingdom thoughts, causing us to be refreshed and healed. Every negative thing that has tried to stick to us in this past season, we need to submit it to God.

**Prayer and Declaration for Today:** “Lord create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.” Psalm 51:10. Remove anything that would hinder me from your presence. Use me this season to mend the fences in relationships and to be a healer to my family, friends and those around me. Teach and show me your ways Lord. I surrender every area of my life to you. I declare in this next season I will walk not in my own strength but in supernatural strength that only comes from you.”



# DAY 7

## WHEN YOU FAST

BY PASTOR TANYSHA HARTSGROVE

The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail. Isaiah 58:11

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 58:6-12, 1 Peter 2:9, 2 Corinthians 12:8-10

Fasting and prayer are essential to living the life of purpose God has given you. So much so that Jesus said the phrase twice “When you fast”, in Matthew 6:16-17. You are not meant to live your life being burdened by the cares you are carrying, but instead be reminded that His strength is made perfect in our weakness.

The year 2020 has affected everyone in a different way. When you take the time to fast this year, be intentional to seek the face of God and start 2021 with an open mind and an open heart. Many of us have carried the burdens of 2020 with us for the last several months, but this new year is your year to walk in everything that God has for you. What are you believing and dreaming for? Now take a moment to think about what you will do with all that you have been given.

Make fasting a priority this year and believe for a year of clarity, focus, and favor. Through fasting and prayer is how you will discover your full identity in Christ and the power and authority that is available to you. When you push all distractions to the side and make time and room for the things of God, you can expect breakthroughs, not only for you but for the people in your life you are praying and believing for. What are some things you are praying for during this fast?

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** Dear Lord, my prayer is that through this fast there is a renewed power and strength in me. I am believing for your purpose in my life and I choose to live out everything that you have for me! Thank you that You lead and guide me at all times.



# DAY 8

## IT MADE ME HUNGRY

BY PASTOR JOSH CARTER

Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. Luke 4:1-2 (NKJV)

Immediately the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness. And He was there in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan, and was with the wild beasts; and the angels ministered to Him. Mark 1:12-13 (NKJV)

Scripture Reading: Luke 4 & Mark 1

The spiritual discipline of fasting is for everyone. All of us who call ourselves believers and disciples are called to deny ourselves (Matthew 16:24-26) and follow Jesus. While fasting may not be easy, rest assured it is an effective and powerful spiritual discipline. And as believers, we can engage this discipline with confidence knowing that Jesus, himself, has shown us the way. Yes, not even our Savior exempted himself from this form of self-denial. Jesus didn't just teach fasting, he fasted, and he fasted often. In fact, thanks to the inspiration of the Holy Spirit we have several accounts of the fasting experience of Jesus.

The synoptic Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke give the account of Jesus fresh out of the waters of the Jordan River being driven into the wilderness where, while being tempted, he also fasted 40 days. That's right...40 days! 40 days of no food at all (Luke 4:2). But why? Why would Jesus, who was one hundred percent human and one hundred percent God,

subject himself so intensely to fasting? Ultimately there are many reasons on many different levels that would answer this "why?", but let's highlight just a few...

1. Because perhaps Jesus didn't come just to die, He also came to show us how to live. Perhaps he wanted to not just tell us, but to show us that through fasting we can be victorious over, and not be subject to, the attacks and temptations of the enemy. Perhaps Jesus wanted to remind us that he is more than our savior, he is our supreme example.

2. Because perhaps Jesus wanted to show us that His specific response to the enemies' attack and temptation was indeed to pray and FAST. But don't confuse it. The fasting is not the temptation. It is the response, the preparation. See, fasting preps and readies the soul to overcome temptation. Could this be the reason we are doing so poorly with personal consecration? Maybe the reason we are losing in the battle of temptation is because we are unwilling to win in the area of fasting.

3. Because perhaps Jesus wanted to teach us that no one is exempt from temptation and that fasting is preparation for temptation because fasting prepares the body for DENIAL! It tells the body that no matter what signal or urge you send, I will not respond to you and you are not in control. I will feel the craving and still say NO! In other words, fasting is a trainer. Fasting teaches us that just because we want it doesn't mean we should be able to have it. It's why in the Lord's Prayer you're not allowed to pray temptation away (Matthew 6:13). Because when it comes to temptation you

can pray lead us not, but cannot pray deliver me from!

In the end, we know that Jesus resisted the devil and his temptations. In the end we know that fasting, along with prayer and the word of God, empowered Jesus to be victorious over the temptation and attack of the enemy. But there's one more beautiful consequence of Jesus' 40 day denial. The Bible says in Luke 4:2, "and afterwards, when they had ended, he was hungry".

What a powerful detail! His fasting made him hungry. Many of us would say that this is common sense, and on a physical level it is. But fasting isn't just physical. Fasting is a spiritual discipline. The beauty of the scripture is that the 40-day fast of Jesus produced more than just a physical hunger, but a new and hearty spiritual hunger as well. How do we know? Because God didn't just give him a meal, he sent angels (spiritual beings) to minister to him.

During this Sacred Season open your eyes to see that when you come out of this fast there should be and will be more than a physical hunger, but a new and incredible spiritual hunger that God will use to fill, empower, and strengthen you for the purpose and plans he has for you in 2021. Don't despise this season and the consecration it demands. Rejoice! Because after all...It only made you hungry!

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** God, during this Sacred Season open my eyes to see what You are doing in me spiritually. And as I fast, consecrate, and give myself to you, make me aware of my new spiritual hunger that is being developed!





# DAY 9

## IN THE WAITING

BY PASTOR JEREMY CAFFMAN

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40: 28-29, Psalm 23

In today's fast paced culture, we often view the act of waiting as a negative word or experience. We use instant pots, and microwaves to prepare meals faster. We are disappointed when next day delivery is not available for our Amazon order. We've gotten so comfortable in the ability to have everything quickly. We rarely hear the things that our parents and grandparents would say like, "just be patient" or "good things come to those who wait".

But when we take a moment to slow down and think about things from God's perspective, He usually plays the long game. Now there are definitely times when God moves suddenly but when it comes to our relationship with Him, it's a little different. When we look at nature and all that God created we are reminded of the strength of waiting. Look at the Redwood Trees of California. Their posture, their longevity wasn't formed overnight, but over years, many times, hundreds of years.

Webster's dictionary defines "wait" as "to stay in place in expectation of". So the question is then asked of us, when was the last time we spent time with God and waited in expectation for Him to speak? Not to be in a hurry or present Him with our needs, but to sit and wait for Him to reveal his heart.

So, as we pray, fast, and choose to intentionally wait on the Lord in this Sacred Season, we will receive fresh strength. We will find peace, healing, and joy as we hone-in on the Father's heart, and our wants and needs begin to fade away as we align our hearts to His.

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** "Father, in this season of fasting, I commit to slow down and wait on you."



# DAY 10

## OUR EYES ARE UPON YOU

BY PASTOR JAMES HARRIS

*“For we have no power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You...Then the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jahaziel... “Thus says the Lord to you: ‘Do not be afraid nor dismayed...for the battle is not yours, but God’s.’”*

—2 Chronicles 20:1-15

Scripture Reading: 2 Chronicles 20:1-15; Psalm 22:3;  
Exodus 14:14

Do you ever go through seasons where you feel stuck spiritually? Seasons where you and your family are left feeling pressed on all sides and overwhelmed? If so: you are not alone! Many times our eyes fall to, and rest upon, our problems rather than Problem Solver! But today, realize that you have access to a Kingdom principle that will empower you to fix your gaze on God and His promises: Prayer & Fasting!

Often times throughout the scriptures we find that God’s people fasted and prayed through seasons of repentance or great distress, recognizing that they needed the deliverance, help, or reassurance that only God could give. Have you ever been there? Well in our reading today we find that King Jehoshaphat fasted and prayed when a group of nations threatened to conquer Judah! But why is this important to note for ourselves, you may be wondering? Well Judah, by biblical definition means praise! And often the first thing the enemy will try to attack is your praise, because “God will inhabit the praises of His people.” And when you praise, it lifts your eyes off of your current problems, and rests them upon God and His promises for your life!

So the enemy might fight you for your praise, but know that you can overcome him to keep it, just like King Jehoshaphat did: with Prayer & Fasting! Keep in mind that the opposing army here was vast and only a miracle could keep Judah safe. But instead of fretting, he began fasting! King Jehoshaphat declared a fast and led the people in prayer, saying, “Lord . . . we do not know what to do, but our eyes are on you.” God then told the nation through a prophet that the battle was the Lord’s and He would fight on their behalf.

Going into this new season, choose to humble yourself before the Lord and trust in Him with your needs. Whenever you feel like you don’t know what to do, keep your eyes on Him, and God will fight on your behalf in ways that you cannot even fathom! Powerful enemies will self-destruct, and oppressive, unjust forces that try to rise against you will wither away! Your praise will be a weapon that you can sharpen with fasting and prayer through 2021!

**Declaration & Prayer for Today:** “My prayer, fasting, and praise will position me to receive The Lord’s protection and His limitless Kingdom resources as I keep my eyes upon Him!”



# DAY 11

## WONDER AND STRENGTH

BY PASTOR LIZ CAFFMAN

You've gone into my future to prepare the way, and in kindness you follow behind me to spare me from the harm of my past.  
With your hand of love upon my life, you impart  
a blessing to me.

This is just too wonderful, deep, and incomprehensible! Your understanding of me brings me wonder and strength.

Psalm 139:5-6 The Passion Translation

Scripture Reading: Psalm 139

Taking a step of faith in this season is not easy. The road seems covered, the path, uncertain and the view of what's in front of us is cloudy. So much of what we have known has turned on its head and become somewhat unrecognizable. Every time you work to strip the old off, it's as if a parachute is connected to your back, catching the remnants of the junk you have worked so hard to cast off your life. You find yourself in an endless cycle. Trapped.

But there is One who has gone before you and cleared the path. The light of his glory breaks through the fog and ushers in vision beyond your understanding. He is waiting to clip the strings of that chute and with it lift the heaviness that has been dragging behind you for so long. He is asking you to know Him, to seek Him and to rest in His love. And in return, he wants to impart into you the strength that can only come from him.

The strength you need to take the next step. He knows your entire being, your passions, your desires. He has never broken a promise or turned away. Jesus is here and he is waiting for you. During this time of prayer and fasting, become aware of that love and kindness as he releases his strength to you and reveals the wonders of his love.

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** Dear Lord, make me aware of you. Show me your ways and impart to me your strength in this time of healing. I want to know you, to live fully for you, and to walk your path. Show me your wonders as I walk in your victory!

# DAY 12

## DAY BY DAY

BY PASTOR CHRISTIAN OLIVER

“So He said to them, When you pray, say: Our Father in Heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread.” - Luke 11: 2-3

Scripture Reading: Luke 11: 1-4, Matthew 6: 16-18

It is no secret that fasting is a powerful spiritual discipline. Fasting is the means by which we deny the flesh, empower the spirit, and detoxify the soul. Fasting to the believer should be as common as flying to a bird or swimming to a fish. Fasting comes naturally to those who desire to live life led and empowered by the Spirit. Jesus said in Matthew 6:16 that “when” we fast, we are to fast in secret. In other words, He was saying that fasting is not optional, it’s necessary, possible, and expected. Now I know what you’re thinking...fasting is hard. Yes, fasting is hard, but it’s always worth it! Know that God will never call you to a fast without giving you the grace to fulfill it. With this in mind, I want to give you a key that the Lord showed me last year before Sacred Season. It comes from Luke 11:3 when Jesus uses this phrase as He was teaching His disciples to pray. He told them to ask for daily bread “day by day”. This is a powerful phrase because sometimes when we look at a fast that God has called us to, we can easily get overwhelmed and sometimes even discouraged - not believing that we will be able to finish.

Be encouraged today!!! If He called you to this fast, you already possess the grace to complete it. Take it “day by day” knowing that on the other side of this supernatural act of obedience there will be a manifestation of His Spirit in and

through your life like never before! You can and will finish the very thing He has called you to do! Be encouraged, take it “day by day” knowing that God has gone before you and has already graced you to fulfill this Sacred Season fast by His supernatural strength!

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** Father I thank you that you have already given me the grace necessary to fulfill the fast you have called me to! Holy Spirit, empower me to continually deny myself so that I may fully obey you, in Jesus’ Name, Amen!



# DAY 13

## JOY TO YOUR WORLD

BY PASTOR NATASHA CARTER

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

James:1:2-4 (NKJV)

Scripture Reading: Psalms 30:5; Hebrews 2:12;  
Nehemiah 8:10b

There is no doubt that 2020 will be a year to remember. The world changed in so many ways and on a more personal level OUR individual worlds changed in significant ways. The impact of the pandemic and its consequences were hardly positive. Everything about how we did life seemed to shift overnight. However, my greatest concern isn't only that this past year changed our worlds and altered our lives, in the process it also stole our joy.

One of the hardest lessons we as Christians have to learn is how to be joyful in the midst of chaos, crisis, pain and suffering. James tells us to count it all joy when we enter into suffering and affliction. But what does it really mean to "Count it all joy"? The concept of counting here is the idea of considering the circumstance as one who has authority over. How powerful is that? We are to consider what we are going through as a matter of joy, not because the thing itself is something that is pleasurable, but because of what the trials and tribulation are working within us, and of the confidence we have that if God allowed it, it will ultimately work for our good.

At all times there is at least one good thing happening to us in the middle of pain and suffering. We in our weakness are receiving his JOY AND STRENGTH. We are called to think about our circumstances in that light. As believers, in order to count earthly afflictions as joy, we have to be able to take into account our inheritance in God as His sons and daughters. This is exactly what Jesus did. He was able to endure the cross because of the joy that was set before Him (Heb. 12:2). We too must realize that the suffering we endure in this life cannot compare with the joy that is for us today and the joy laid up for us in heaven.

So despite 2020, get your mind right and your heart prepared for all of the great things God is going to do for you and through you...and no matter what happens in the world, there will be joy in YOUR world!

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** Father in 2021, help me to have Joy unspeakable. Help me to have the right perspective so that I can see your hand and your power at work in my life.



# DAY 14

## PREPARATION FOR THE NEXT!

BY PASTOR JOHN GALLOWAY

“Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing and afterward He was hungry.”

Scripture reference: Luke 4:1-14

There is nothing more beautiful than the gift of salvation. It is the first step into a wonderful journey of truth, love, and revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ! I am reminded of the days when I first fully experienced the goodness of Jesus. It was incredible and I found myself wanting more and more.

As I continued my journey, there was a moment in time where I felt as though my Spiritual Walk “stalled”. I couldn’t figure out what was wrong. Have you ever been there? Where you are remaining pure and focused on the Lord but wondered what is next? Have I plateaued? Is this it Lord? Or is there more?

Often times those questions in our hearts are indicators that the Lord desires to bring us deeper in Him. Fasting is one of the ways that we take our faith walk to the next level! It is a firm denial of the desires of the flesh for the purpose of empowering the Holy Spirit in and through our lives!

Fasting prepares us for what’s next! The Bible continuously reveals and communicates how fasting has led to the breakthroughs of nations and generations of people who have felt stalled, defeated or weak!

In other words, fasting unlocks the “next” in God, and perhaps

nowhere in scripture is this principle more evident than in Luke 4:1-14. Immediately after Jesus is validated by the Heavenly Father in the river Jordan, He is led to fast in the wilderness for 40 days!

40 days for denial of self, 40 days of no bread, water or Chik-fil-A! The Bible clearly indicates He was “Hungry”. But the thing that is so critical for us to understand is not only was He hungry, He was prepared! Fasting prepares us to overcome the works of the enemy by limiting our flesh. Satan couldn’t cause Jesus to compromise due to his physical hunger, because He was Spiritually full!

Isn’t it amazing that God will use something that makes us feel empty to fill us and prepare us for what’s next! Not only was Jesus prepared to overcome the temptations of Satan, He returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit! And I declare that as you complete this fast, you will be prepared to overcome every temptation of the enemy, and walk into your next level with new power!

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** “ In this fast, I am becoming Spiritually prepared in every way to overcome the temptations of the enemy AND enter my next level with new power!”

SACRED SEASON | 21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING | SUNDAY, JANUARY 17





# DAY 15

## COMMA, BUT: THE POWER OF UNIFIED PRAYER BY PASTOR VICTORIA GALLOWAY

Acts 12:5 “Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church”

Scripture Reference: Acts 12:5-17, Matthew 18:19

Have you ever felt like you were in prison? Your purpose being locked up? Promises being locked up? Has that ever been a reality in your life? If so, you're not alone. Often times we experience seasons and moments where we feel we are confined to our circumstances without hope.

But I want to encourage you during these 21 days of prayer and fasting to know, if you ever felt like that, get ready for a “Comma, BUT!” I know what you may be thinking... “Comma, But.. what is that?” But often times in the Bible and in our spiritual walk our circumstances tell us one thing “comma, But” the reality can be quite different.

In today's scripture, Peter was kept in prison. The Bible is clear on His circumstance. Pay attention to the punctuation. The truth is then revealed after the “COMMA, But!”. The truth was that the church was in constant prayer for him.

In other words, Peter was in jail “Comma, BUT” the church prayed constantly for Him. And through the church's unified prayer, God set Peter free. What could happen during this season of prayer and fasting as you pray together in unity with the church and your family? Imagine what things will be unlocked as we pray together and in one accord.

This is the power of unified prayer! Things happen and things change when we pray together! We may think differently, look differently and be from different places, but when the Body of Christ prays in agreement, things change! Families are turned around, marriages are restored, and in Peter's case, the captive was set free!

This is the season for you to pray in agreement and believe God for the impossible! Believe for your family, children and city. What are you believing God for this year? Always remember, your circumstances may look one way COMMA,BUT a break—through is underway!

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** Lord I declare today, that my unified prayer with my family, my church and my city has strength and power to do the miraculous!

SACRED SEASON | 21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING | TUESDAY, JANUARY 19



# DAY 16

## SO MUCH BETTER TOGETHER

BY PASTOR BROOKLYN OLIVER

“Go, gather together all the Jews who are in Susa, and fast for me. Do not eat or drink for three days, night or day, I and my attendants will fast as you do. When this is done, I will go to the king, even though it is against the law. And if I perish, I perish.” Esther 4:16

Scripture Reading: Matthew 18:19-20

Prayer and fasting are two extremely vital elements that, as believers, should always be playing a role in our lives. There is so much power in each of these things individually, but there is even more power when pairing them together. Not only is the combination of prayer and fasting powerful, but it is exponentially more so when it is done corporately. In Esther 4:16 we see a perfect example of corporate prayer and fasting. In this scripture, Esther sees before her a life or death situation in her very near future. Even though fear was undoubtedly one of the first things to wash over her, she did not give that fear authority in her life. Instead, she responds with what she knows works! You got it... prayer and fasting! Here she understands the seriousness and urgency in her request to go before the king. She saw it as something she could not accomplish on her own, so she calls a three-day corporate fast amongst the Jews of Susa.

Something powerful happens in the heavenlies when we come together and join in agreement. We are assured in His word that when two or three are gathered together in agreement, it shall be done in heaven. We are so much better together in times like these.

Esther has such great confidence in her God that she is willing to perish for what she believes in. Now THAT is confidence!

Have you ever been faced with a life or death situation? If you're honest you can probably admit that you have at least felt that way a time or two in your life. How did you attempt to handle it? Did you try to resolve the issue on your own? Or was your first response to do what you know works? 2020 has been a rough year for most, but be encouraged today that no matter what your 2020 looked like, your 2021 can and will look different! Let me encourage you to not let prayer and fasting stop at the end of Sacred Season, but rather make it a lifestyle.

As you face challenging moments in 2021 rally around your friends and your family and corporately pray and fast together with the highest confidence in your God! And remember, where two or three are gathered together and in agreement for a thing, it SHALL be done in Heaven!

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** “Lord, thank you for being a good, good Father! Thank you that no matter what I have faced in the past or may face in the future, you are never changing! I will continually make the decision to have only the highest confidence in you and you alone!”



# DAY 17

## QUALIFIED IN THE QUARANTINE

BY PASTOR JENNIFER WOODS

Scripture Reading: Matthew 4:11 / Isaiah 40:31

Yes, I said it, one of the words you've heard more times than you wanted to hear lately. But I want to encourage you today that everything you went through in 2020 was to prepare you for the purpose God has for you in 2021 and beyond!

Quarantine comes from the Italian words quaranta giorni which means forty days. It began in the 14th century when ships coming into port from plagued cities were required to sit at anchor for forty days before landing at their destination. They were so close and yet so far away.

Sometimes God places us in a quarantine season. We come so close to our promise and purpose that we can see it but we cannot yet enter it. We must sit still while He works out of us everything that infected us in the last season. It's a time of waiting and healing. God allows these times because he doesn't want us to contaminate where we are going with where we were. He wants to do a new thing in you and it comes through the waiting while He is working.

Even Jesus went through forty days being alone in the wilderness. He fasted and waited, he was tempted and tried, weak and weary. Nevertheless, the Word of God and the Holy Spirit gave him the power and supernatural strength to pass the test. He came out of quarantine ready to fulfill his God given destiny and purpose.

Maybe you've become weary in the waiting. I declare over you today, that your season of waiting is your season of healing.

Let God complete the good work that he began in you. Don't lose sight of the destination. You will be granted access at just the right time and He will fulfill every promise concerning you.

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** Heavenly Father, I wait upon you today. Heal my heart and fulfill every good work you have for me in this new season. In Jesus' name, Amen.

# DAY 18

## STRENGTH TO GIVE

BY PASTOR ANDERSON BUNN

Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them. Then Peter said, “Silver or gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk.” Taking him by the right hand, he helped him up, and instantly the man’s feet and ankles became strong. He jumped to his feet and began to walk. Then he went with them into the temple courts, walking and jumping, and praising God.

Scripture Reference: Acts 3:1-8

I believe that in the year 2021 God not only wants to give us supernatural strength but wants to use us like he used Peter and John to help someone else receive strength. So, I want to point out a few things in this story that make it so powerful to me.

First, notice that Peter says to this man, “but what I do have I give you”. That means that what we are about to see this man receive, is something Peter himself already has. Know that in 2021 you can’t give away what you don’t have yourself; that is why it is imperative that in this next year you make sure you have some things yourself. Make sure you have joy, you have peace, you have hope, you have love, you have strength because you can only give away what you yourself have. Then notice what verse seven says, “and instantly the

man’s feet and ankles became strong”. This man’s body needed strength, and because Peter himself had strength, he was able to give it. This year my prayer is that you be so full of strength that you are able to give it to everyone around you.

Finally, the last thing I want you to notice is this: “Then he went with them into the temple courts,” this entire miracle happens outside of the temple or outside of church, and because of what happened outside, the man came with them inside.

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** I believe in 2021 God is wanting to use each and every one of us to give away, outside of the church, the things He has given us. We will watch as the people we give it to will come with us inside the church. So, my prayer in 2021 is not just that we receive supernatural strength, but like we see in this story we have **STRENGTH TO GIVE**.



# DAY 19

## YOU WILL BLOOM AGAIN

BY PASTOR COURTNEY RALEY

“I am the true Vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that continues to bear fruit, He [repeatedly] prunes, so that it will bear more fruit [even richer and finer fruit]. You are already clean because of the word which I have given you [the teachings which I have discussed with you]. Remain in Me, and I [will remain] in you. Just as no branch can bear fruit by itself without remaining in the vine, neither can you [bear fruit, producing evidence of your faith] unless you remain in Me.” John 15:1-4 AMP

Scripture Reading: John 15:1-11 (AMP)

Seasons are necessary. The ebb and flow, the growth, the pruning, the waiting, and the regrowth. God never wastes a single one. Whatever season you're in; embrace it, but embrace it knowing it's not forever. When we walk through difficult times of trials and waiting, our knee jerk reaction is to run out of it, think our way through it, or will ourselves over it. Though I don't doubt that God works with our will, I believe it's necessary to make sure our will is surrendered to his. Oftentimes, God is doing the most when we are seeing the least. In John 15 we see the kindness of our Father the Vinedresser. He comes and he tends to those who abide in the Vine, his Son Jesus Christ. We discover there is care in the cut back. His pruning is always for our good and never our harm. It's in seasons we feel so desperate to get out of that God does his finest work, and when we look back; we see the grace and goodness of God woven beautifully throughout them.

We find that the pruning was actually not our punishment, but rather our reward for fruitfulness. Jesus teaches us that it's actually the thing that makes a way for us to produce “richer” and “finer” fruit. Not only will we produce a greater quantity, but it will be of better quality. Fruit only grows as a result of abiding in the right environment, so dig your roots deep into him this year. Cling to Jesus even when it's hard, trust God; and watch as the fruit of the Spirit begins to flourish in your life.

Spend some time with the Father today, and let him tend to your heart. Ask him what he's doing in you in this season. What he's pruning and what he's growing. He's not just the God of your completion. He's the God of your becoming. He's with you every step of the way. Abide. Trust. Repeat. You will bloom again.

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** I declare I am becoming more fruitful as I abide in Christ Jesus this year.



# DAY 20

## STRENGTH IN HIS PRESENCE

BY PASTOR JOHN WILDS

Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his dwelling place. 1 Chronicles 16:27 (NIV)

Scripture Reading; Isaiah 26:3, Nehemiah 8:10, Psalm 91:1-2, Psalm 46:1

Did you know that joy and peace is the place God intended for us to live? Many wander from the waters of bliss and get stranded on the island of anxiety and fear. This was never the intent of God's heart. 1 Chronicles 16:27 tells us that joy and strength are in his dwelling place. That means, wherever he is, there is joy! This joy isn't dependent upon our circumstances, it is supernatural! Only in Christ Jesus can we rejoice at all times (Phil. 4:4). It doesn't mean we don't face challenges, but we should always return to joy. We see through a lens that is often compromised by hurt, pain, fear, insecurity, pride, anger, resentment, bitterness, and the list goes on. This is why we need the mind of Christ to see clearly. Things always look different from His perspective.

Isaiah gives us the answer for living in peace. We do so by "keeping our minds fixed on him". Peace and joy come by knowing him intimately, and the only way we can do this is through time spent in His presence and meditating on His Word. A greater awareness of him keeps us from getting off track. We live in a culture that presents us with many opportunities to be anxious, but the culture of God's kingdom is completely different.

His Kingdom is one of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost (Roman 14:17)! When we make the presence of God our priority, we reap the benefits of abiding in him... joy that gives us strength even when we walk through the darkest of valleys! May this be a year of supernatural strength as you remain in Him.

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** I declare that as I prioritize the presence of God and keep my mind fixed on His Word, supernatural strength is mine!



# DAY 21

## AND THEN THEY WILL FEAST

BY PASTOR JIM RALEY

Esther 9:19 Therefore the Jews of the villages who dwelt in the unwall'd towns celebrated the fourteenth day of the month of Adar with gladness and feasting, as a holiday, and for sending presents to one another.

Scripture Reading: Esther 9:18-28

For the last many days you have prayed, fasted and put God first in this new year. Our first devotional three weeks ago was titled “And then they will FAST,” so it seems appropriate that today’s title would be, “And then they will FEAST.”

Today we gather for Sacred Sunday, to present ourselves, our year and our First-Fruits seed unto the Lord. I am declaring in faith, that after this time of fasting, WE WILL FEAST! There were 7 major feasts in the Old Testament that were, and still are, celebrated by Jewish people. In these times they would come together with family, neighbors and friends in order to remember God’s goodness and grace. It was a time to rehearse His faithfulness in the past and celebrate the fact that He would continue to be their ultimate source for victory, joy and peace. There were also times when they would call impromptu feasts to celebrate a particular time when the Lord came through. They did this in the book of Esther in the Old Testament and also when the Prodigal Son returned home in the New Testament.

As you feast in this next season, expect to see God’s faithfulness manifest in your life. Anticipate this year to be a year of **SUPERNATURAL STRENGTH AND BREAKTHROUGH**. Believe in your heart that your fasting and prayer has produced good things for your life, family, church and nation! Blessings and peace throughout the rest of 2021!

**Declaration and Prayer for Today:** Lord I thank you that this year will be one of feasting on your faithfulness, victory, goodness and grace! I give you glory in advance for all to come in Jesus’ mighty name!

SACRED SEASON | 21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING | SUNDAY, JANUARY 24











