

Sacrificing For a Closer Relationship With God"



2025 Forty Days Fast Daily Prayer Journal



Church of the Living God—JD

**The Pillar and Ground of the Truth,
Which He Purchased With His Own Blood, Inc.**

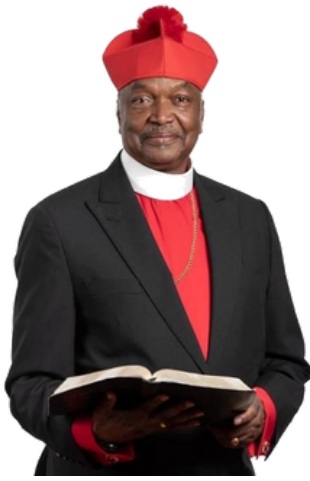
National Headquarters

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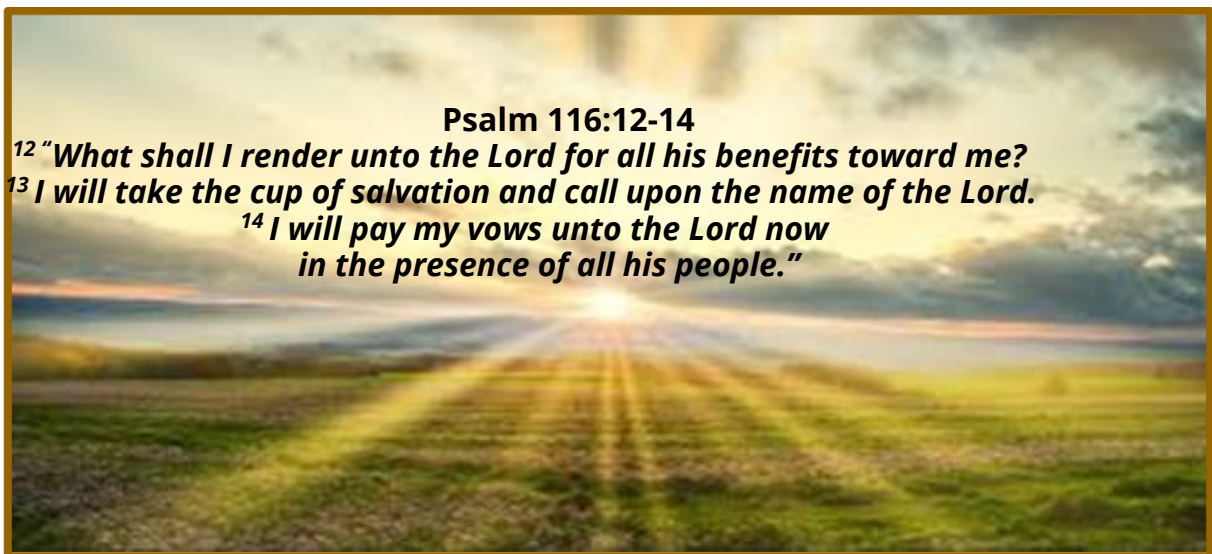


2025 40 Days Fast Theme

"Sacrificing For a Closer Relationship With God"

James 4:7-8, 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."

During these 40 days of fasting and praying, we as a body of Christ want to give up things more than just food, habits, or our favorite television shows. We want to sacrifice by giving up things like unforgiveness, past hurts that we are holding on to, internal resentment, discouragement, and any other unseen weights we have been harboring for years that have prevented us from developing a closer relationship with God. While we yet live, we have an opportunity to fix some things ourselves. Matthew 5:23-24 - **23** *"Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; 24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift."* For this 2025 40 Days Fast (January 1st – February 9th), I encourage each of you to give it up and seek a closer relationship with God **now!!!** What are you willing to give up for forty days to develop a closer relationship with your God!? He will make it worth your effort.



In His Service,
Bishop Dr. Calvin Worthem
General Chief Overseer/Senior Bishop

40 Days Fast

Follow these Guidelines as you participate in the 40 Days Fast.

Saints in observance of the 40-Day's Fast (12:00 midnight to 12:00 noon) beginning January 1, 2025, through February 9, 2025, we as believers need to fast and develop a closer relationship with God. Fasting, Praying, and Sacrificing are the quickest ways to get power from God. We cannot navigate through the End-time storms of life if we do not practice fasting, praying, and sacrificing things that take up more of our time than our time with God. *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."* (Romans 12:1-2)

For this Fasting period, the Spirit of God has moved me to ask the Saints to give up something (or some things) that they have been holding on to, and that have put distance between them and God. Only you can decipher what things you need to give up. It could be deception, anger, unforgiveness, unfaithfulness, neglecting to tithe or support your church financially, backbiting, sins that go against maintaining a healthy body, etc. This can go along with the refraining of eating/drinking during the hours of 12 am – 12 pm. Please know that the condition of your internal body health can improve greatly if you take this time to give up things that are harmful to your body (the temple that the Holy Ghost dwells in). During these 40 days of sacrificing and praying, choose to take better care of yourself.

So many people of God are suffering with sicknesses today, and even death, because of hidden sins, negative thoughts that cause stress, unprofitable conversations and gossiping, overeating, and the lack of exercise. This different type of Fasting, Praying and Sacrificing will begin the practice of a different lifestyle that will enhance your living and give you a closer relationship with God. The more you practice positive changes and repent for your sins, you will permanently become a better person and be rapture ready. While fasting, spend more quality time and intimacy with the Lord in worship; reading scriptures and positive literature; in singing spiritual songs and hymns; and in thankful prayers to God. Internalize Ephesians 5:19-20 *"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;"*

Finally, as you fast and pray, take time to read and focus on the scriptures and prayer focuses for each day. I am praying for your spiritual success for these 40 days. Remember **"...with God all things are possible"**. (Matthew 19:26).

In His Service,
Bish op Dr. Calvin L. Worthem
General Chief Overseer/Senior Bishop

Greetings from The Assistant Overseer...



I greet you all in the name of God the Holy Father, Jesus Christ, His Son and our Holy Redeemer, in the name of the Holy Ghost, our Comforter and Keeper. I pray that you will be blessed and inspired as you build a stronger relationship with God during this 40 Days Fast. May His presence produce miracles, healing, and deliverance for each of you!

May He strengthen you as you make sacrifices to give up anything that is not pleasing to God, and may He establish a permanent change in all of our lives as we start out in a brand-New Year, covered by His love, His grace and His mercy. I am praying for all of our spiritual success!

Your Servant in the Lord,

Bishop Dr. Bonnie S. Guster

Assistant Overseer

Encouragement from the

Chief Helpers

To the Body of Christ... As we again embrace this time set aside for us to Fast and Pray for 40 days in a New Year, let us also include the process of reintroducing ourselves to God, and really getting to know Him in a very real way. In examining our lives let us focus on the theme for this Fast, "Sacrificing for a Closer Relationship with God", and let us forsake everything that holds us back from reaching our goal. We want to seek His face as we fast and pray and look forward to feeling His presence right there with us as we read through this Daily Prayer Journal.

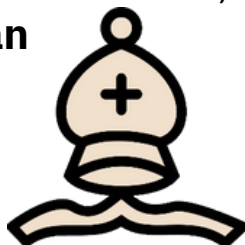
We are praying for your physical protection and spiritual growth as we all experience the fulfillment of God's promises in our lives.

In His Service,

Bishop Rosemary Buchanan

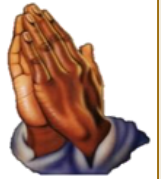
Bishop Dr. Aurora Jones

Bishop Anthony P. Taylor



Bishop Alex Wortham

Bishop Howard Yawn



HAPPY NEW YEAR and Greetings to everyone in Jesus' Name! I thank God for each of you, and this 2025 Fast Journal as well as the theme from the Lord through the General Chief Overseer, Bishop Dr. Calvin L. Worthem.

Having good relationships is important. Jesus teaches us to love in deed and in truth. However, we must value our relationship with Christ, above all others. A true sacrifice is a solemn offering by faith, patience, and steadfast hope in Him. Saints, it is not merely for us to say or sing, *"To Be Like Jesus"* - we have a mandate to live as a holy sacrifice, acceptable by Him. It is crucial to our salvation to be willing daily to build a relationship with Him, inseparable by prayer, meditation, and the Word.

Jesus did not choose to mitigate His Passion by eluding the agony He had to experience on the Cross. He was nailed there and stayed for us as the sacrificial Lamb of God. We should look forward to and yearn for spending valuable time with our Redeemer. Apostle Paul begged us as brethren to *"present your bodies as a living sacrifice, Holy and acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."* (Romans 12:1)

Let us pray to always be willing and ready as a holy sacrifice unto the Lord. And there is no greater blessing, no better feeling than being in His presence. The worth of that sacrifice is priceless. I implore you to take full advantage of the gems contained in this Prayer Journal, and I pray the Lord Jesus blesses you all.

Humbly, At His Feet...

Bishop Rosetta Richardson

President—International Outreach Ministry of Prayer

SACRIFICING for a Closer Relationship with God.

Selfishness in wanting things to always go our way, for personal gain.

Anger towards others when they don't agree with us.

Criticizing others who are different from us.

Resentfulness towards people who have offended us in the past.

Impatience with those who are not moving as fast as we would like them to move.

Foolish talking around others who are weaker than we are.

Insecurity around those who are better than us.

Complaining about everything.

Inefficient in completing tasks assigned to our hands. Giving up too easily.

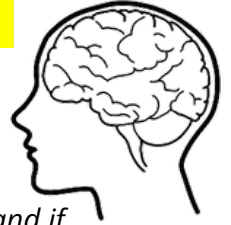
Negative speech about those who are over us in the Lord.

Greedy for attention, titles, and personal gain.

Giving up all of this & more will give us a closer relationship with God!



(Praying this week for the Heads of our Church)



Day 1 – Wednesday, January 1, 2025

PRAY TO HAVE THE MIND OF CHRIST

Scripture: *Philippians 3:15 – “Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.”*

Insight: So, let's concentrate on taking on the mind of Christ if we want to receive the good things God has for us. If we have a mind of flesh, our relationship with God will be compromised.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray for our General Chief Overseer, and pray that his mind will be at peace and free to lead the people of God in the way that He would have them to go.

Day 2– Thursday, January 2, 2025

PRAY TO HAVE GOOD THOUGHTS ALL DAY

Scripture: *Philippians 4:8 – “Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”*

Insight: Today, do the best you can to use your mind meditating on the truth, joy, peace, love, and happiness – all good things; there are so many beautiful things to think about, and be content. Practice what you have learned from following Christ and do as He did. This will enhance your relationship with God, who makes everything work together for your good.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray for our Assistant Overseer, and pray that her thoughts will not be cluttered with the cares of this life, but filled with joy, love, and peace.

Day 3– Friday, January 3, 2025

PRAY FOR YOUR MEMORY TO BE PROTECTED

Scripture: *Psalms 77:11-12 – “I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old. I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.”*

Insight: Refresh your mind over and over again with thoughts of what God has done for you. Yes, lay everything out on the table of your mind of how He healed your body and provided for you time after time; just ponder all day long on the things you have accomplished with His help, and then take yourself a praise break, simply because you can remember it all!

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray for our Chief Helpers, and pray that God will keep their minds sharp and in good shape, as they assist in leading the people of God in their charge.



Day 4– Saturday, January 4, 2025

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO STRUGGLE WITH DEMENTIA

Scripture: Isaiah 26:3– *“Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.”*

Insight: God has promised to keep those with their minds set on Him in a perfectly stable and peaceful frame of mind. He will keep them completely whole, steady on their feet, and confident because they keep at it and don't give up – they fight to the end to maintain their relationship with Him no matter what.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray for all Bishops, and pray that God will sustain them with a steady mind, able to think on their own, solve problems, and manage their lives in good health.

Day 5– Sunday, January 5, 2025

PRAY FOR THE MINDS OF THOSE WHO CARE FOR ILL FAMILY MEMBERS

Scripture: Psalm 55:22– *“Cast thy burden upon the Lord, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.”*

Insight: All of those who give up their lives, their time, and mental strength to care for others are invited to pile all of their troubles on GOD's shoulders — He alone will carry their load and help them with their assignment. God forms a relationship with those who care for the ill with loving hands of mercy. They are extension cords of His love and compassion. He is love.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray for all Pastors, and pray that God will give them strength to shepherd the flock of God with wisdom, goodness, kindness, love and patience.



(Praying this week for Matters of the Heart)



Day 6– Monday, January 6, 2025

PRAY FOR A HEART OF FORGIVENESS **Scripture:** Matthew 18:21-22 – *“Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven.”*

Insight: Just as God forgives us without limit, in our hearts, we should forgive others without counting how many times. This is a serious matter of the heart, because it results in a tight and close-knit relationship with the One who forgives us way before we even offend Him.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray for the body of Christ, and pray that God will soften their hearts to forgive one another swiftly for any and all offenses.



Day 7- Tuesday, January 7, 2025

PRAY FOR A HEART OF LOVE Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:6- *"And the Lord thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live."*

Insight: When a heart is circumcised, the callous hard stuff is cut away and love can take over every vacant spot. Love will flood in and go in every direction – north, south, east, and west. Everybody will fill the love flowing from you, and your relationship with God will be secured.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray for those whose hearts have been broken because of severed relationships. Pray that somehow, someday, situations like this can be reconciled.

Day 8- Wednesday, January 8, 2025

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SUFFERED HEART ATTACKS

Scripture: Jeremiah 33:6- *"Behold, I will bring it health and cure, and I will cure them, and will reveal unto them the abundance of peace and truth."*

Insight: We serve a loving God who is very concerned about the health of His people. Heart valve disease can affect anyone. But people over 65 are at higher risk. In fact, 2.5 million people over the age of 75 have aortic stenosis, one of the most common types of heart valve disease. While its symptoms can be subtle they shouldn't be brushed off as "getting older." Left untreated, it can progress to severe aortic stenosis, also known as heart valve failure. Take care of your heart!

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray for all Members who struggle with heart diseases and are on medications that prevent them from fasting from food and drink, as they desire to.

Day 9- Thursday, January 9, 2025

PRAY FOR THE HEARTS BROKEN FROM THE DEATH OF A LOVED ONE

Scripture: Psalm 34:18- *"The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit."*

Insight: If your heart is broken because of the loss of a loved one, you will discover that God is always right there when you have a relationship with Him; and if you trust Him to fill the void left in your heart – He will do that too. Spend time with Him today and feel His comfort.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray for all Members who struggle with heart diseases and are on medications that prevent them from fasting from food and drink, as they desire to.



Day 10– Friday, January 10, 2025

PRAY FOR GOD TO REPLACE STONY HEARTS WITH HEARTS OF FLESH

Scripture: Ezekiel 36:26– *“A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.”*

Insight: A stony heart can also be a stubborn heart. It is a senseless, intractable heart, that receives no kindly impressions from the Word, or Spirit of God in its ordinary operations and influences. God wants to remove all evil hearts and replace them with hearts of flesh, filled with love, kindness, consideration, and sympathy during this Fast, for those who want it to happen for them.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray for all those who struggle with letting their guard down and allowing others to enter their hearts and spread love all over the place. Pray for the untouchables.

Day 11– Saturday, January 11, 2025

PRAY FOR GOD TO FLUSH OUT GUILTY HEARTS

Scripture: Psalm 51:10– *“Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me.”*

Insight: When we sin or make mistakes, the enemy wants us to feel like our relationship with God has been completely demolished. Not so! That is why repentance is so important. Just ask God to restore a clean heart within you and flush out all signs of guilt. He loves us and wants us to draw closer to Him so we can feel that love. Repentance will do that.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray for all those who struggle with the guilt that their past sins has placed on them. Pray for them to be free to accept God’s forgiveness and His love.

Day 12– Sunday, January 12, 2025

PRAY TO DEVELOP A STRONG SPIRITUAL HEART

Scripture: Psalm 73:26– *“My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever.”*

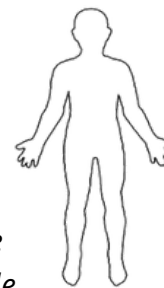
Insight: Life’s situations may often lay heavy on our hearts and cause us to feel faint. But spending time in the presence of God will cause us to build up strength in our hearts, especially when we read His Word and seek His presence. He will strengthen our hearts and cause us to triumph in every situation we have to face!

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will give you boldness to face this world and its problems with your heart set on believing what is written in Psalm 37. Read it today and believe!





(Praying this week for Matters of the Body)



Day 13- Monday, January 13, 2025

~~PRAY AND PRESENT YOUR BODY AS A LIVING SACRIFICE~~

Scripture: Romans 12:1 - *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service."*

Insight: It is imperative that you take your everyday, ordinary life— your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life — and place it before God as a sacrificial offering. Embrace what God has done for you and spend quality time with Him for this is the best thing you can do to secure a loving relationship with Him.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will shape the minds of the Body of Christ to give their bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to Him.

Day 14- Tuesday, January 14, 2025

PRAY AND DON'T WORRY TODAY

Scripture: Psalm 73:26- *"My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, Psalm 73:26- "My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever."*

Insight: Those of us who decide to live for God and worship Him fully don't usually complain about what's on the table at mealtimes or whether the clothes in our closets are in fashion. There is far more to our lives than the food we put in our stomachs, or to our outer appearances, or the clothes we hang on our bodies. If we just look at the birds, free and unfettered, not tied down to a job, careless in the care of God, we will see that we count far more to Him than birds.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that the Body of Christ will give their worries over to Jesus and not fret about tomorrow - because God is in control of their lives.

Day 15- Wednesday, January 15, 2025

PRAY THAT SIN WILL NOT REIGN IN YOUR BODY Scripture:

Romans: 6:12 - *"Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof."*

Insight: In these last days, we cannot afford to give sin a single vote in the way we conduct our lives. We don't even need to allow little thoughts of sin to run across our minds. We should just throw ourselves 100% into God's way of doing things. Sin **will not** tell us how to live today!! We are no longer living under the bondage of sin! We are living in the freedom of God! Hallelujah!

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that the Body of Christ will not play around with the influences of sin any more, but will live an unreproached life suitable to glorifying God.



Day 16– Thursday, January 16, 2025

PRAY THAT YOUR BODY WILL BE PRESEVED AS A HOLY TEMPLE

Scripture: Corinthians 6:19 - *"What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?"*

Insight: We must all realize that our bodies are a sacred place, the place of the Holy Spirit? Don't you see that you can't live however you please, squandering what God paid such a high price for? The physical part of you is not some piece of property belonging to the spiritual part of you. God owns the whole works. So let people see God in and through your body the holy temple of God.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that your temple (your body) will be void of sicknesses and diseases – that it will be healthy and strong – and in great condition for the Master's use.

Day 17– Friday, January 17, 2025

PRAY FOR A HEALING IN OUR BODIES

Scripture: Exodus 15:26 - *"And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee."*

Insight: GOD has told us so many times that if we would obey His directives on how to live in His presence, obey His commandments and keep all His laws, then He would not strike us with all the diseases that He inflicted on the Egyptians. He declares that He is the GOD our Healer.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will bring healing to His people, especially those who suffer with diabetes, cancer, and dementia.

Day 18– Saturday, January 18, 2025

PRAY FOR HEALED KNEES TO PRAY MORE FERVENTLY

Scripture: Hebrews 12:12-13 - *"Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed."*

Insight: For so long the people of God have suffered from knee problems that prevent them from bowing before the Lord in humble submission and in repentance from sin. We must claim our healing – lift up holy hands before the Lord – petition Him fervently – connect with Him and ask Him to strengthen our knees.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will give all those who struggle with painful knee conditions a relief and swift healing.



Day 19– Sunday, January 19, 2025

PRAY TO APPEAR BLAMELESS BEFORE THE LORD

Scripture: 1 Thessalonians 5:23 – *“And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

Insight: Our desire each day during this Fast should be that God Himself, the God who makes everything holy and whole, would make us holy and complete, putting us together—spirit, soul, and body—and keeping us fit for the coming of our Master, Jesus Christ. He promised to keep us, and if He said it, He’ll do it!

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will keep us free of all spots, wrinkles, and anything else that will jeopardize our relationship with Him! Pray that He keeps us all blameless.



(Praying this Week for Matters of the Soul)



Day 20– Monday, January 20, 2025

PRAY FOR A PROSPEROUS SOUL

Scripture: 3 John 2 – *“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”*

Insight: We serve a loving God who is able not only to keep our bodies healed, but to also prosper our souls! He wants us to be well in our health and prosperous in our lives as we exist on earth. In return, we need to continue to work daily on building a greater relationship with Him.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray and thank God for allowing you to prosper even in the troubled times we now live in.

Day 21– Tuesday, January 21, 2025

PRAY THAT GOD’S WORD WILL CONTINUE TO BRING LIFE TO YOUR SOUL

Scripture: Isaiah 55:3 – *“Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.”*

Insight: God wants us to pay close attention to His Word. He wants us to come close to Him, listen carefully to His life-giving, life-nourishing words, and live. He made a lasting covenant commitment to us, the same commitment that He made to David many years ago in confirming His sure, solid, enduring love. He desires to have a closer relationship with us, today!

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray and thank God for allowing His Word to be available to you to feast on daily causing your soul to live.



Day 22- Wednesday, January 22, 2025

PRAY TO FIND REST FOR YOUR SOUL

Scripture: Matthew 11:29- *"Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls."*

Insight: In these times that we live, we often become tired, worn out, and burned out in our service to God. He extends an invitation to us to come to Him. He wants us to get away with Him to recover our souls. He alone can show us how to take a real rest. When we walk with Him and talk with Him, we can learn about Him. He loves us and will not lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on us. Keep company with Him today and learn how to live freely and without stress.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will give you wisdom to know when it is time to stop, rest, and relish in spending quality, calm, set-apart time with Him to build a good relationship.

Day 23- Thursday, January 23, 2025

PRAY AND FAST TO GIVE UP BEING IMPATIENT

Scripture: Luke 21:19- *"In your patience possess ye your souls."*

Insight: Patience is one of those things that seem so hard to acquire these days. When we pray to God for patience, He will answer by setting something up in our lives that will push us into the patience room – sometimes a very uncomfortable place to be – but it will produce what we asked for. Patience is a virtue that so few people have, but with God all things are possible!

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will give you what you need (endurance) to patiently wait on Him to perform miracles in your life.

Day 24- Friday, January 24, 2025

PRAY TO DEVELOP A SUBMISSIVE SPIRIT TOWARDS YOUR LEADERSHIP **Scripture:**

Hebrews 13:17- *"Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."*

Insight: God desires us to be responsive to our pastoral leaders and to listen to their counsel. They are alert to the condition of our souls and are leading under the strict supervision of God. Let us contribute to the joy of their leadership, not its difficulty. Why would we want to make things harder for them? Working with our leaders enhances our relationship with God who allowed them to be put in that position over us.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will build a mutual relationship of love between the people of God and their leaders, who watch for their souls.



Day 25– Saturday, January 25, 2025

PRAY TO DEVELOP A PURE SOUL IN LOVING OTHERS

Scripture: 1st Peter 1:22– *"Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:"*

Insight: By this 25th day of our Fasting, Praying, and Sacrificing, we should have cleaned up our lives by following the truth. Our love for one another should be as if our lives depended on it. Our new life should not be like our old life. We should have by now grown more mature. Our old birth came through our fleshly sinful channel; our new birth now comes from God's Holy Word.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will give you a more tried, proven, and tested love.

Day 26– Sunday, January 26, 2025

PRAY TO DEVELOP AN APPRECIATION FOR THE KEEPER OF OUR SOULS

Scripture: 1st Peter 2:25– *"For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls."*

Insight: We were at one time lost sheep with no idea who we were or where we were going. But praise God, through the hearing and receiving of the Word, we are all named and kept for good by Jesus Christ, the Shepherd and Keeper of our souls!

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that the people of God will no longer dishonor and disobey the One who keeps our souls. Pray that they will worship Him in appreciation for all that He does.



(Praying this week Over Matters of Selfishness)



Day 27– Monday, January 27, 2025

PRAY TO BE ABLE TO ESTEEM OTHERS ABOVE YOURSELF

Scripture: Philippians 2:3– *"Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves."*

Insight: During this Fast, learn to agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Do not push your way to the front all of the time; do not sweet-talk your way to the top. A good choice would be to put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. We can't afford to be obsessed with getting our own way. We must forget ourselves long enough to lend a helping hand.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will give His people more love for one another, and not seek fame, fortune, titles or positions for themselves. That they will do whatever it takes to work together as a team to build up the kingdom of God.



Day 28– Tuesday, January 28, 2025

PRAY TO GET RID OF SELFISHNESS

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 10:24– *“Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth.”*

Insight: Because of God's massive generosity and grace towards all of us, we don't have to examine and scrutinize every action He does for self-satisfaction – we just have to monitor our actions to tighten up our relationship with Him and our sisters and brothers. We should want to live righteously, love fervently, and be sincere in all that we do. Most importantly, we should make our best efforts to help *others* live well.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will put His Spirit in our hearts to look out for the welfare of others! Take time to be a blessing to a stranger today.

Day 29– Wednesday, January 29, 2025

PRAY TO BE ABLE TO EAT MORE FRUIT

Scripture: Galatians 5:22-23– “*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”*

Insight: Wonder what would happen if we all tried harder to live God's way? God sets a table of good fruit before us and brings gifts into our lives — things like affection for others, exuberance about life, and serenity. We develop a willingness to be consistent, a sense of compassion in the heart, and a conviction through a life of holiness that inspires other people. We find ourselves involved in loyal commitments, not needing to force our way in life, but able to marshal and direct our energies wisely. That comes from eating good fruit every day.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will allow the fruit of the Spirit to shine through all of His people, so that others will want to be saved.

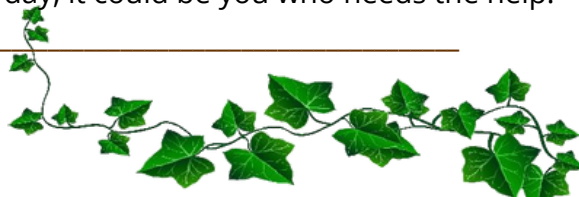
Day 30– Thursday, January 30, 2025

PRAY TO BE ABLE TO SEE SOMEONE WHO NEEDS HELP

Scripture: Romans 15:1-2 – *“We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification.”*

Insight: Those of us who are strong and fervent in faith need to step in and lend a helping hand to those who stumble, and not just talk about them or do what is most convenient for us. The strength God gave to us is for service, not status or positions. Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, “What can I do to help?”

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will give you some soul to strengthen today and help along the way! One day, it could be you who needs the help.



Day 31- Friday, January 31, 2025

PRAY TO DEVELOP AN UNSELFISH SPIRIT LIKE CHRIST'S

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 5:15- *"And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again."*

Insight: Thank God for Jesus, that One Man who died for everyone. He put everyone in the same boat when He died. He included everyone in His death so that everyone of us could also be included in His life, a glorious, resurrected life - a far better life than we could ever have lived on our own. Oh, to be able to have a selfless love like His!

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will give His people a desire to live a life thinking of ways they can enhance the lives of others, by sacrificing something.

Day 32- Saturday, February 1, 2025

PRAY TO DEVELOP A SERVANT'S SPIRIT

Scripture: Philippians 2:5-8 - *"Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."*

Insight: As servants of the Most High God, we have an obligation to serve one another in love. The high and mighty will never prosper because they are selfish - always looking out for their own interests - desiring to be served and not serve. Humility is nowhere present in a selfish person.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that the Church will be filled with people who have a mind to serve and not flooding with selfish individuals, only seeking vain glory.

Day 33- Sunday, February 2, 2025

PRAY TO AVOID BEING A LOVER OF ONE'S OWN SELF

Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:1-2- *"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,"*

Insight: We don't need to be naive. These are difficult days. As the end approaches, people are going to be self-absorbed, money-hungry, self-promoting, stuck-up, profane, and the list goes on. Let's not be one of those, but seekers of God and everything else connected to Him.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray and seek after the righteousness of God and nothing else!





(Praying this week to Overcome Complaining)



Day 34– Monday, February 3, 2025

PRAY FOR PEACE AND NO DISPUTING

Scripture: Philippians 2:14– *“Do all things without murmurings and disputings.”*

Insight: In our attempt to develop a good relationship with God, we have to lessen or even eliminate all forms of complaining. Often, we express our dislike of things or situations without taking a second thought of how this displeases God. Think about it before you complain about it.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will be pleased with our conversations and every statement that comes out of our mouths.

Day 35– Tuesday, February 4, 2025

PRAY FOR STRENGTH TO OVERCOME COMPLAINING

Scripture: Numbers 11:1– *“And when the people complained, it displeased the Lord: and the Lord heard it; and his anger was kindled; and the fire of the Lord burnt among them, and consumed them that were in the uttermost parts of the camp.”*

Insight: If you ever want to see the bad side of God, spend your time complaining about everything. He will set things on fire when His anger is kindled. So, we will try our best during this season to endure the things we have to go through without complaining.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will take the spirit of complaining away from all believers, and that we will strive to become more thankful, striving to please God.

Day 36– Wednesday, February 5, 2025

PRAY TO CEASE FROM COMPLAINING IN YOUR HOME

Scripture: Deuteronomy 1:27– *“And ye murmured in your tents, and said, Because the LORD hated us, he hath brought us forth out of the land of Egypt, to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us.”*

Insight: Sometimes we can be caught complaining in the confines of our homes, thinking that God doesn't hear that. Wrong! He is an omnipresent God – He hears everything and sees everything. Even if He leads us into an uncomfortable situation, we still have to go on through and trust Him. Our complaining only makes things harder for us.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will make us all conscientious about what we are saying. Things may not always be the way we want them to be. While at home, instead of complaining, meditate and pray for more faith to believe that God will not lead us to destruction.



Day 37– Thursday, February 6, 2025

PRAY TO OVERCOME BEING EASILY OFFENDED

Scripture: John 6:61– *“When Jesus knew in himself that his disciples murmured at it, he said unto them, Doth this offend you?”*

Insight: People today are so easily offended, so many small things bother them; and pastors are struggling with giving them good constructive advice to help them on their journey to heaven. Now is the time to tuck hurt feelings away – get rid of it! Little time is left to pamper offenses. Now is the time to be strong and develop a closer relationship with God before it's too late.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will help us all overcome hurt feelings.

Day 38– Friday, February 7, 2025

PRAY TO DO GOOD DEEDS WITHOUT COMPLAINING

Scripture: 1 Peter 4:9– *“Use hospitality one to another without grudging.”*

Insight: Be kind to the less fortunate, give a meal to the hungry, a bed to the homeless—and do it cheerfully without complaining. Be generous with the different things God has given you, and give generously: when speaking to people, use God's words; if you are helping out, let it be gracious. In doing so, God's bright presence will be evident in all things through Jesus Christ, and *He'll* get all the glory in everything we do.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will be glorified by the good deeds we do here on earth, with complaining.

Day 39– Saturday, February 8, 2025

PRAY FOR STRENGTH WHEN OTHER COMPLAIN ABOUT YOUR GOOD DEEDS

Scripture: Luke 19:7– *“And when they saw it, they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner.”*

Insight: The scriptures tell of how they complained about Jesus when He spent time with Zacchaeus, the rich publican. People will see you doing good for others who they count unworthy, and they will complain loud enough for you to hear it. Ignore them, and keep on doing good, especially when you are doing it for the right reason – not for show, or for praise. God needs you to be the extension cord to His heart. Be encouraged and stay focused.

Focus: As you sacrifice today, pray that God will change the hearts of all those complainers who rise up against you for doing the right thing.



Day 40– Sunday, February 9, 2025

PRAY THAT YOUR WORDS BE UPLIFTING WITHOUT COMPLAINTS

Scripture: Ephesians 4:29– *“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.”*

Insight: On this last day of the 40 Days Fast, praises to God should flow out of our mouths, not complaints, filthy communication, murmuring or grumbling! Let us encourage and edify one another in love – thanking God that we made it these past 40 days together, and that a change has taken place in our lives. We have given up all those things that were weights and sins that brought us trouble. We have grown spiritually, we have changed our eating habits, we have exercised and have gotten into shape. Let us take this new growth and make it our standard for the rest of our lives. We made sacrifices for a closer relationship with God. To God be the Glory!

Focus: As you sacrifice on this last day of the Fast, pray and give God thanks! Give Him Glory! Give Him honor! Now, we can truly say that with God, all things are possible!

*O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame,
A light to shine upon the road
That leads me to the Lamb!*

*Where is the blessedness I knew,
When first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul refreshing view
Of Jesus, and His Word?
What peaceful hours I once enjoyed!
How sweet their memory still!
But they have left an aching void
The world can never fill.
Return, O holy Dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest;
I hate the sins that made Thee mourn
And drove Thee from my breast.
The dearest idol I have known,
Whate'er that idol be
Help me to tear it from Thy throne,
And worship only Thee.
So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb*

“
Sacrificing For a Closer
Relationship With God”



by William Cowper (1731-1800)

2025 NATIONAL CHURCH CALENDAR



DATES	EVENT AND HOST CHURCH LOCATION
March 6-8, 2025 (Thursday-Saturday)	Hats and Pearls Women's Conference World Changers Ministries International Nassau & Polhemus Streets – Nassau, Bahamas
March 28-30, 2025 (Friday-Sunday)	Mid-West Regional Revival Host Church: Mount Clemens, MI
June 20-22, 2025 (Friday-Sunday)	Young People's Assembly Indianapolis, IN
June 23-29, 2025 (Monday-Sunday)	General Assembly Indianapolis, IN
September 12-14, 2025 (Friday-Sunday)	East Coast Regional Revival Host Church: To be Determined
October 17-19, 2025 (Friday-Sunday)	Southern States Regional Revival Host Church: Tupelo, MS



My Personal Notes of Spiritual Growth

“Sacrificing for a Closer Relationship With God”



2025 "40-Days Fast"
Daily Prayer Journal

Sacrificing For a Closer Relationship With God"



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