



21 DAYS OF
PRAYER

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FASTING

JAN 18 - FEB 7

Welcome to our 21 days of prayer and fasting! We are excited to see what God will do in our lives, our church and our community as we bring our requests to him over the next 3 weeks. There is great power in prayer and fasting. Fasting is a way of increasing our focus on God as we pray. It sharpens our minds and attunes our hearts to hearing God more clearly. And it creates humility in us as we deny our comforts and desires and replace them with prayer and God's word. I believe that God is waiting to do great things for us at Pathway. And he has called us to partner with him in accomplishing his will in our lives and the world around us. How we pray reveals what we believe about God. So over the next 3 weeks:

◆ **Pray boldly**

Don't be afraid to make bold, audacious prayers. God is fully able to do more than we can ask or imagine (Ephesians 3:20—21). Don't limit his power and his work over your life by praying small prayers. Make big, life-altering requests because God is a great God!

◆ **Pray expectantly**

What do you expect to happen when you pray? Sometimes our faith (or the lack thereof) can hinder God's answers to our prayers. So pray like you expect God to answer. We have this amazing promise in scripture: "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." (Mark 11:24).

Each week, you will receive a prayer guide focusing on a particular area of prayer:

Week 1: Our personal relationship with God

Week 2: Our families and friends

Week 3: Our church, community and the world.

I hope you can join us on this exciting journey of seeking God together.



Week 1

Praying for ourselves

DAY 6

A BLESSED ASSURANCE

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. Phil 4:6

Isn't it amazing to know that we can bring our requests to God in prayer? God is a loving Father who delights in giving his children good gifts. Even though he already knows what we need even before we ask (Matthew 6:8), he wants to grant our requests through our relationship with him. God wants you to talk to him about the things that make you happy and those that make you angry. He wants to know when you're sad and discouraged. Pray about things you want and things that you need. There is no request too big or too small for God to grant. Whatever you want God to do for you, you can pray with confidence that God hears you. Do you believe? Sometimes it can be hard to trust God especially when we've been praying about something for a long time and not seeing any answers. It can be hard to believe that God cares for us when we continue to experience suffering or pain or brokenness in our lives. Maybe the thing you want to pray about seems impossible, maybe you think that there's no way God could answer you. Doubt is a normal part of our Christian life, but we must not allow it to determine how we pray. As you continue with this prayer and fasting season, there will be times when you get weary or skeptical. Whenever you face doubt, be pray like the man in Luke 9:23—25 who said to Jesus, "I believe. Help my unbelief."

Prayer: Thank you Lord for the assurance that you hear me when I pray and that you answer our prayers according to your will. Please give me the faith I need to continue trusting you for breakthrough, and help me when I experience doubt. Help me to come to you with all of my requests, no matter how big or small they seem in my eyes. I know that you have the power to do more than I can imagine.

MY PRAYER REQUESTS

DAY 7

A SURE VICTORY

For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. 1 John 5:4

Welcome to day 7 of our 21 day prayer and fasting experience. I hope you've been able to set aside time to pray this week. Sometimes prayer and fasting can be difficult to sustain because somewhere between our prayer goals and actual praying, life happens. We get distracted or discouraged that answers are not coming as fast as we would like. We get sidetracked by temptations and the lure of sin. Just as it is true that we have a mighty God working in our lives, it is also true that we have an enemy working against us. Spiritual warfare is real and it is important to pray with this awareness. The great news is that we already have victory over the enemy. Because we belong to God, we have victory over everything that might try to hold us back. Whenever you find yourself discouraged over the next two weeks, remember that God is still in control of your life. When temptations come, remember that you are no longer a slave to sin but to righteousness (Romans 6:18—22). Ask God to continually fill you with the Spirit so that you can continue to experience God throughout this journey. No matter what life throws at you, you have a sure victory through your faith in Christ.

Think about areas in your life that you wish to experience victory and breakthrough (sinful habits, discouragement, relationship issues, financial troubles e.t.c.). Say the prayer below and list them down in your own prayer, asking God for breakthrough.

Prayer: Thank you God for bringing me this far in the prayer and fasting experience. Continue to strengthen me through your Spirit and help me to experience your victory every day. Please take control over every area of my life and help me to know you more each day. Amen.

AREAS I NEED GOD'S VICTORY IN
