

prayer & fasting

Each year brings its own set of challenges and goals that we are better equipped to face when we pursue God together. As His Church, we seek to become more like Jesus and more aware of His presence in our lives. We invite you to join us on a journey of prayer and fasting. *As you pray, ask God to connect with you and grow you as you spend time in His presence and in prayer.*

Daily Prayer: The point of this is to connect to God in a real and powerful way. James tells us that if we draw close to God He will draw close to us. So...draw close. Prayer is an ongoing conversation with God in which we praise Him, we ask Him, and then we listen to Him. Sometimes we can make it more difficult than it really is. Suggestions of things to pray for:

- Open up for God's help
 - Personal spiritual growth (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control)
 - Your family
 - Personal needs
- Our church
 - Ministry – Everything that happens around the church on a regular basis
 - Outreach – For all the partnerships we have with ministries making an impact locally and around the world
 - Expansion – Our FCC renovation and reaching more people for Jesus
- Opportunities to share God's love
- God's mission advancing
- Our pastors
- Unity

Fasting: Another opportunity to draw closer to God is by fasting. Biblical fasting is voluntarily giving up something that is part of your daily routine in order to draw closer to God. You REPLACE the time you would have spent on what you're fasting from with God. All through Scripture, God's people fasted and prayed when they wanted to draw near to God, hear from Him, and seek answers to prayers. Fasting has always been most closely associated with food. Some will choose to give up food entirely for a certain period of time. Some may choose just one meal per day, not going out to eat at all, or a single food item. Maybe coffee is your morning routine, and you choose to give that up as you fast. You can fast from anything that is part of your daily routine—TV, social media, games, etc. What's important is that it's something that will remind you multiple times each day to spend time with God. You don't just eliminate something, you replace it with Bible reading and prayer.