

Fasting & Prayer

December 29, 2024

Matthew 6:16-18 "And **when you fast**, don't make it obvious, as the hypocrites do, for they try to look miserable and disheveled so people will admire them for their fasting."

fasting : to abstain from all or some kinds of food or drink

Leviticus 16:29-31 "On the tenth day of the appointed month in early autumn, you must deny yourselves (*shall fast*)... this is a permanent law for you"

Each year, the Israelites practiced *fasting*. But for what reason?

Judges 20:26 "Then all the Israelites went up to Bethel and wept in the presence of the Lord and *fasted* until evening... the Israelites went up **seeking direction** from the Lord."

Ezra 8:21 " Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God, **to seek from him a safe journey...**"

2 Chronicles 20:3-4 "He also ordered everyone in Judah to begin fasting. So people from all the towns of Judah came to Jerusalem **to seek the Lord's help.**"

Jonah 3:5 "The people of Nineveh believed God's message, and from the greatest to the least, they declared a fast and put on burlap **to show their sorrow.**"

Matthew 4:1-4 "...People do not live by bread alone , but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." (Deut. 8:3)

Fasting isn't a lever that pull on to get God to do something... but it does center our reliance back on God's authority... which does something.

fasting = *renewed relationship* = humility, reliance, preparation breakthrough, direction, blessing, etc

NEXT STEPS Week 4 During the Message Learn more about our church and how to get connected through this four week class offered every month during the message portion of our service in Classroom 2. If you have taken week 1-3, then join us today. We will restart the class next Sunday.

TECH TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED See Greg of Gabe We are looking for projection, video, and audio volunteers. If you have any interest please see Greg Hurlbut or Gabe Laramay.

this week...

CROSS CURRENT NO Service Tonight 7th-12th graders gather weekly at the church for an evening just for them.

CROSS CURRENT NYE ALL NIGHTER Tuesday from 9pm to 7am 7th-12th graders are invited to ring in the new year together with fun and games here at the church. The cost is \$20 and you can register your kids today! **Also, after the message we will be clearing the chairs for this event. Any help would be appreciated!**

coming up...

MOMCO Jan. 9th at 10am and 6pm Our moms group meets every other week here at the church. All moms are invited!

BRIDGE Jan. 16th at 6pm 5th-7th graders gather every other Thursday here at the church for an evening just for them.

WATER BAPTISMS Jan. 19th If you never been baptized and would like to take your next step in following Jesus and being immersed in Him then sign up to be baptized on our website or through ChurchCenter.

RESTORE WEEKEND Jan. 31st - Feb. 1st Want to learn more about Restore, NTC's inner healing ministry, and find freedom from life's hurts? We will gather to encounter Jesus, who came to heal the brokenhearted and set the captives free! Register today on ChurchCenter or through the website.

COMMISSIONING NIGHT Feb. 7th We'll be kicking off the next semester of groups and classes with an evening of worship and prophetic ministry from Walter Madison from Portland, Oregon and our friend Gary Heyes.

NYSUM WOMEN'S TRIP May 16th-18th We will be sending another team to the Extreme Makeover Event in NYC to minister to women there. Find more information and a link to register on our website.

Open the ChurchCenter App or scan the QR Code to register for an Upcoming Event, sign up for a class or find a Group to Connect to

