



DARE
TO BELIEVE

MID-YEAR PRAYER AND FASTING

JULY 5-7, 2016



WHY FAST?

We are calling on every church member to join our mid-year prayer and fasting. We are taking time to reflect on God's goodness and faithfulness, while continuing to believe Him for greater things. Together, let's keep daring to believe God!

We fast because:

- Jesus fasted.
- Fasting is an act of humility and consecration.
- Fasting helps us become more sensitive to the Holy Spirit.
- Fasting brings revival.
- Fasting is healthy.

⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? ⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. ⁹Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’ . . .”

ISAIAH 58:6-9

We invite everyone to prepare physically and spiritually for the fast. Visit victory.org.ph/fasting2016 for a guide on the importance of fasting, as well as some practical tips for prayer and fasting.

I THANK **GOD** FOR . . .

List some highlights, answered prayers, and lessons learned so far in 2016. Thank God for His faithfulness, provision, and grace in your life.



PREPARING FOR THE FAST

Write your prayer to God as you begin the fast. What are you believing Him for? Why are you choosing to spend the next three days praying and fasting?





FAITH TO SPEAK

But the centurion replied, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed."

MATTHEW 8:8

READ

Matthew 8:5-13 • Matthew 17:19,20
Mark 11:22-24 • 2 Corinthians 4:13,14

The centurion was a man of great authority; his very word demanded absolute obedience from the soldiers under him and the servants in his house. He understood that a word becomes a command when the one who speaks it has the authority.

When the centurion met Jesus, he knew he was meeting someone with the greatest authority. He fully understood that Jesus could command with a word, and it would be done. This gave him the audacity to speak the way he did and believe that Jesus could heal with His words, just as easily as with a touch.

*Jesus has the
greatest authority
in heaven and
on earth.*

Today, Jesus still has the greatest authority in heaven and on earth. And we, as His disciples, can speak words of faith in the authority of His name. Fully understanding the power of His Word will enable us to be audacious in our faith—to see God move, to step out in faith, to see hearts change, and to see miracles happen.

REFLECT

1. According to 2 Corinthians 4:13,14, why are we able to speak words of faith?

2. Read Matthew 17:19,20. What does this teach you about prayer and faith?

RESPOND

1. In what situation in your life do you need to speak faith? How will you apply the truth of God's Word to your situation today?

2. Write your top three audacious prayer requests for the rest of the year. Share it with those in your Victory group so you can declare God's Word over your situation.



FAITH TO FIGHT

²⁰Then the three companies blew the trumpets and broke the jars. They held in their left hands the torches, and in their right hands the trumpets to blow. And they cried out, "A sword for the Lord and for Gideon!" ²¹Every man stood in his place around the camp, and all the army ran. They cried out and fled.

JUDGES 7:20,21

READ

Exodus 14:14 • Judges 6-7 • 1 Timothy 1:18,19; 6:11,12

Gideon and his army had the faith to fight and trusted God for the victory.

Gideon was a young, timid man who was threshing wheat when God called him to rescue Israel from the oppression of the Midianites. Gideon felt that he was unprepared and unworthy for such a task, but the Lord only confirmed His call. From that moment on, Gideon received the faith to fight and overcome Israel's enemies.

Gideon also faced opposition from the community since he tore down an altar devoted to Baal and an Asherah pole. Breaking down the altars of idolatry takes audacious faith, and is usually unpopular.

Then, the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon, and he sounded a trumpet as a call to arms. Their faith was put to the test when God reduced the fighting men from 23,000 to 300, armed only with clay pots, torches, and trumpets. They faced an army of 135,000 men armed with swords. But Gideon and his army had the faith to fight and trusted God for the victory, even with the unorthodox strategy and limited resources.

When we, as believers, hear and obey the call of God, we can trust that He will also give us the strength to fight. But more than this, we know that He has already given us the victory that can only come through Christ's finished work on the cross.

REFLECT

1. How does 1 Timothy 6:12 describe faith? Why do you think this is the description Paul used? What should we *take hold of*?

2. What does Exodus 14:14 promise? What does the verse encourage us to do? How does this change your perspective on the battles you are fighting today?

RESPOND

1. What are some of the battles you are currently in? Do you trust that God will give you victory? What should you do to obey God in this situation? Declare God's Word over that area of your life today.

2. Prayerfully consider who you need to encourage to persevere today. Write your prayer for him or her. Then decide how you will encourage this person to be faithful to God, to keep fighting the good fight of faith, and to wait patiently for His promises to be fulfilled.



FAITH TO OVERCOME

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days.

HEBREWS 11:30

READ

Joshua 5:13-6:20 • John 16:33

Hebrews 11:30-34 • 1 John 5:3-5

The faith to overcome challenges requires knowing and following God's instructions.

After the Israelites crossed the Jordan River, they prepared to conquer the Promised Land, beginning with the city of Jericho. Jericho controlled the way of ascent into the mountains of Canaan. It had powerful, double walls that were roughly 365 by 183 meters in size and about 20 meters high. If the Israelites were to capture the cities of Jericho and Ai, this would put them on top of the hill country and at a vantage point over the remaining territories of Canaan.

God revealed to Joshua the battle plan for the conquest of Jericho. The armed men marched around the city once each day, for six days. The priests carried the ark and blew trumpets, while the soldiers kept silent. On the seventh day, the assembly marched around the walls of Jericho seven times. At Joshua's command, the men shouted as loud as they could, and Jericho's walls collapsed! The Israelite army rushed in and conquered the city. Only Rahab and her family were spared.

From this story, we can learn that the faith to overcome challenges requires knowing and following God's instructions. We must have faith to hear from God and do what He says, regardless of how unconventional or illogical the instructions may be. Why? Because our God is supernatural, awesome, all-knowing, and all-powerful!

REFLECT

1. How did Jesus encourage His disciples in John 16:33? How do you think this applies to you today?

2. Based on 1 John 5:3-5, what is the assurance that we have *overcome the world*? What do you think it means to *overcome the world*?

RESPOND

1. Is there anything that God is instructing you to do now to overcome a situation in your life? What will you do about it, starting this week? Pray for the faith to obey, persevere, and overcome.

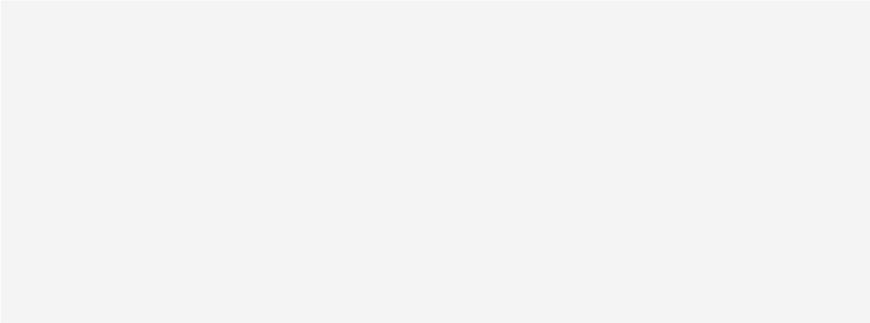
2. What can you do to listen to God more every day, for every situation in your life?

2016 FAITH GOALS

I WILL CONTINUE TO
DARE TO BELIEVE GOD
AND I WILL DARE TO BELIEVE
FOR **MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS!**

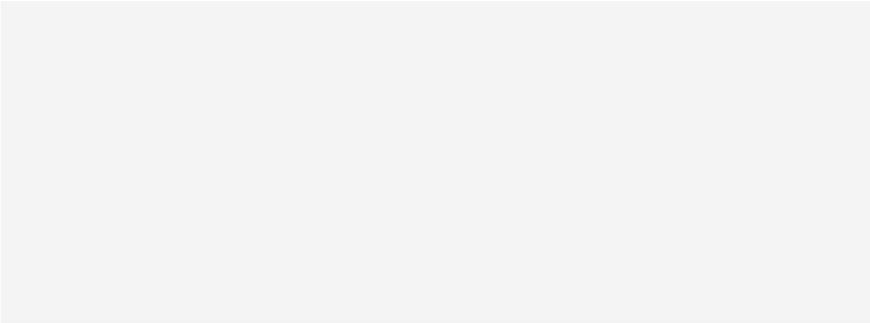
FOR ME

Spiritual Revival • Physical Healing • Provision and Rich Generosity



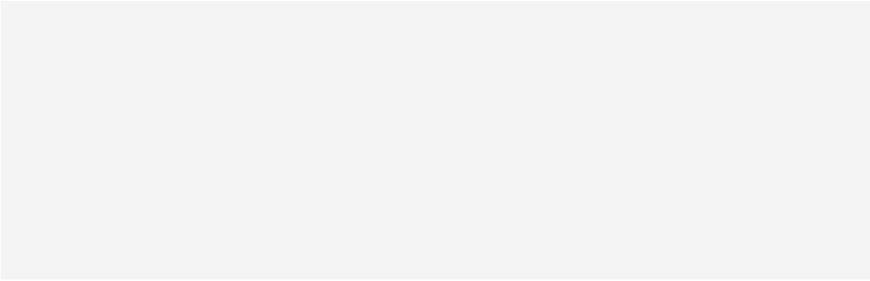
FOR MY WORK/STUDIES

Wisdom • Excellence • Promotion



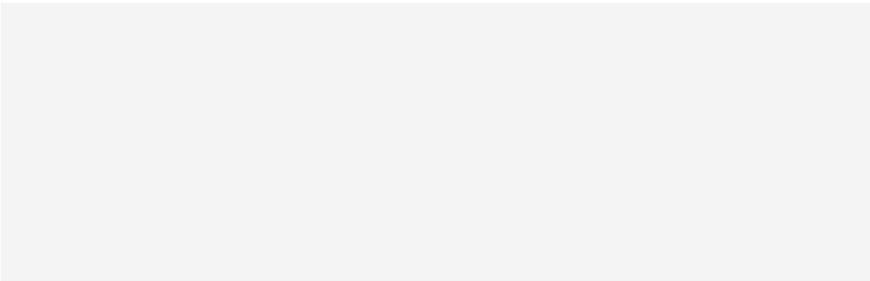
FOR MY FAMILY

Household Salvation • Restoration of Relationships • Physical Healing



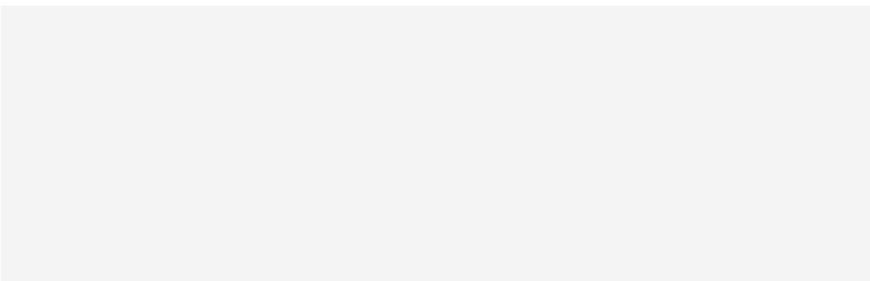
FOR MY FRIENDS

Miracles • New Opportunities for Leadership and Service •
Protection and Provision



FOR MY MINISTRY

Victory Group Growth • Salvation • Breakthrough



Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

HEBREWS 11:1

SCHEDULE

DAY
1

Fasting Options

Water only

Liquid only

One meal only

Others: _____

Prayer Meeting to Attend:

DAY
2

Fasting Options

Water only

Liquid only

One meal only

Others: _____

Prayer Meeting to Attend:

DAY
3

Fasting Options

Water only

Liquid only

One meal only

Others: _____

Prayer Meeting to Attend:



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“. . . For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you."

MATTHEW 17:20



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