

21 Day Fasting & Prayer

“Blow the Trumpet in Zion 2023” Joel 2:15

Mission: Sanctify the assembly in 2023

There are two categories of fasting:

1. The Proclaimed fast. (*Joel 1:14*)
 - a. The proclaimed fast is done when you need divine direction from God. A proclaimed fast is designed for the purpose of bringing believers to a place of hearing the voice of God. This fast is a corporate fast (church-wide). Jehoshaphat proclaimed a fast for all Judah and Jerusalem to see the Lord. (2 *Chronicles 20:1-6*).
 - b. The main reason and purpose for the proclaiming of a fast is that it causes the minds of the people to flow in one direction.
 - i. God becomes the central focus.
 - ii. His presence is manifested in their midst. (*Acts 13:1-2*)
 - c. A proclaimed fast is valuable and effective because it causes unity and singleness of purpose. It is the same principle as the prayer of agreement or united prayer. It produces power.

2. The Personal fast. (*Matthew 6:16-18*)
 - a. Verse 16 says, “when” you fast, not “if” you fast.
 - b. Rewards for personal fasting are many. (*Isaiah 58*)
 - i. Open rewards from God.
 - ii. Admiration of men.
 - iii. Loose the bands of wickedness.
 - iv. Undo heavy burdens.
 - v. Free the oppressed.
 - vi. Hear God’s voice more clearly.
 - vii. Helps build spiritual strength against satanic attacks.
 - viii. Shuts down the influence of the body so the Spirit man can dominate.

Checklist for Fasting:

- a. Decide the purpose of the fast.
- b. Proclaim the fast.
- c. Believe you receive the reward.
- d. Minister to the Lord.
- e. Minister to others.

The Purpose of the Fast:

- a. Develop a prayer ministry both corporate and personal that wants to hear the voice of God.
- b. Evangelism thrust for 2023. (50 new families to join).
- c. Provisions for the Vision: The family, the individual.

Proclaim the Fast:

- a. Starting Tuesday, January 3, 2023 @ 6:00 a.m., until Tuesday, January 24, 2023 @ 6:00 a.m. The fast will target you taking away something your flesh craves, i.e., sweets, coffee, etc., for twenty-one (21) days. This **includes** weekends.

Points of Concern:

- i. If you are on medication or under a doctor's care, we suggest you **do not** fast water or food. Please follow your doctor's orders, which may include eating and drinking something before you take your medicine. Fast something else, i.e., television, etc.
- ii. Children can fast, but please be led by the Holy Spirit in choosing what type of fast and how long they will fast on any given day.
- iii. If you fail at any point, get up and get back into the race.

The Call to Fasting and Prayer:

- a. Focus on the praise:
 - i. I intentionally praise and glorify God at all times and expect real, real soon a move of God on my life and at New Covenant Christian Center Church.
- b. Focus on the people:
 - i. We are praying for the untaught, uncommitted, unsaved and unchurched, using compassion to transform them into disciples for Jesus Christ. We are praying for Bishop Ron and Dr. Georgette and their family. It is also very important that we pray for the church staff and their families, and those working in this ministry.
 - ii. We will fulfill our purpose to:
 1. Glorify God.
 2. Grow to be a benefit to those outside of ourselves.
 3. Seek and save the lost. Our focus again this year is evangelism, to write our own Book of Acts. We pray for the Body of Christ as a whole and that every church grows to please God.
- c. Focus on the provisions:

- i. Pray and thank God for the resources needed for this ministry to make an impact by completing our projects and launching into new bold endeavors as we grow to fulfill the great commission of the church. We thank God for a:
 - 1. 100% tithing church.
 - 2. Surplus for Kingdom expansion.
 - 3. A year like none other spiritually, physically and financially for Bishop Ron and Dr. Georgette and family, NCCCC and all its membership.
- d. Focus on His presence:
 - i. We have a passion to hear God.
 - ii. Kingdom conscious empowerment in 2023.