

21 Days of Prayer + Fasting

Make Room



thevictory.church

Let's join together in Spirit-filled prayer and make room for God to lead us into this exciting new year.

Oh, the dreams God has for you! And the dreams He has for Victory Church! We invite you to join us for 21 days of prayer and fasting as we make room for God to speak to us and guide us in this new year. Our purpose is to seek the Lord — individually and corporately — with all our hearts, making room for Him individually, in our homes, and in our church.

Over the next 21 days we believe God is going to speak into our lives and our church body in powerful and life-changing ways.

'Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.' — Jeremiah 33:3

We recommend setting aside a specific time and place each day for prayer, using this daily prayer guide as a starting point for your time alone in prayer. We also recommend keeping a personal journal for reflection during these days of prayer and fasting. Write down anything you think God may be saying to you, confess any sins, record your petitions, and of course, the answers you receive.

Week 1

Make Room *for* God



Our lives are filled to overflowing in almost every area. Our homes are full of stuff. Our calendars are full of activities. Our church lives are full of responsibilities. And our minds are a trove of to-do lists, work concerns, and pop culture references.

Is there room for God? Are you able to hear Him speak? This first week is about creating the habit and rhythm in your life that clears out the “clutter” and opens your life to His voice and direction.

Day — 01

Cease Striving, Make Room

Today's Scripture:

“Come, see the glorious works of the LORD : See how he brings destruction upon the world. He causes wars to end throughout the earth. He breaks the bow and snaps the spear; he burns the shields with fire. “Be still, and know that I am God! I will be honored by every nation. I will be honored throughout the world.” The LORD of Heaven’s Armies is here among us; the God of Israel is our fortress...” (Psalms 46:8-11).

Prayer focus:

The opening phrase of Psalm 46:10 translates to, “stop your fighting,” “be still,” or “cease striving,” depending on the translation you read. God declares for both His people and His foes to recognize His power and give up struggling against His purposes. Ask God to search your heart and reveal where you are striving right now. Are you striving to build your own little kingdom at work or home? Are you trying to control your own faith by following rules instead of experiencing true communion with God? Pray that God would still your heart and show you He is exalted among the nations. Pray you can humble yourself and know Him better today.

Day — 02

Make Room for God's Word

Today's Scripture:

“Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go” (Joshua 1:8-9, NLT).

Prayer focus:

In this passage, Joshua has been made the leader of the nation of Israel after the death of Moses — a leader who has courageously led the Israelites through thick and thin. It would've been easy for Joshua to rely on his own knowledge, strength, and experience as he steps into his new role. However, God instructs Joshua “to meditate on [the Scriptures] day and night so that you may carefully observe everything written in it.” Joshua found strength in God's Word, not in his own leadership experience. Pray for the desire to spend time in God's Word even when it is difficult or you don't “feel like it.” Ask Him to show you places in your day where you can redeem the time you have to spend time with Him and in His Word.

Day – 03

Make Room for *Private Prayer*

Today's Scripture:

“But when you pray, go away by yourself, shut the door behind you, and pray to your Father in private. Then your Father, who sees everything, will reward you. “When you pray, don’t babble on and on as people of other religions do. They think their prayers are answered merely by repeating their words again and again. Don’t be like them, for your Father knows exactly what you need even before you ask him!” (Matthew 6:6-8, NLT).

Prayer focus:

In Jesus’ day it was common practice for the religious leaders to make a show of praying. They would stand in the synagogues or in the streets and pray in public merely to be seen by people. Jesus refers to these people as hypocrites. The word ‘hypocrite’ comes from the Greek word which means ‘actor’. These people were merely acting – putting on a show. Instead, Jesus tells his disciples to pray in private where they cannot be seen. Why? Because the Father sees in secret. He is omnipresent – present everywhere always! But even more than that, Jesus says that the Father will reward the private prayer of his people.

Spend some time reflecting on your own experience in prayer. Why is it that you don’t pray as often as you wish you did? Is it because deep down you don’t think you’re being heard? Ask God to increase your faith in believing that God sees and rewards you when you pray.

Day – 04

Make Room for *Personal Worship*

Today's Scripture:

“O God, you are my God; I earnestly search for you. My soul thirsts for you; my whole body longs for you in this parched and weary land where there is no water. I have seen you in your sanctuary and gazed upon your power and glory. Your unfailing love is better than life itself; how I praise you! I will praise you as long as I live, lifting up my hands to you in prayer. You satisfy me more than the richest feast. I will praise you with songs of joy.” (Psalms 63:1-5, NLT).

Prayer focus:

David declares that his every satisfaction is found in God. He was on the run from either Saul or Absalom, away from the tabernacle, but danger did nothing to quench his deep desire for God's presence. David's thirst for God found relief as he praised Him. He considered God's favor even better than life itself.

Taking the posture of prayer like David, with lifted hands, pray and offer praise to God for all the ways He satisfies your soul. Ask Him to remind you of who He is and His faithfulness in your life. Thank Him for revealing Himself in your moments of longing and desperation and blessing you with His presence.

Day – 05

Make Room for *Gratitude*

Today's Scripture:

“Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Prayer focus:

A quick glance at these statements might lead one to think that these are cheesy, Christian clichés that have no grounding in the real world. However, Paul is not foolish enough to think that following Jesus won't be difficult and include times when joy and gratitude are not easy traits to display, especially when surrounded by other people. In fact, Paul is reminding believers that we have a choice to make in how we handle all situations, struggles, and seasons of life.

Take some time today to reflect back on how God has blessed you over this past year. Thank Him for His rescue, His provision, His presence, and His love and mercy in your life. Commit to Him in prayer today that “I will choose joy” and ask Him to keep your heart soft and grateful as you love and care for others today.

Day — 06

Make Room for *Meditation*

Today's Scripture:

“And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.” (Philippians 4:7-9, ESV).

Prayer focus:

In this passage, Paul reminds us that those who are in Christ can experience the very peace of God because we belong to the God of Peace! These verses demonstrate how a biblical mindset is crucial to experience maturity in our faith journey. This encouraging letter to the church at Philippi serves as a reminder for us today to learn, meditate on, and put into practice the Word of God so we can grow deeper in our love for Him.

Ask God to show you what distractions are taking up space in your mind and heart today. Are there any worries you haven't fully surrendered to Him? Any lies you need to replace with truth from God's Word? Pray for sensitivity to the Holy Ghost as He reveals these things to you. Spend time meditating on His Word until it resonates in your heart.

Day – 07

Make Room to *Be Still & Delight*

Today's Scripture:

“Trust in the LORD, and do good; dwell in the land and befriend faithfulness. Delight yourself in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart. Commit your way to the LORD; trust in him, and he will act. He will bring forth your righteousness as the light, and your justice as the noonday. Be still before the LORD and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!” (Psalms 37:3-7, ESV).

Prayer focus:

Our focus should be on God and not on things of this world. This passage gives us instruction to “trust” and “delight in the Lord,” to “commit our ways to the Lord,” and then to “be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him.” In verse 7, notice that we are not just supposed to wait. Rather, we are to wait with expectation! We can be confident in receiving a response when our “trust” and “delight” are in Him. Take some time today to be still before the Lord. Remind yourself of His goodness in your life. Are you trying to solve any problems or make important decisions that you brought before the Lord? Pray for wisdom in those circumstances today.

Week 2

Make Room for *Living on a Mission*



Take some time this week to prayer-walk your neighborhood. If you know the residents of the homes you pass, pray for them by name. If you do not know their names, pray God will open a path for you to connect with them.

Find a way to serve someone in your neighborhood in an unexpected way this week. For example, bless them with a meal, shovel their driveway, or provide for a known need.

Day – 08

Make Room for *Repentance*

Today's Scripture:

“If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.” (1 John 1:8-10, ESV).

Prayer focus:

The Scriptures just before this passage tell us that God is light, and that anything that remains in darkness does not have fellowship with Him. It is impossible to walk in both darkness and light, yet at times we are in danger of being deceived into allowing what we feel at times (in prayer, or during a great church service, for example) to replace the work of confession and repentance. Walking in the light is only made possible by acknowledging our sin and allowing the work of Jesus on the cross to wash, cleanse, and redeem us. He is our advocate and sacrifice for our sins.

Repentance is not meant to keep us perpetually reliving our sin, or too ashamed to approach God. Quite the opposite! Take time today (and daily) to repent of the things you know you need to walk away from, and to ask God to reveal any things you may not be aware of.

Day — 09

Make Room for *Focus*

Today's Scripture:

“Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. For you died to this life, and your real life is hidden with Christ in God. And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in all his glory.” (Colossians 3:1-4, NLT).

Prayer focus:

In this passage, Paul encourages us to set our minds “on things above, where Christ is.” He then goes on to remind us of our new identity in Christ. “For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.” As followers of Jesus, we should shift our focus to have a heavenly perspective regarding how to live here on earth. That means processing our decisions with a “Kingdom mindset.”

As you pray, make a list of big decisions you and your family will be facing this week or even this month. Spend time reading God’s Word to renew your mind, focus on a heavenly perspective, and pray for discernment this week.

Day – 10

Make Room for Godly Priorities

Today's Scripture:

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls, who, on finding one pearl of great value, went and sold all that he had and bought it” (Matthew 13:44-46, ESV).

Prayer focus:

Jesus shares two brief parables that demonstrate the joy and dedication discovering the Kingdom of God can activate. The man and merchant discovered something of great worth to them, yet they did not just enjoy the discovery. They were willing to forgo everything in making that discovery a reality and securing it themselves. The man and merchant were willing to reorient their lives and priorities to deepen their joy and take ownership of their treasure. Everything they did was focused on that single goal, the treasure they found; nothing less would suffice.

Take some time ask God to reveal the answer to the question Jesus asks his disciples in John 1:38-39, “What do you want?” Pray that your desires will daily align with God’s heart and will for you.

Day – 11

Make Room for *Walking in the Spirit*

Today's Scripture:

“This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law... If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit” (Galatians 5:16-25, KJV).

Prayer focus:

The Holy Ghost is the key to Christian living. In fact, Jesus told His disciples it would be better for them after He left because the Holy Ghost would lead them and comfort them in His place. Why? Because in His physical body, Jesus' ministry was limited by proximity. He could only be in one place at one time. The Holy Ghost, however, would indwell believers from the moment of their salvation. He is available to us 24/7. As our Counselor, He leads us, speaks to us, intercedes for us, convicts us, and empowers us. Apart from Him, we can't live out our faith as God intends! This is why Paul urges us to walk by the Spirit. He would later tell the Romans that the Spirit “intercedes for us,” and that when we don't know how to pray as we ought, the Holy Ghost “fills in the gaps.”

In your prayers today, allow the Holy Ghost to speak through you and for you!

Day – 12

Make Room for *Your (Real) Strength*

Today's Scripture:

“Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint” (Isaiah 40:28-31, ESV).

Prayer focus:

God knows we're going to get tired. That life can be difficult and draining, and that our own strength will fail us and we will reach points where weariness overtakes us. This verse reminds us that our God prepares us for those moments. He steps in and offers His hand to each of us. The same God who never tires, who created the universe and everything in it, shares His strength with you. When we take the time to sit and rest in His presence, He provides stability, peace, and strength we can't find anywhere else.

Pray that God would allow you to see the areas where you're, perhaps, leaning on your own strength instead of His, and then spend some time meditating on the magnitude of His power and might.

Day — 13

Make Room for *Endurance*

Today's Scripture:

“My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing” (James 1:2-4, KJV).

Prayer focus:

James says “when” you meet trials and temptations, not “if.” Many times we’re surprised when a trial or hardship comes our way because it disrupts our illusion of control. But God calls us to welcome them all, because each one has the ability to produce something in very short supply — joy!

Where does that joy come from? The trials produce patience. The patience produces hope. “Perfect and entire, wanting nothing.” That does sound like joy, doesn’t it?

Take some time today to thank God for the trials you may be facing — as difficult as that prayer may be — and rejoice in the reward you haven’t seen yet, but that the trial is working patience, and patience is working hope.

Day – 14

Make Room to *Draw Near*

Today's Scripture:

“Do you think the Scriptures have no meaning? They say that God is passionate that the spirit he has placed within us should be faithful to him. And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world. Let there be tears for what you have done. Let there be sorrow and deep grief. Let there be sadness instead of laughter, and gloom instead of joy. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up in honor.” (James 4:5-10, NLT).

Prayer focus:

Three negative influences are given that entice and cause separation from God: our own passions, friendship with the world, and the devil. These hindrances to holy life cause sin, conflict, pride, and hostility toward God. Thankfully His grace is more powerful than any of these competitors for our affection. James promises that submission to God causes the devil to flee from us. Beautifully, if we draw near in humility, God meets us where we are and gifts His pure and holy presence. Confess the words of James 4:8 out loud today, “Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.” Repeat them until you believe it. Ask God to reveal the negative influences in your life and then humbly surrender them over. Pray to be single-minded in your pursuit of the presence of God.

Week 3

Make Room *for Relationships*



Our relationships with people, in and out of the church, are important to God. Our conversations. The meals we share. The times we open our homes.

This week, open your home to one or more families in your neighborhood for a simple get together. Be intentional about getting to know their stories and look for ways to pray for them and to humbly serve them.

Day – 15

Make Room for *Covenant Relationships*

Today's Scripture:

“Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.” (Romans 12:9-10, NLT).

Prayer focus:

Paul says our love for one another must be without hypocrisy. In other words, believers are to display a love that genuinely seeks the spiritual, physical, and holistic well-being of others. In his book to the church at Corinth, Paul describes for us what love looks like in a believer's life, saying, “Love is patient, love is kind. Love does not envy, is not boastful, is not arrogant, is not rude, is not self-seeking, is not irritable, and does not keep a record of wrongs. Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth.” If we are to live the life God is calling us to live, we must be focused and faithful to obey God's instruction through Paul in these 2 potent and powerful passages. Pray this week that you would be someone who loves well.

Day – 16

Make Room for *Biblical Community*

Today's Scripture:

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” (Hebrews 10:24-25, ESV).

Prayer focus:

The writer of Hebrews is exhorting believers to not forsake gathering together as a community of Christ-followers. This source of community between believers should spur on love between them, holding one another up during times of hardship as well as times of abundance. As believers continue to do life together, they are to encourage one another to be steadfast alongside each other. When we forsake the community of believers, we lose the connection with other believers that God designed us for. Although it may not always be easy, it's essential for every Christian to be engaged in biblical community for their own (and others') spiritual growth!

Pray that God will give you the courage and boldness to live out your part within the biblical community of Victory Church! Pray that He would illuminate your next step, and give clear direction in the best ways to engage the body of Christ in New Castle.

Day – 17

Make Room for *Authentic Love*

Today's Scripture:

“A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another” (John 13:34-35, KJV).

Prayer focus:

The commandment to “love God” wasn’t a new idea to Jesus’ audience in this passage. In fact, most of them knew and could recite the Old Testament passage in Deuteronomy that mandated them to love God with all of their heart, soul, mind, and strength. Jesus took this idea to a new level, however. To be a follower of Jesus, you can’t just “love God,” but you must also “love one another just as Jesus loved us.” The Pharisees and religious rulers were known by their public prayers and religious dress. But now? The true identity of God’s followers would be how they display love!

Pray that God would show you ways where you can grow in displaying love to others (and to see and be able to celebrate the areas where you’re already doing well). Pray that He would provide you with the opportunity to show His love to someone in a profound and powerful way this week.

Day – 18

Make Room for *Sacrifice*

Today's Scripture:

“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others” (Philippians 2:3-4, KJV).

Prayer focus:

This passage begins with two contrasting attitudes. One to be discarded (strife/vainglory), and one to be developed (lowliness of mind). “Vainglory” isn’t a word in common use these days, but it’s the combination of two Greek words that mean “empty” and “glory.” Paul is showing us that an exaggerated perception of ourselves is, ultimately, empty. When we approach others in the spirit of humility, we mirror the example of Jesus, Who sacrificed Himself for us.

Spend time today asking God for three things:

1. Ask Him to help you think of yourself less.
2. Spend some time praying for others (pray for family and friends by name, and allow the Holy Ghost to bring others to your mind).
3. Ask God to help you see opportunities to sacrifice your own desires for the good of someone else.

Day – 19

Make Room for *The Sabbath*

Today's Scripture:

“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.” (Exodus 20:8-11, KJV).

Prayer focus:

Moses received these instructions on top of Mount Sinai during the Exodus. In the midst of smoke, thunder, lightning, and earthquakes the Lord met Moses and gave Him the core of what would become The Law for God's people. His command was to “remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.” The day itself was reserved for the Lord, and during this time the Israelites were instructed to abstain from work. They were to rest and honor the Lord, following the example demonstrated by God at the creation of all things.

It's very possible that we find ourselves burned out, overwhelmed, and stressed because we do not make room for protected time each week and keep it holy. If there are hurdles to your faithfulness in keeping the Sabbath, ask God to help you identify and remove those things that prevent you from honoring Him.

Day – 20

Make Room to *Sit at Jesus' Feet*

Today's Scripture:

“Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.” But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her” (Luke 10:38-42, ESV).

Prayer focus:

The story of these two sisters and their interactions with Jesus teaches us the immeasurable value of fellowship with God. While Martha was distracted, Mary was devoted. Jesus' response to the posture of Mary invites all of us to lay everything else down, sit at His feet, and enjoy a deep relationship with Him. Jesus is our most wonderful treasure, worthy of our full praise — and our undivided attention in worship. Nothing can compare to Him!

Are you currently living like Martha, troubled and anxious about many things? Or are you more like Mary, enjoying and resting in the presence of Jesus? Ask God to show you how to sit at His feet today.

Day – 21

Make Room to *Abide in Jesus*

Today's Scripture:

“Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.” (John 15:4-5, ESV).

Prayer focus:

When we get frustrated with life, it's easy to feel frustrated with God. We wonder why things are going wrong and feel angry in our circumstances. But how often does our frustration and fruitlessness come from a lack of abiding in the Lord's presence and listening to His voice? In these verses, Jesus is reminding us that the only way to a fulfilling life is through our relationship with Him. Without Him we can do nothing, but with Him we are blessed beyond measure.

Whatever is currently going on in your life, take a few moments to include God in it. Jesus wants to be a part of every decision, and in every aspect of your journey! Ask Him to walk with you as you take on the highs and lows of daily life and ask for help in keeping your heart open to His presence, His voice, and His guidance.

Thank you for praying with us!



Thank you for joining us for 21 Days of Prayer + Fasting! Whether you prayed through each day personally, with your family, or participated in corporate prayer, you've helped propel the work of God at Victory Church forward at a critical time.

We hope it has been a blessing to you and your home (and that you'll continue in prayer)! If you've received specific answers to prayer or a word from God you would like to share, we'd love to hear from you. Visit thevictory.church and send us your testimony or message. God bless you!



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