

ECF (2023) 14 Day Prayer and Fasting

Scriptures to Read in preparation for Fasting:

Joel 1:14 - *“Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the Lord your God, and cry unto the Lord,” (KJV)*

Joel 2:12-13; 15-17:

“That is why the Lord says, “Turn to me now, while there is time. Give me your hearts. Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning. Don’t tear your clothing in your grief, but tear your hearts instead.” Return to the Lord your God, for he is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. He is eager to relent and not punish.

Blow the ram’s horn in Jerusalem! Announce a time of fasting; call the people together for a solemn meeting. Gather all the people—the elders, the children, and even the babies. Call the bridegroom from his quarters and the bride from her private room. Let the priests, who minister in the Lord’s presence, stand and weep between the entry room to the Temple and the altar. Let them pray, “Spare your people, Lord! Don’t let your special possession become an object of mockery. Don’t let them become a joke for unbelieving foreigners who say, ‘Has the God of Israel left them?’” (NLT)

Isaiah 58:2-12:

“Yet they act so pious! They come to the Temple every day and seem delighted to learn all about me. They act like a righteous nation that would never abandon the laws of its God. They ask me to take action on their behalf, pretending they want to be near me. ‘We have fasted before you!’ they say. ‘Why aren’t you impressed? We have been very hard on ourselves, and you don’t even notice it!’ “I will tell you why!” I respond. “It’s because you are fasting to please yourselves. Even while you fast, you keep oppressing your workers. What good is fasting when you keep on fighting and quarreling? This kind of fasting will never get you anywhere with me. You humble yourselves by going through the motions of penance, bowing your heads like reeds bending in the wind. You dress in burlap and cover yourselves with ashes. Is this what you call fasting? Do you really think this will please the Lord? “No, this is the kind of fasting I want: Free those who are wrongly imprisoned; lighten the burden of those who work for you. Let the oppressed go free, and remove the chains that bind people. Share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not hide from relatives who need your help. “Then your salvation will come like the dawn, and your wounds will quickly heal. Your godliness will lead you forward, and the glory of the Lord will protect you from behind. “Then when you call, the Lord will answer. ‘Yes, I am here,’ he will quickly reply. “Remove the heavy yoke of oppression. Stop pointing your finger and spreading vicious rumors! Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon. The Lord will guide you continually, giving you water when you are dry and restoring your strength. You will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring. Some of you will rebuild the deserted ruins of your cities. Then you will be known as a builder of walls and a restorer of homes.” (NLT)

Prayer:

Isaiah 59:14-16(NLT) - Deliverance of the oppressed (governmentally)
Isaiah 56:7(NLT) - We would become a church of believers of Prayer!
Isaiah 57:14-16(NLT) - Seeking God's forgiveness and seeking to forgive others!
Isaiah 65:24(NLT) - Believe in God to answer our Prayers!

The Purpose of the Fast?

For our Obedience to Engage (Home, Heaven & Hell); for healing in physical health and for ECF's growth numerically and spiritually. For deliverance and victory over habitual sin, Spiritual apathy, fear, doubt and lack of faith. For favor in reaching the lost with our Street Life Teams in our community and city. For God's glory to be manifested in the Date Street/Del Rosa Neighborhood.

What to Fast?

This will be 14 day Fast with water, fruit and vegetables, and whatever protein you may choose. For those who are diabetic you might want to fast a meal day, as your health and doctor will permit. (No coffee, Tea's or Soda; No Bread, sugar or Sweets) (Smoothies are acceptable and so is Honey for sweetener)

Dates for the Fast? February 1st to February 14th.

What to Prayer for during the Fast?

- For Obedience and Faith to Engage (Home, Heaven & Hell) through our Oikos.
- For the manifestation of the Miraculous among us (Mark 16:16-18)
- For our Commitment to our Mission, Vision and Core Values as disciples of ECF
- For greater participation in HUGGS and small group Bible studies (In-person & Online)
- For more ECF disciples serving in ministry
- For Increase in salvations on Sundays and during the week
- For our understanding and application of the Word of God
- For our Obedience and faithfulness to Giving the Tithe and offerings.

What to do?

- If you are led to participate, plan to be in person on Sunday's February 5th and 12th for a special prayer and anointing time for all who will be fasting and praying with us, after the Morning Worship in the choir Room.
- Monday Night Prayer February 6th & 13th at 7pm (Note the 13th will be prayer for ending the Fast the next day!)
- Join me each Morning at 7:14 am for Prayer and Devotion; Dr. Robert Strong Tuesday evenings at 7:14 pm and Sister Karon Wilson on Thursday Evenings at 7:14pm.
- Join Elder Reggie Varner every Morning in our Prayer Chapel on campus for 6-7am
- Read Fasting Scriptures once a day and pray.

We are believing God that as we pray and obey His call to "ENGAGE"! We will experience Growth numerically, Spiritually and financially. We are aligning ourselves with God's priority for 2023! We are seeking to tear down the strongholds of the enemy (World, Flesh & the Devil) in our Families, our Church and our Community, through prayer and fasting.