

21 For 21

A Commitment to Prayer and Fasting for a Move of God in 2021

Trinity of Fairview

January 3 through January 23, 2021

It is wisely stated that any mighty move of God has its roots in prayer. Matthew Henry once said, "Whenever God is about to do something truly great, He first sets His people a praying!" My heart's desire for these 21 days is that God would truly set His people to praying. Certainly for the 21 days, but hopefully beyond those limits to the entire year, the decade, and through whatever time the Father has allotted us, and this age. It is surely the greatest resource and hope the church has in these days, and every one to come.

May He lead you into a means and a method for your fast, with the overriding motive being a mighty and indisputable move of Almighty God that will turn His people's hearts toward Him; followed closely by the heart of a nation, and even a world.

I love you all dearly, may these meditations draw you into prayer afresh and anew. May they clearly remind you of the power, the preciousness, and the absolute necessity for prayer in the life of a Christian!

Let us fast and pray together!

Day 1 Isaiah 65:24

²⁴ "It shall come to pass
That before they call, I will answer;
And while they are still speaking, I will hear."

Be reminded this day of the certainty we have of God hearing and answering our prayers. It seems there is a place of prayer that is so intimate between the Father and His children that the lines of time and logic as we know them seem irrelevant. I remember in the old days picking up the phone to make a call and someone would already be on the line without the phone even ringing one time! What a promise! Before you even call I will answer! While the words are still flowing from your mouth I will have fully heard and acted on your petition! What confidence we should have in prayer!

Day 2 Jeremiah 29:12-13

¹² Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. ¹³ And you will seek Me and find *Me*, when you search for Me with all your heart.

We so often quote Jeremiah 29:11 concerning the plans of God for us, and His intentions toward us. In stopping at the end of that verse, we miss the rich promise of God we have in prayer. May the faithfulness and goodness of God displayed toward you birth within you a deep desire to search for HIM! Not in a cursory way, but with all your heart. Knowing that at the end of the quest will be your Father, ready and willing to hear your every request in prayer!

Day 3 Psalm 100:4

Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,
And into His courts with praise.
Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His name.

Go into the presence of the Lord thanking and praising Him for His goodness in your life! 2020 is a year it seems a lot of folks would like to forget, but in our reflections we must admit that God was with us, loving us, and blessing us, all the way! Just praise Him to the fullest extent in prayer today. Father we thank You, and bless Your Holy Name!

Day 4 Romans 8:26

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession ^[a]for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Pray today with the grand assurance that the Spirit is sifting the utterances of our mouths and hearts through the divine will and purpose of God, allowing our prayers to land at the throne in a right and somehow perfect way. I believe motive in prayer is highly important. When we pray seeking to know and experience nothing less, nothing more, than the desire of God in every life moment, I believe that is exactly what we will have through the intercessory work of the Spirit. Praise be to God! Most assuredly in those moments where we simply don't even know how to pray.

Day 5 Revelation 5:8 (8:1-3)

⁸ Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each having a harp, and golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints.

Remember how precious the prayers of the saints are to the heavenly Father this day. Here, before the glorious song extolling the worthiness of the Lamb, are the elders in a sense offering the prayers of the saints as a sweet smelling and fragrant offering to the One who sits on the Throne, and to the Lamb, who lives forever! How much more diligent, sincere, and in a good sense extravagant our prayers should be!

Day 6 Jonah 2:7

“When my soul fainted within me,
I remembered the LORD;
And my prayer went *up* to You,
Into Your holy temple...”

Always remember that prayer is the best alternative! This is true especially in those moments in life where we have made contrary and terrible decisions in relation to the revealed will of God. In short, even when we have totally messed up, and find ourselves in the dark of the fishes belly, there is our heavenly Father ready to hear and answer the prayer of a repentant heart. Dear one, you are not too far from His listening ear of grace. Cry out to Him for help today. How thankful we are that we serve the God of the second, third, fourth chance and beyond. Maybe carry someone in the fishes belly to Him today.

Day 7 Exodus 13:21-22

²¹ And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. ²² He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night *from* before the people.

What an ever-present and powerful Father we have standing between us and the assault of the enemy as we journey along life's path. How especially comforting when the enemy is so close we can see his image through the fire and cloud. What a comfort to know He cannot touch us, or impede our God ordained course when our trust is in Him! He will be with us every step, day and night. What a comfort for these times!

Day 8 Psalm 34:1-4

I will bless the LORD at all times;
His praise *shall* continually *be* in my mouth.
² My soul shall make its boast in the LORD;
The humble shall hear *of it* and be glad.
³ Oh, magnify the LORD with me,
And let us exalt His name together.
⁴ I sought the LORD, and He heard me,
And delivered me from all my fears.

On this glorious day of worship, let us truly bless Him, praise Him, brag about and in Him in such a way that it gladdens the hearts of all who hear! Knowing that if we cry out to Him in prayer and praise, He will hear and deliver us from, not some, but all of our fears!

What a marvelous invitation! Come and magnify the Lord along with me, and let us praise His name in grand and glorious unison!

My brother in glory would say, "Glory to God!"

Day 9 Matthew 6:13

And do not lead us into temptation,
But deliver us from the evil one.

[a]For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

The powerful conclusion of the model prayer is to be considered today. St. Augustine once prayed,

"Blessed are all Thy saints, O God and King, who have traveled over the tempestuous sea of this life and have made the harbor of peace and felicity. Watch over all of us who are still on our dangerous voyage; and remember such as lie exposed to the rough storms of trouble and temptations. Frail is our vessel, and the ocean is wide; but as in Thy mercy Thou hast set our course, so steer the vessel of our life towards the everlasting shore of peace, and bring us at length to the quiet haven of our hearts desire. Where Thou, O God, art blessed and livest and reignest forever. Amen."

Truly... Amen

Day 10 Acts 9:10-12

¹⁰ Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, "Ananias."

And he said, "Here I am, Lord."

¹¹ So the Lord *said* to him, "Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for *one* called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. ¹² And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting *his* hand on him, so that he might receive his sight."

"Oh, Father help us be always alert and attentive to Your voice. Help us to be unfetteredly ready to receive, and execute Your instructions with great diligence in our lives!"

Pray that our ears would be perked at all times to hear His voice! My how we need divine instruction!

Day 11 John 14:16-18

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another ^[a]Helper, that He may abide with you forever— ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. ¹⁸ I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

Remember the blessed prayer and promise of Jesus Himself for, and to, you personally today. Here Jesus asks the Father to send us the Holy Spirit, and promises us that He will come. Live today with the secure knowledge that all the power of the Godhead abides with you forever; you will never be fatherless children, for your Heavenly Father has committed himself completely to be with you! Maybe think this pleasant thought regarding prayer today. My prayers don't really have to reach the ceiling to be heard, for the One on whom I call is both with me, and in me, wherever I find myself!

Day 12 Isaiah 33:2

O LORD, be gracious to us;
We have waited for You.
Be ^[a]their arm every morning,
Our salvation also in the time of trouble.

What a prayer! If I want the Lord to give me anything daily it is His marvelous grace! He has truly been gracious to us. He has been gracious to us as individuals, as a church, and as a nation. Pray today that we would patiently wait for Him! That He would be our strong arm every day, and save us, really from ourselves, as a nation in this desperate hour of trouble.

Day 13 I Peter 1:3-4

³ Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴ to an inheritance ^[b]incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

Pray in the power of the Hope that we have in Jesus today! Bless His name for birthing you into His family by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. That will carry you through every storm of life my friend. When we grasp hold of the truth that He has already set aside for us in heaven an inheritance that no lawyer can argue against, no judge can rule against, and no power in heaven or hell can overcome! What a mighty place of prayer we hold as His heirs!

Day 14 Philippians 1:3-5

³ I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, ⁵ for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now,

As we prepare our hearts today for worship tomorrow, lift up the fellow saints of God around the world. What a joy it is to be a part of the family of God. There is a blood connection that we share with a number no man can number that is deep and precious. I want you to know that I am thankful for you! It is my joy to come alongside you in prayer daily that God will meet your every need. We are in this together! We need each other! Prayer is that dynamic spiritual privilege that we should daily exercise on behalf of one another.

Day 15 Psalm 103:1-5

Bless the LORD, O my soul;
And all that is within me, *bless* His holy name!
² Bless the LORD, O my soul,
And forget not all His benefits:
³ Who forgives all your iniquities,
Who heals all your diseases,
⁴ Who redeems your life from destruction,
Who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies,
⁵ Who satisfies your mouth with good *things*,
So that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

As we gather in worship today, forget not all His marvelous benefits! May we truly bless His name for them this day! Pray right now thanking Him for who He is and all He has done in your life!

Day 16 II Kings 6:17

¹⁶ So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who *are* with us *are* more than those who *are* with them." ¹⁷ And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain *was* full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.

Pray this day that your eyes may be opened afresh and anew to the forces of the Kingdom that are arrayed around you. Truly, the mountains are still full of chariots of fire! May we heed the injunction of the prophet in all our fearful moments. We need not be afraid today because the number of those who are for us are still greater than those against us! Elisha's servant had a seeing problem. Too many times, so do we! Pray today, "Lord, open our eyes that we may truly see!"

Day 17 Hebrews 4:16

¹⁶ Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

The little word, "boldly", should characterize the nature of our approach to prayer. Since the believer has such a great High Priest to approach, he really has no excuse to adopt any

other posture. Note that the throne we approach is one of grace. Grace is a place where we find all the help we need in the trying hour every time. Don't ask timidly today, ask in parallel with the measure of grace that has been meted out in your life!

"Oh God, would you by your grace send a great revival to our hearts, our churches, our country and our world!"

Day 18 James 4:2b-3

Yet you do not have because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend *it* on your pleasures.

Today, double check your actions and motives in fasting and praying. Press deeply into the relationship you have with the creator by way of Jesus Christ. Why is it that we do not "have" today? James cites only two possible reasons. The first is you simply haven't asked! That is an action problem. God is waiting patiently for the petition. No need is too small or too large. Simply ask and leave the having up to Him. The second possibility is that the petition is wrongly motivated. You may have asked, but the asking was all about you! I find it good to consider in prayer the motive for my petition before I render it to the Lord. His Spirit usually makes my motive crystal clear!

Actions and motives are two critical reasons for unanswered prayer in your life.

Day 19 Ephesians 3:14-17a

¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees to the Father ^[a]of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ from whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, ¹⁶ that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might through His Spirit in the inner man, ¹⁷ that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith;

What a prayer of Paul for the church at Ephesus. We would do well to let it ring in our spiritual ears today. As this time of fasting and prayer draws to a close, I pray that through the great riches of His glory you have certainly found an increased and continual strength in the deepest portions of your soul, and that the clear presence of Christ is daily more evident in your heart by faith. What a dynamic duo of power we have access to as His children. The strength of the Holy Spirit, and faith that comes through Christ! May we employ them mightily for His glory in 2021!

Day 20 II Chronicles 7:14

¹⁴ if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

I think that this passage is challenge enough in prayer today... Will you let it start with you?

Day 21 I Kings 18:36-39

³⁶ And it came to pass, at *the time of* the offering of the *evening* sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You *are* God in Israel and I *am* Your servant, and *that* I have done all these things at Your word. ³⁷ Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You *are* the LORD God, and *that* You have turned their hearts back *to You* again."

³⁸ Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that *was* in the trench. ³⁹ Now when all the people saw *it*, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The LORD, He *is* God! The LORD, He *is* God!"

"Father, may we be so close as the prophet that when we pray in confrontation with the enemy that the heavenly fire of God will fall with might and power! May the result be that we fall on our faces in worship and proclaim, "The Lord, He is God!" over and over and over!!

Pray this day for the fire to fall!!

Day 22!! Bonus!!

May we worship in power and authority, with the true joy of the Lord today!!

The victory is ours when the battle is the Lord's!

Psalm 122:1

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the LORD."

I love you all dearly, I hope these meditations have drawn you into prayer afresh and anew. I trust they have clearly reminded you of the power, the preciousness, and the absolute necessity for prayer in the life of a Christian!

May God draw us deeper in and pour His power more fully out in 2021!

Pastor Stacey