**HOPE WORKS 21 DAYS OF BIG PRAYERS**

Sunday March 10 - Saturday March 30 2024

**BIG**

**BELIEVING IN GOD**

**PRAYER JOURNAL**

**HOPE WORKS 21 DAY FAST**

**INTRODUCTION TO HELP YOU GET STARTED**

* Fast: **Sunday evening March 10th to Saturday evening March 30th.**
* **Prayer Meeting**: Every Tuesday from 12 to 1 pm at Hope Works
* HW Sun. Series: **BIG** – 21 Days of Praying BIG prayers
* This **21 DAY PRAYER JOURNAL** is to help you abide in the Word and Prayer
* Each and every day: Pray **Anointing** (Isaiah 61:1-3), **Unity** (Acts 2:42-47), and **Evangelistic Fervor & Power** (Matthew 5:14-16) to ignite Hope Works Church
* See appendix at the end of this journal for further explanation about fasting and resources during your fast

*"Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, 'Why could not we cast him out?'  And Jesus said unto them, 'Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, nothing shall be impossible to you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.' " -Matthew 17:19-21*

“The faith that can overcome such stubborn resistance as you have just seen in this evil spirit, Jesus tells them, is not possible except to men living in very close fellowship with God, and in very special separation from the world in prayer and fasting.  And so He teaches us two lessons in regard to prayer of deep importance.  The one, that faith needs a life of prayer in which to grow and keep strong.  The other, that prayer needs fasting for its full and perfect development.” – Andrew Murray

The purpose of fasting

1. Fasting as a means of worship which must be God centered God intended in God ordained
2. Fasting as an expression of grief distress or repentance.
3. fasting as preparation for God‘s guidance and renewal (Daniel 9; Ex 24)
4. fasting to remind us that we are so stand by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God
5. Fasting to review all the things that control us or hinder us from intimacy with God (the breaking of strong holds)
6. The main thing is to make sure prayer is the main thing. Fasting should not be the focus of our fast. Fasting is a tool to serve your relationship with Jesus. The goal of giving up various things during a fast is to gain greater intimacy with Jesus, through prayer and repentance, thus skyrocketing your faith.
7. Onward with Christ and upward in the Spirit!!

**DAY ONE: MARK CLINGINGS**

**B.I.G.**

**Psalm 40**

Why should I believe in God? Belief in God is one of the most basic of all human considerations. Where did we come from?  Acknowledgement of one’s Creator is foundational to learning any more about Him. We are surrounded with proof of God’s existence, and only through sin, we reject this proof. Romans 1:18-23. It is foolish not to believe, Psalm 14:1 says “The fool says in his heart “There is no god.” They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good.”

  God gave us the ability to choose when He created us. We have two choices in this life. We can trust in man with his finite and limited reasoning. It does not last and it has produced many world religions, ideas, and world views. Man’s reasoning starts with himself and ends with himself. We are born, we make our mark on the world, then we die. We are limited by time. 1Corinthian 1:20 says “Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?

   Our second choice is to accept God’s revelation in the Bible. Proverbs 3:5 says “Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.” We must accept that the Bible is from God. When we seek God through the Bible, He opens our eyes. Ps 119:18, enlightens our understanding. Eph 1:18, and He grants us wisdom. Proverbs chapter 8. All creation bears silent witness to the fact of a Creator. Psalm 19:1-4 says,” The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun.” The Bible is valid and historically accurate. Here is just one of many examples of its accuracy. Micah 5:2 says,” But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Our Savior Jesus was born in Bethlehem 700 years later. Praise Jesus! Reading the Bible we discover that God is eternal, holy, gracious, and loving. These are just a few of His attributes.

  God is spirit, John 4:24 “God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.” And John 1:18 “No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+1%3A18&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26063a)] is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.” God has revealed Himself to us through Jesus. Jesus is the radiance of God’s glory and the exact representation of His being Hebrews 1:1-4. Jesus says “ believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me.” John 14:9-11. We must honor Jesus, John 5:23 says “that all may honor the Son just as they honor the Father. Whoever does not honor the Son does not honor the Father, who sent him. Jesus is God in the flesh! Jesus did exist on earth and to believe in Him is basic for us to also believe that God exists. Jesus is God!

  God is BIG, here are just a few scriptures that give us insight to who He is

 “Remember the former things, those of long ago;
    I am God, and there is no other;     I am God, and there is none like me.
**10**I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come.
I say, ‘My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.’” Isaiah 46:9-10

““For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. **9**“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways
    and my thoughts than your thoughts.” Isaiah 55:8-9

“Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God,
    the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. Isaiah 40:28

“Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit.” Psalm 147:5

“For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes.” Deut 10:17

 God is BIG. He promises that He will answer prayers offered according to His will. 1John5:14-15 says; “This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. **15**And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.” Wow what a promise! Makes me wonder. Psalm 8:4 “what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?”

 To pray boldly is one of the most powerful weapons that we have. One of the reasons that we don’t pray bold prayers is the feeling of hopelessness, the world is too far gone or that person will never be saved. Hopelessness is a trick of the enemy to keep us out of the battle. We have real weapons to fight back. Ephesians 6:10 says;” Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **11**Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. **12**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

Prayer:

 Let’s pray for the salvation of the world, true revival of the church. The lost nation around us doesn’t need to live like they are saved. We need to love the lost to Jesus! We should desire a world that will begin confessing it’s sin, longing for the world to turn from it’s wicked ways. God will hear us from heaven and heal our land. 2Chronicles7:14. We can start with our cities, then our state, then our country, then our world. We need to pray for revival. We need to pray for peace. We need to pray for our churches. We need to pray for our pastors. We need to pray for brotherly love. God’s Kingdom lives in us!

We give all Praise, Honor, and Glory to God forever and ever amen!

**DAY TWO: SONYA BROOKS**

**Our Promise Maker and Promise Keeper**

**Jeremiah 33:3**

As a new Christian, or perhaps a believer who is hurting, it might be difficult to believe our Heavenly Father makes promises, but doesn’t break them. Our Father is a “Big God” who answers our prayers, no matter how “Big” or impossible they may seem, when they align with His will. As we begin to grow in our walk with Jesus, we must actively seek Him. People will tell us, “God knows your thoughts”, but that should never keep us from calling out to Him daily, in prayer. Prayer is the ultimate way we can call on the Lord, and show our belief and trust in Him.

I know this firsthand, as the Lord gave me a dream regarding my only sister. The dream was disturbing, and I knew I needed to pray about it. I prayed for a week, and then the Lord gave me peace about the dream. He let me know, the dream was a warning to prepare me for a future event. That event came in the form of a medical emergency with my sister. Everything the Lord had shown me in the dream came to pass. Even though the situation was dire, I knew my God was “SO BIG’, and loved my sister so much, He prepared us beforehand.

Most of our family members thought my sister would lose her sight, and were making preparations for her being blind, but I didn’t. I never wavered because I believe nothing is impossible with God! I confessed my faith with my lips by speaking healing over her, and not the plans of the enemy. After her surgery, the doctor said her sight would be very limited at best. I told him thank you, but that won’t be her story. You see, I had called upon the Great physician, and heaven overruled earth. That is just how big my God is! Two weeks later at her check-up, the doctor was amazed at the amount of vision she had! Two months later, he was astounded at her healing…But I wasn’t, because I believed the “BIG” promise of God, that no weapon formed against you shall prosper, …this is the heritage of the servants of the Lord.

**Prayer:**

“Heavenly Father, You tell us in Your word, “God is not a man, that He should lie, nor a son of man that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken and will He not make it good? I believe in your promises for my life, that You have a plan for me, to give me hope and a future. I will call upon You Lord, and go and pray to You, and You will listen, because You desire me to walk in Your will. In Jesus name I pray, Amen

**DAY THREE: PAXTON GRAY**

**Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralyzed Man**

**Mark 2:1-12**

Devotional: In this passage we see the power of Jesus. When the Pharisees ask “Who can forgive sins but God alone?” You can almost picture the smirk on the disciples' faces because they know who their Rabbi is. Jesus executes this encounter perfectly and asks “Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, ‘your sins are forgiven’, or to say ‘Get up, take your mat and walk’?”. Faced with this question the Pharisees have almost no choice but to say either is impossible, but that's just what God is capable of; doing the impossible. Not only does Jesus show how he is proficient in healing any issues in our lives, but he shows the authority he has over death. For we know that the Wages of sin is death (Romans 6: 23) and everyone one of us deserves to pay that price (Romans 3: 23), but the grace and mercy of God is more powerful than death. God is bigger than all of our problems on this earth whether it be medical, financial, relational, etc, but more importantly he is bigger than the hold that sin has on your life.

Prayer: Dear Lord, we thank you for the gift of eternal life you have given us. We pray that as we go onto our daily lives that you help remind us that our sin doesn't have to hold us down, because there is no condemnation in your name and you are forgiving. We ask that as we fight our battles, however big or small, that you give us the courage and strength because you have already won. So we thank you for paying the debt that we deserved, and defeating death on the cross. It is in your Holy and Mighty name that we pray, Amen.

**DAY FOUR: JOHN GRAY**

**The Ultimate Show of Faith**

Matthew 21:13 Matthew 21:22 James 5:15-16

When you Pray to the LORD JESUS CHRIST, it is the ultimate show of faith.  Have no doubts, be all believing, that no matter what you ask the LORD for, or to do, so long as it holds GOD'S promise, it Will Be Done, in his timing.  In this you must believe, and in that belief you will find PEACE.  Now if you pray for something and JESUS CHRIST does not give this to you, remember JESUS knows all, pass, present, and future, and he will not answer a prayer that could bring harm to you physically or spiritually.  Remember PRAYER comes back to FAITH in the LORD, TRUST in the LORD.

     The most important thing about PRAYER, it is the most powerful weapon that JESUS gives us to do battle against the evil that the devil brings against us, as Christians.

For our collective prayer:

Please open your Bible to Psalm 130 and read verses 1-5 as a prayer back to our glorious and powerful and all loving God.

**DAY FIVE: BETHEY JACOBSON**

**Title: We have hope in Him because He is not indifferent.**

**Hebrews 4:14-16**

This is a characteristic that has sparked a humongous ray of hope in me, since He is

not indifferent to my pain and is understanding of my human nature. The fact that He

sympathizes with us tells us that we have confidence whenever we cry out to Him, He

hears us! But not only does He’s hear but He cares! Hallelujah! Is there anything

specific that is keeping us from praying to Him about because we are afraid it won’t

matter to Him? Is there a sin we are struggling with and thus makes us think He won’t

listen or be happy with us when we come back to Him? Is there any pain you are going

through, that we think He’s careless about? If there is, I rebuke that in Jesus' name!

Guess what? Those are lies, and u are relying on your own limited understanding! Look

at the life of Jesus, He came to save the lost, your not too lost for Him! And He Himself

went through temptation and pain as we did, but just imagine how much more! Look at

the life of Jesus, He is the image of the invisible God. You will see God when you see

Him. If you cry out to Him with the pure intention of seeking His face, I guarantee you

with my whole being, He won’t leave you unread, but He will move mountains on your

behalf! I can say this through my own personal experience.

He is waiting, what are you waiting for, please don’t wait another minute.

He is not so far.

For your prayer time. Open your Bible to Psalm 139 and read this Psalm back to God as a prayer.

**DAY SIX: BRANDON DONNELL**

**WE HAVE A BIG GOD**

Many years ago, I came across this passage and was deeply convicted me of my unbelief:

“How often they provoked Him in the wilderness, *and* grieved Him in the desert!
Yes, again and again they tempted God, *And limited the Holy One of Israel.
They did not remember His power:* The day when He redeemed them from the enemy.

Psalm 78:40-42

Here David is warning us that forgetting what God has done for us personally and the wonderful testimonies and stories we have heard from others will cause us to ***LIMIT GOD!***

The end result is a passive faith that may not pray at all and if it does will not lay hold of the God of Promises.

But…………… *we are encouraged to come boldly!*

**“Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”** Hebrews 4:16

Come before the God of Mercy with a thankful heart. Thankfulness keeps the heart tender and faith alive. Then........ open your mouth and ask Great Things from a **BIG GOD!!!**

**HE IS THE SAME YESTERDAY TODAY AND FOREVER!!**

**DAY SEVEN: IRIS RUSSELL**

**WE HAVE A BIG GOD; AND WE CAN BELIEVE HIS BIG PRECIOUS PROMISES, AND PRAY BIG (BELIEVE IN GOD) EFFECTIVE PRAYERS TO /GET HIS AWESOME, LOVING ANSWERS.**

**PHILEMON V 6.**

**Faith**is looking at the eternal promises of GOD, believing them without physically seeing them, and trusting in the invisible, eternal hope that is in Christ Jesus to see the answer to our needs met. Our faith becomes EFFECTIVE when we begin to ACKNOWLEDGE every good thing that is in us in the LORD JESUS. Every man is given a measure of faith (**Rom. 12:3).** and our faith WORKS by LOVE **(Gal. 5:6)** that can be seen in your words and actions.  As we are confident in who we are in Christ, then we can express and communicate this grace and love of our BIG GOD to others. .

We desire for our BIG prayers to have the ability to produce godly “END” results.  When you commit your works unto the LORD, your thoughts will be established to be able to pray GOD'S will over yourself and others in situations and circumstances **(Proverb 16:3)**.  Faith ACCESSES a door in prayer into the grace of GOD to work an abundant blessing for what you are praying (**Rom. 5:5**). Don't get discouraged! In all the questioning to GOD about the results we want, don't doubt His love for you. Because it's only in His love that you find a breakthrough. Don't ever lose HOPE, just believe that His BIG Promises are their for you. The desired end results will come as we believe our BIG GOD to answer in His timing. We are not to be dumbfounded, defeated or whipped, because we have a BIG GOD that loves us and desires that we be victorious and overcomers in all things in this life.

To acknowledge is to admit the Truth of GOD'S WORD “out loud” in confession.  You believe what YOU say! We are to desire to acknowledge and communicate the good things in us such as faith, justification, sanctification, holiness, healing, and righteousness **(Proverbs 16:16**)!  Remember that He has: (1) forgiven you all your sins, (2) healed all your diseases, (3) redeemed your life from the destruction of hell, (4) crowned you with lovingkindness and tender mercies, (5) executed righteousness and judgment for you against the oppression of the enemy; (6) made His Ways known to you, (7) given you His grace and mercy in time of need! (8)given you liberty to worship Him, and (9) delivered you free from all bondage of the enemy **(Ps. 103; Lam. 3:21-23).**   Notice that all these benefits are in the past tense because Jesus has finished man's Redemption at the Cross.  It's done! It belongs to you! This is our inheritance in Christ. Now we must ACCESS those good things into the NOW by **believing His Word**, **confessing His BIG promises**, and by praying **BIG PRAYERS** for one another in love and for ourselves. Praise GOD!

ORDERING your conversation correctly by faith, according to His Word, not according to your circumstances, will allow GOD to show you His salvation **(Ps. 50:23**.  He is a rewarder of those who by faith diligently seek Him **(Heb. 11:6).**The sunrise, the brilliant light of His love to your situation is waiting for you, as you Believe Him through the darkest night. Grasp the hope, faith, and wonder of Christ's risen life in you...**CHRIST IN YOU, YOUR HOPE OF GLORY.** Good things are coming, even when we can't see them. As we receive answers to OUR BIG PRAYERS, then we can give that hope and faith to others to know and BELIEVE IN IN OUR BIG GOD! BELEVE in OUR BIG GOD and see your world changed!

**PRAYER: FATHER, YOU never fail & never will! YOU brought me back from my brokenness, and I won't forget YOUR lovingkindness. Thank you for encouraging me throough the AUTHORITY of YOUR WORD and the POWER of the HOLY SPIRIT as I learn how to access all the benefits YOU have provided for me at the Cross. Hallelujah for the VICTORY! THANK YOU, FATHER. THANK YOU JESUS CHRIST; THANK YOU HOLY SPIRIT! For all YOU do for me and my family! PRAISE YOU, OUR BIG, AMAZING GOD!**

**Our God offers BIG Promises**

**DAY EIGHT: MARK CLINGINGS**

**God’s Promises**

**1 John 5:14-15**

God is BIG! He promises that He will answer our prayers according to His will. There are many promises of God in scripture and all of His promises are guaranteed because He is faithful. Numbers 23:19 says “God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?”

1. God promises us His love. Romans 8:35 “   Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

2. God promises eternal life. 1 John 2:25 “   And this is what he promised us—eternal life.”

3. God promises to forgive our sins 1 John 1:9 “   If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

4. God promises the Holy Spirit. Galatians 5:22-23 “ 22  But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,  23  gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

5. God promises to supply all of our needs. Philippians 4:19 “And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.”

6. God does not hold back anything that is for our benefit. Psalm 103:2-3 “Praise the Lord, my soul,     and forget not all his benefits—3  who forgives all your sins     and heals all your diseases,”

7. God promises protection. Psalm 91:4-6 “ 4  He will cover you with his feathers,     and under his wings you will find refuge; his faithfulness will be your shield and rampart. You will not fear the terror of night, nor the arrow that flies by day, nor the pestilence that stalks in the darkness,     nor the plague that destroys at midday.”

8. God promises deliverance from fear. Psalm 34:4 “I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears.”

9. God promises that He will come again. John14:2-3 “ 2  In my Father&#39;s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

10. God promises to end death, sorrow, and pain. Revelation 21:4 “   ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ [a]  or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

Wow what a BIG God that we serve. He is so amazing! Praise Him!

Let’s pray.

Holy Father Thank You so much for all of Your promises. Thank You for loving us so much. Thank You Jesus for taking my place on the cross. You fulfill all of Your promises each day. We know that we can always count on You and that You will meet all of our needs. Thank You for hearing and answering our prayers, and thank You for answering our future prayers. We love You Lord and we pray to walk in Your footsteps and do Your will. In Your Mighty name we pray! Amen

**DAY NINE: SHELBY DAVIS**

**Stop Worrying, and Start Trusting**

*“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?” Matthew 6:25-26*

When sitting down to write this, I decided to bring in my 4 year old's perspective. Here’s how it went:

Me - Hey bud, what is the most important thing for us to do today?

K - “Umm, for us to have fun and a super awesome adventure!”

Me - That sounds great! But what about the yucky weather, and what about lunch?

K - “We just put our rain boots and hats on and that’s it, and you will pack a yummy lunch for us. That’s what makes sense!”

I could go on with how the rest of the conversation went, but we’ll stop here. Did you notice how simple he put it? For him, the stormy weather wasn’t anything that was going to damper his “awesome adventure.” His lunch? He knows his mom and dad will always make sure there’s food. Christ desires for us to have this same rested assurance in HIM, the same way our kiddos do in us. Sure we could think, “well yes, he’s 4, things aren’t that simple as an adult.” But what we read in Matthew 6:25-26, tells us that it really IS that simple. If God feeds and cares for the birds, who are not made in His image, just imagine how much more He cares for and will take care of you, as His beloved sons and daughters. Our “adventure” is to wake up and walk out our purpose for Christ, regardless of what storms or yucky situations come our way. If our focus is always on the storm, the what-if’s, what we have to do next week, etc., we are placing trust in ourselves, and miss out on trusting our lives to God. On the other hand, if our focus and trust is on God’s ultimate plan for our lives, he enables us, through the Holy Spirit, to walk through life’s challenges with peace and our heads held high with joy. Whatever your storm may be, Christ wants you to lay it at His feet, and trust that He has already worked out every detail.

Father, we thank you for the many challenges you’ve carried us through, and for the ones yet to come. We thank you for the ways you were working in and growing us, even when we couldn’t see it. And for every time you’ve provided for us, when we didn’t see a way. We ask that you help us lay down all of the worries or anxieties of this world, and to cling to and trust in you alone. Help us to turn our hearts to you, when we struggle to make sense of our circumstances, and give us the strength and hope to endure them well. We love you LORD, and thank you for the rested assurance we have in you. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

**DAY TEN: JEREMIAS HERNANDEZ**

**The God of Big Promises**

**Hebrews 10:23**

Our God is not a God who makes small, insignificant promises. No, He is the God who declares, "God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?" (Numbers 23:19, NIV).

Every promise of God is yes and amen (2 Corinthians 1:20). His promises are like anchors for our souls, steadfast and sure (Hebrews 10:23). They are not empty words but are backed by the full weight of His character and power.

Consider the promise God made to Abraham. In his old age, God promised him a son, and despite the odds, Isaac was born. This promise was not just about a son but about the fulfillment of a covenant and the birth of a nation. It was a promise that seemed impossible, yet God was faithful.

God promised Moses deliverance for the Israelites, and through miraculous signs and wonders, they were freed from the bondage of Egypt. He promised David a kingdom, and despite many challenges, David became the greatest king Israel ever knew. And in the fullness of time, God promised a Savior, and Jesus came to redeem us, fulfilling centuries-old prophecies with precision and grace. For those seeking purpose and direction as they navigate the troubling waters of life, God promises to guide and provide. He has a plan for each of us, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give us a future and a hope (Jeremiah 29:11). Even when we feel lost or uncertain, we can trust that God is leading us on the right path. Remember he won’t save you from all pain on earth, but He certainly promises to be with you in all pain you will experience.

No matter how bleak our circumstances may appear… No matter how much faith or energy we lose in the process.. No matter how long God takes to fulfill his promises… No matter how painful the journey is, we can trust that God’s biggest promise is to renew and redeem all things in the end. He has the final word. He will prove himself to be the Faithful One. He promises to wipe away every tear from our eyes, and there will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain (Revelation 21:4). He is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end, and His promises are trustworthy and true (Revelation 21:6).

**Prayer**

**Let us pray with thanksgiving in spite of how we feel, knowing that our God is faithful to fulfill all He has promised.**

**Let us thank God for His faithfulness in keeping His promises no matter what we see or want.**

**Let us ask God to increase our faith to believe in His big promises.**

**Let us pray for the strength to hold on to His promises, especially in times of doubt and uncertainty.**

**And let us pray for the grace to surrender our plans and desires to God's perfect timing.**

May this time of fasting and prayer draw us closer to the God of Big Promises, and may we walk in confidence, knowing that He who promised is faithful (Hebrews 10:23).

**DAY ELEVEN: BARBARA BOLINGER**

**Believe in BIG promises…**

**John 16:7**

There are so many wonderful promises to be found in scripture.  I’m sure an argument could be made for each and every one as being THE BIGGEST promise, but is that even possible?  They’re all beautiful, full of hope, perfect and timeless.  I have settled on this promise, however, as being what I think of as a core promise- one through which others find their completion.

Depending on the version of bible you read, you will see the Holy Spirit referred to as either the Helper, Advocate, Comforter, Counselor, and other descriptive and fitting titles.  What I love though, is how in John 14:16, Jesus tells His disciples that “He [the Father] will send *another* Helper to be with you forever.”  I recently learned that the word *another* conveys the idea of “the same as” which affirms that what Jesus is promising us is Himself inside us- dwelling within our very bodies.  Imagine that!  The Holy Spirit doing for us from the *inside* what Jesus did for His friends on the *outside*- teaching, convicting, reminding, guiding, loving, healing, encouraging.  Do we take the time to really contemplate that Jesus, by fulfilling the BIG promise of residing within us as the Holy Spirit (*another* Him!) from the moment of our salvation onwards, walks with us, sits with us, eats with us, sleeps with us, works with us, laughs with us, cries with us, serves with us- does *everything* with us, every single moment of every single day?  I encourage you!  Take some time and just bask in that reality.  WOW!!!!!

I’ve heard the challenge to “be Jesus’ hands and feet.”  There was a time that this felt like a call to just try harder in my own strength.  But today, especially when I read Jesus’ call to abide in Him as He abides in me (John 15:4) I realize that because the Holy Spirit dwells in me and I in Him, my hands ARE His hands!  They’re YOUR hands too!  My feet ARE his feet!  They’re YOUR feet as well!  When we say “YES!” to Him our hugs ARE His hugs.  Our smile IS His smile.  Our words of encouragement to someone or sharing the good news of the gospel with others is literally Jesus in the world.  And when we really take that in, we can pray John 16:23-24 with the right heart and with great expectation….

Pray with me;

Heavenly Father, I praise you for the perfect gift of Yourself in the Holy Spirit- the BIGGEST promise Jesus made to me before he went to the cross to die for me.  You promised you would never leave me or forsake me and this is how you honored your promise!  You left this world so that Your Holy Spirit could dwell in me.  And now we live life together.  I am so grateful!  Lead me, Holy spirit.  Guide me.  May I say “Yes!” to your every prompting to be salt and light in this world.  Remind me to abide, trust, and rest in You.  I love you, Father, Son, and Holy spirit.  Amen

**DAY TWELVE: BREAWNA TRAMMELL**

**“The Lord will fight for you, you need only to be still.”**

**Exodus 14:14**

In difficult situations it can be easy to forget who is in control, as we search for answers or a way out. When it feels as though there’s nowhere to turn that is when it can be the hardest to remember, losing sight of what God can and wants to do in our lives. The Israelites saw the Egyptians closing in and cried out to the Lord in fear. They began doubting in the Lord's rescue through Moses. God spoke to them, promising liberation from the Egyptians for His glory. "The Lord will fight for you, you need only to be still." God promised to rescue His people of Israel and today He promises you the same. He is promising us that we can depend on Him. In the stillness seek Him in prayer for His strength and guidance for whatever circumstance you find yourself in and He will deliver you. All you need to do is be still. Never forget the vastness of His power and the freedom He provides by laying it down and allowing Him to take control. To "be still" is a gift in itself, doing nothing but trusting in His promise, accepting the opportunity to be still, allowing Him the honor to fight in your place. God is forever willing and able; we can trust in Him and be still.

God forgive us if we forget what you are able to do. If we begin to doubt as the fear overcomes us. You are the creator of everything and the defender of the weak. We trust in you and know you have full control over our lives and the ability to save us as you have saved us eternally from our sin. God help us to see this every day so we can cherish the stillness you provide. To trust in the promise that you will fight, defend and protect. Strengthen our trust in you so we have consistent confidence of your control. Thank you for the promise that you will fight, thank you for the opportunity to be still in our most difficult circumstance so we can experience the freedom you have to offer us.

In Jesus name, Amen.

**DAY THIRTEEN: JUDY GUERRERO**

**TEXT: Matthew 28: 19 – 20**

**The Great Commission**

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Eight minutes and twenty seconds, that is the amount of time before the light from the sun would be absent from planet earth, should our star suddenly vanish. We, earthlings, would experience unimaginable horrors, including an unavoidable and plunging chill. However, scientists say that scenario will never happen.

There is an approaching event that will occur and bring our world into instant darkness. In the moments immediately following the Rapture of Christ's church, imagine the cold fear that will settle upon those left behind. It is a countdown and we can only speculate on the time remaining. We wait expectantly, our stomachs a little jumpy with anticipation. So, why the delay? Mercy and compassion are two of the reasons. Billions of lost souls, unknown to us, are of deep-deep value to Almighty God. He waits for the arrival of some (or many) of these into His family. He listens, as a proud dad, for that first cry. The sound of life, eternal life, filling their lungs and giving voice to their salvation praise. The thought that God is so intimately involved with the birth process of each and everyone of us, as we come into the gift of eternal life with Him, is very overwhelming. How do we, the saved, respond? First, we must respond reverently. Bowed heads and bent knees and words of praise should pour forth from our grateful hearts. Secondly, let us thank Him because we are part of a large and sprawling family. We must express our gratitude that God's saving plan spans across time. Souls have, are, and will come into salvation past, present, and future. Lastly, until we are called into His Presence, let us roll up our sleeves and physically take our appreciation into this ravenously hungry world.

**PRAYER**

*Lord Jesus, we come before You with hearts filled with joy.
Thank You for the Salvation Grace that has rescued us from certain destruction.
God, You have been faithfully filling in name after name after name in the Lamb's Book of Life. Jesus send us into the smoldering places where men and women and children await the message of Your Grace. Here I am Lord, send me!*

**DAY FOURTEEN: KAREN GRAY**

**TEXT: HABAKUK 3:17-19; PSALM 91**

***Yet I will rejoice in the Lord!***

I would like to share with you some of my favorite verses from the Bible: “Though the fig tree should not blossom, nor fruit be on the vines, the produce of the olive fail and the fields yield no food, the flock be cut off from the fold and there be no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will take joy in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the deer’s; he makes me tread on my high places. (

It was in the hardest times in my life when I truly understood how The Lord my God was my source of strength , my comforter, my redeemer, my deliverer and my source of Joy.
Through the hardship and suffering, when everything seemed lost is precisely when  I truly understood the magnitude  of God’s faithfulness in my life!

No matter what we go through, Our God can bring beauty out of ashes! This is why we can have Joy in the midst of suffering. We are not victims of the bad things that happen to us, we truly have Victory in Jesus.

**PRAYER**

*Join us in praying for a heart to rejoice in The Lord! Great is his faithfulness!
Heavenly Father, thank you so much for your love and faithfulness!  Help us to walk with you everyday of our lives. Help us get rid of the victim mentality and have a heart that is constantly grateful and praising you because of who you are: our faithful father that loves us immensely! You oh Lord are our king and  loving father. We praise You!
In Jesus name I Pray that my Church family at Hope Works will claim their Victory in Jesus and live a life that shines the light to this dark world. Amen*

**DAY FIFTEEN: MARK CLINGINGS**

**BIG PRAYER**

To pray boldly is one of the most powerful weapons that we have. One of the reasons that we don’t pray bold prayers is the feeling of hopelessness, the world is too far gone or that person will never be saved. Hopelessness is a trick of the enemy to keep us out of the battle. We have real weapons to fight back. Ephesians 6:10 says;” Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. **11**Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. **12**For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.

 Let’s pray for the salvation of the world, true revival of the church. The lost nation around us doesn’t need to live like they are saved. We need to love the lost to Jesus! We should desire a world that will begin confessing it’s sin, longing for the world to turn from it’s wicked ways. God will hear us from heaven and heal our land. 2Chronicles7:14. We can start with our cities, then our state, then our country, then our world. We need to pray for revival. We need to pray for peace. We need to pray for our churches. We need to pray for our pastors. We need to pray for brotherly love. God’s Kingdom lives in us!

We give all Praise, Honor, and Glory to God forever and ever amen!

Let’s pray!

Holy Father in heaven, please cleanse us of our sins as we come before You in the Mighty name of Jesus. We cry out to You for the lost souls around us. We ask You to lift the veil from them so that they may see the truth. We know that You are the only truth in this world and You are the only one that can save them. We pray for true revival in Your churches. Please lead souls to us so that we may help You show them just how much You love us all. We pray for You to fill Hopeworks with so many of these that we overflow. We pray for all of Your churches. We pray for all of Your pastors. We give You all of the Glory! Lord we pray that Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We pray that You will fill us with Your heart so that we will love others as You do. Please humble us Lord to help us serve You better. Lord we pray for the leaders of this world, our country, state, and city that they would repent and turn from wicked ways. We pray for ourselves that we also will turn from any wickedness and that You make us more Holy. Lord we pray for peace, we know that Your Holy Word promises this when You return to rule and reign. We pray Your kingdom come. Lord we pray for pastor Shane and our church family that we will always follow in Your footsteps, teach Your truth, and do Your will. We pray for our children Lord that they walk closely with You and many generations that follow. We thank You for the many blessings that You pour out on us, seen and unseen. We give all the praise, honor, and glory to You always. Amen

**DAY SIXTEEN: CAROLYN C. MCCALLUM**

**IN HIS PRESENCE**

**TEXT: PSALM 27**

Psalms 27:4 There is nothing more precious than being in the Presence of God. In His Presence is joy, strength, comfort, peace, confidence and rest. The list is endless. Without Jesus in our heart, we are as filthy rags lost and hopeless. But when we submit ourselves to Him in faith and accept Him as Savior those filthy rags fall off and we are given new clothes of righteousness. We can stand uprightly before Him. We can stand in His Presence. After this there is even more to receive in our new life. We can have the richness of communion with Him. We can experience the intimacy of His Spirit. Words are inadequate to express the awe of His Presence, but if we humbly submit to Him in prayer and seek to know Him, we will experience it. He desires to have an intimate relationship with us. He wants us to grow in His wisdom, power and love by His Spirit. Jesus says, "Abide in me and I in you. The Psalmist says, “As a deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, O God." Psalms 42:1. David also says that the thing he desires most is to be in the house of the Lord and behold his beauty. David also prays this: "O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water” (Psalm 63:1). David earnestly seeks God's Presence. His soul thirsts for God. There is desperation and urgency in his prayer. Do you seek God like this? Do you desire God in this manner? As Christians we should pursue this kind of intimate relationship with our Savior. It transforms us. You will see life and people differently. You will be empowered to victoriously live in this difficult world ........ And you will confidently share this glorious news with those you know. Be like David and pursue His Presence.

**PRAYER**

*Heavenly Father, I want to know you today better than yesterday. And better tomorrow than I know you today. It is in you that I live and breathe. There is peace and rest in knowing you. Without you I can do nothing. I submit my life to you and worship you as my Savior, Lord and King. You have my heart and my life. But I want to know you intimately. I want the richness and joy you give by having a deep relationship with you. Help me to embrace that at any cost. I pray that I will also share the message of salvation and the wonders of Your Presence to those around me so they may come to know you in your fullness. Again, I thank you for the great privilege of knowing you. "For in Your Presence is fullness of joy." Psalms 16:11 In Jesus' Name, Amen*

**DAY SEVENTEEN: LOYD GRAY**

**Effective Prayer**

**John 15:1-11**

The bible teaches that prayer is direct communication with God. The Holy Spirit was sent to us to help us live a life in obedience to God and follow his commandments, and thus we have  the privilege of talking to God daily in our prayer time with the Holy Spirit in our heart to intercede for us as we go to our Father in prayer.

The disciples had been with Jesus and had seen him pray and went to Him with this request, “Lord teach us to pray”.  So, we should say as the disciples did, “Lord, teach me to pray”. Prayer is what we need to be taught. It is through prayer that we can talk to God, fellowship with Him and worship Him, We know that we are weak and unfit spiritually for this Holy task, only the Holy Spirit can enable us to talk to God as it should be done. The Holy Spirit has access to our heart, and either shows the sin that hinder our prayer or the assurance that we are pleasing to God. To make our prayers acceptable we must know our sin, confess our sin and ask forgiveness of our sin.   Also for our prayers to be acceptable, they must be to the glory of God and in accordance with His will. Jesus did not teach His disciples how to preach but how to pray. To know how to speak to God is more vital than knowing how to speak to men. It is power with God not man that is important.

The first thing Jesus teaches His disciples is that they must have a secret place for prayer. Everyone must have a solitary place they can be alone with God. A person must choose a location that he can meet with God daily. That location could be anywhere, and it could change from day to day. There must be a place and a quite time that we can meet to pray and worship the Father. The Holy Spirit will meet us there and teach us to pray. The first thought or need we have when we meet for prayer is that we are there to meet with our Father. Each thought or need or request we have must be simple and childlike trust in our Father.

As we go to the Father in prayer with our requests the unlimited promise “Ask whatever you Wish” has one simple and natural condition: “If you abide in Me.” To be in Him is the way to have our prayers heard. Fully and completely abiding in Him we have the right to ask whatsoever we will and the promise that it will be done for us. It is in obedience to our Father that the abiding must be maintained. John 15:10 reads: “If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love”. To those who abide like this, the promise comes as their rightful heritage. Ask whatever you wish. It cannot be otherwise. “If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it shall be done for you” (John 15:7).  Jesus also said; “In that day”, I tell you the truth, my Father will give you whatever you ask in my name, Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.” (John 16:23)

Matthew 6:6 reads; “Pray to your Father, who is unseen”. If in worship or prayer we are primarily occupied with our own thoughts and exercises, we will not meet Him who is in spirit. As we put aside and shut out the life of the world and the flesh, and surrender ourselves to Christ, God’s presence will be with us as we pray.

So as we request, Lord, teach me us/me to pray, we are taught the it is during a quite time and in a private room alone with our Father that we will learn to pray correctly. In the words, “The Father who is unseen”, Jesus teaches us where He is waiting for us, Where He is always to be found. Prayer is very blessed, the answer is even more blessed, as the response from the Father that our prayer, our faith our will are indeed as He would want them to be.

**DAY EIGHTEEN: GLENN CONNER**

**Daniel 3**

I live by quotes.  Bible verses, movie lines, mottos, axioms....  I latch onto truth wherever I find it.  (Not that all truths are equal, but that's another discussion.)  I love taking something complex and boiling it down to its simplest components.  3-easy-steps... A+B=C... "Just the facts, ma'am."  Too bad Y'weh doesn't seem to work that way very often.  😊

"Believe-In-God" prayers?  Well, one thing I can say for sure is that no other kind has a prayer, as it were, of getting results.  But on that subject, two of my favorite quotes are from a couple of folks I consider to be true heroes of faith; Mr. Spock of Star Trek (notice, I did not say “The Faith”) and the centurion of Matthew 8.  In the Court Martial episode, Spock said (I'm paraphrasing), "If I drop a hammer, I don't have to see it fall to know that it's fallen," and the centurion, talking to Y'shua, said (also paraphrasing), "No, you don't have to come to my house.  I know how authority works.  Just say it, and I know it will happen." In Hebrews 11, it says that faith (trust) is "substance" and "evidence".  In legal and scientific circles, both of those are called "facts".  Or at least they're what lead you to the facts.  So basically, faith is facts.  And prayer, I submit, is based on facts, both historic and present-day.  Facts about Y’weh, who He is and what He’s done.

But as much as I love quotes, proverbs, and pithy sayings, I doubt that the Kingdom of Y'weh is expressed completely in isolated out-of-context verses, so I'll try to state what I know about prayer from 50-odd years in the Book, trying the best I can to take it as a whole.  To be clear, this is MY best understanding; your results will vary.

• I KNOW that Y'weh's will includes us being blessed and prospered in every possible way, right here, right now, and with or without the help of our own efforts or human technology.

• I KNOW that He's given us authority in this world and that our words are powerful, but also that He’s no genie and prayer is not magic.

• I KNOW that effective prayer does not require volume or repetition or intensity or length or particular postures... except when it does.

• I KNOW that I don't know a whole lot about prayer.

However, I KNOW that the single most important factor in prayer is release.  His plan, even when it conflicts with other parts of His will, is paramount.  (“How can His plan and His will be in conflict”, you say?  Do you really think that sickness, ignorance, poverty, and other hardships are His will?  And yet He incorporates them into His plans ALL of the time.)  And to that end, we must care more about His purposes than we do about securing our own needs and desires, as noble and righteous as they may be.  As Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah put it:  “Our God is able to deliver us.  But even if He does not, we will not bow.”

*Father, thank you that you love us and hear us.  Make us each all that You’ve put us here to be, and do with and through each of us all that You’ve put us here to do.  And more.  As You please.  Accomplish Your will and plans and purposes.  Grant us your promises.  Hear our words and see our hearts as they should be, real and complete and conformed to Your Ruach ha-Kodesh.  By the perfect Name and the mighty Blood of Your Son, Y’shua ha-Mashiach, so be it.  Thank you.*

**DAY NINETEEN: DANIEL SOHN**

**Instructions (before reading devotional**:

1. Read Psalms chapter 8
2. Open YouTube and search *“The Bible project Psalms 8”/* watch this 6-minute video review.
3. (Optional) Open YouTube and search “*What is man by Daniel Sohn (official audio)*” This is a song that I wrote inspired by Psalms chapter 8!

**Devotional**:

 So, we are looking to go big? Big God, Big promises, Big prayers, right? But how? I mean are we not so small, so seemingly insignificant? David seemed to think so as he scribed Psalms chapter 8. This Psalm is relatively short and uses a unique poetic device called an **Inclusio**- simply meaning the first and last verse are the same and establish the overall theme of the poem. The Inclusio reads “*O LORD (Yahweh), our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!”-Psalm 8:1 and 9*. So the theme of our reading and hopefully we recognize a similar theme in our lives is an awe at the majesty of God who is above us (“*you have set your glory above the heavens”*). Stopping here for a moment (or a lifetime) is crucial but let’s just start with a moment! God is the biggest, most beautiful, and majestic one in all the universe. Is he appropriately recognized as such in our lives? I wonder if our thoughts, actions, and prayers line up with this reality. I am not referring to a religious or theological understanding that God is more powerful than humanity. My focus is primarily on an awareness of this reality in every aspect of our lives. When we face temptation is God more beautiful to us than the lure? When we are brought to our knees by circumstances is God still bigger than our problems? When we are blessed with earthly possessions do they pale in comparison to heavenly treasures. When we commit sin do we come trembling in sorrow before the feet of a king who has no reason to forgive us? I hear it often said that “Jesus is my Lord and Savior” this terminology has almost become a cliché in the modern church, and I have nothing negative to say about that. However, it often seems that many are on board with the idea of Jesus being their savior but not their Lord. If Jesus is truly our Lord than we will gladly surrender every aspect of our lives to his authority and rulership. Not because he is a harsh dictator king but because we have a consistent and genuine awe at his name which is over all the earth (*See Philippians 2:9*).

 While the theme of *Psalm 8*, the entire Bible, and hopefully our lives is quite clearly that God is above all and worthy of all adoration it is not the only theme we see present in this chapter. In fact, sandwiched between the Inclusio in *verses 2-8* is a question that appropriately describes humankind’s position before God. “*What is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?”-Psalms 8:4*. This question embodies human existence and provides an outline for how we ought to approach a Holy God. The theme that is unveiled is that for some unexplainable reason God chooses to exalt the lowly even give them glory and honor. This is not found exclusively in *Psalms 8*, our author David knows this well from his rise to becoming King, Joseph knows this from his roller-coaster life including prisons and palaces, the disciples know this as they traded in fishing nets to fish for men, and you know this because Christ died for you, a sinner, and now you’re a saint! This may come as a surprise but recognizing your lowliness is perhaps the biggest factor in properly interacting with a Big God who makes Big Promises and answers Big prayers. Consider Jesus’ statement that he didn’t come to call “righteous” or “healthy” people to repentance but rather the Sick Sinners (*See Luke 5:31/32*). The profound thing about this statement is that according to the Bible there actually are no righteous or healthy people outside of those made that way by God through Jesus (*See Romans 3:23*). So, Jesus isn’t saying that his sacrifice wasn’t necessary for pharisees, pastors, and priests he is saying that his salvation is only for those who recognize their lowliness and need for a savior, regardless of classification! This being the case it seems that a humble understanding of our own Sinful and undeserving nature would be among the most sought after and desirable attributes of the Christian. Is it? I would argue that it is not but let us not stop there, *Psalms 8* gives us aid in bringing our lowliness to the forefront of our minds. In the chapter David considers the Stars, the moon, and various creatures that God has made and marvels in our dominion over them. This might not initially make you feel lowly, out of all creation it seems God favors us Humans and we appear higher than his other animate and inanimate creations. Yet if we recall the creation story in Genesis, I believe we catch a glimpse of how David was able to see his own lowliness. As we know God created the earth in six days and rested on the seventh, on each of these six days he creates things with his voice. Yet when he creates mankind, we observe that he formed us of dust and his very breath was required to give us life. After the initial sin in the Garden, God informs mankind that “*you are dust, and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19)*. This primarily tells us three things 1. We rely on God’s breath or spirit to give us life (still true today) 2. We were made of a lowly material lower than plants, animals and celestial objects yet given a position over them and 3. Because sin entered this world, we are extremely fragile creatures, and our fate is to return to the lowly material we were made of. Do you perceive it? It makes no sense that God has such a strong love for us, we betrayed him to his face, and he pursued, we gave him our worst and he gave us his blood.

And this is how we go big in God’s kingdom. James tells us to Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation and the rich in his humiliation (*James 1:9*). Jesus says If you want to be great you must serve as he himself did *(Matthew 20:27/28*). I implore you brothers and sisters, lose your life that you might gain his infinite riches!

**Prayer**:

Father, would you give me a revelation of my own lowliness. Rid me of the things in this world that feel so natural like pride and haughtiness. Create in me a clean heart O Lord because I recognize that I wasn’t only made from dirt, but I often feel dirty. I want to do big things for your kingdom, but I recognize that my understanding of how to be great has been flawed in the past. I’m not special God I am just a broken vessel that you cleaned up so that I can share your message, love you.

**DAY TWENTY: CARLY ENGLAND**

**The Power of Prayer**

**Romans 8:9-15**

Prayer is a request or thanks to God Himself. Prayers hold power; enough power to wither a fig tree. They give healing and deliverance. Our prayers will become if we simply believe they will. While in the waiting season, we should prepare for the prayers to become. The waiting season may be frustrating, tiring, and long. You are not alone in the waiting. When there’s preparation, there’s opportunity. When the opportunity comes, you will be ready. Although it doesn’t seem like it, God works daily on you and your mountain for your benefit. As Elevation Worship and Tauren Wells's song “Joy In The Morning” puts it, “If it’s not good, then He’s not done… with it yet”. Press in and pray huge because His children serve a big God. He is the One who hears His children when they call out to him. As Paul said in Romans 5, we cry, “Abba, Father.”

 Jesus explained to His disciples that anything asked for in Him will happen. He wants us to pray without doubting Him. As Warren W. Wiersbe says, this doesn’t mean to pray so hard and believe enough to make God give our request to us; this is just faith in faith or feelings.

 As we pray, we should also forgive those who have trespassed against us, as God has done with us. The Father cannot forgive us if we do not forgive others. Unforgiveness is a mountain within itself, a plague affecting many. Paul's commandment in Romans 12:18 states to live in peace with everyone if possible. Our letting go creates peace for us.

Mark 11:20-24

**BIG PRAYER**

Lord, thank You for allowing me to grow in this waiting season and always being with me. I ask for Your help in this waiting season as well as preparing me for my prayers. Help me to forgive those who have trespassed against me so that I may have peace. In Jesus' name, I pray Amen.

**DAY TWENTY-ONE: SHANE GRAY**

**TEXT 2 KINGS 19:14-19; 20; & 35-37**

***Our problems are no problem for God!***

In 2 Kings 19 we see Hezekiah, King of Judah, surrounded, outnumbered, and out matched by the large armies of the King of Assyria. The King of Assyria crushed any kingdom who tried to stand up to him. The Assyrians made intimidating and degrading threats to Hezekiah’s ambassadors regarding the Kingdom of Judah. These threats were transcribed and carried to Hezekiah to read. When Hezekiah received the letter from His messengers, he read it. His heart was sickened. What did he do? He prayed. *“Then he went up to the temple of the LORD and spread it before the LORD and prayed.” (2 Kings 19:14-15).* I love this example of prayer! Hezekiah spread out the letters before God and prayed. Read his prayer in verses 14-19. I have done this before. I have written down my problems and presented it to the LORD in prayer. Sometimes I have even spread it out on the altar in Hope Works auditorium. I will pray, Lord, here are my problems. I am giving them to you! Now, my problems are no longer my problems. My problems are now your problems! When we follow this process of prayer, like Hezekiah, we will realize, our problems are no problem for God! In verse 35 we read, “that night the angel of the LORD went out and put to death a hundred and eighty-five thousand men in the Assyrian camp.” God could have dispatched millions of angels, but he only dispatched one! Do you think God was the least bit intimidated by that arrogant King of Assyria? Not at all! In the same way, God is not the least bit threatened by the things that threaten you. If God is for you, who can be against you! (Romans 8:31) He will contend with that which contends with you! (Psalm 35) Cast your cares upon the Lord for He cares for you! (1 Peter 5:7)

**PRAYER**

*Father God, I lay out problems before you. (Make a list of a few of your greatest burdens)*

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*Father God, these are no longer my problems, I entrust them to you. My problems are now your problems, and I know Lord God, my problems are no problem for you. I cast my cares upon you because you care for me. I will give you all praise and glory when you respond to these problems in power, love, and authority. In Jesus name, Amen.*

Make a list of all of your friends and family who need a relationship with Jesus!

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Pause right now and pray for each of them. Now, call them, text them, message them and invite them to Easter Sunday at Hope Works 9:30 or 11 am worship service! Trust that the Holy Spirit will convict them of their sin, the atoning blood of Jesus, and the souls satisfying love of God. Believe they will say yes to your invitation and most of all, believe they will say yes to Jesus!

**APPENDIX**

Welcome to the Hope Works 21 Day Fast Prayer Journal! This journal is written by Hope Works to Hope Works. We will read through the same edification, read the same Scripture, and pray the same prayers.

Our theme is BIG – Believing In God. We have a BIG God who offers BIG promises and invites us to receive His BIG promises through BIG prayers.

The first 7 days focus on our BIG God. The second 7 days focus on His BIG promises. The third 7 days focus on BIG prayers.

We encourage you to open your Bible and read the scriptures that began each journal entry.

What is a fast? Fasting is giving up something. In place of that something that you give up, pray more frequently and fervently. God responds to our fasting with His presence and power. Even more importantly than the blessings we receive through prayer and fasting is the fellowship of Jesus and fullness in the Spirit as we give up to go up and pray.

There are many ways you can fast. We will all focus on repenting of sins throughout our fast and grow in holiness. In the Bible Daniel modeled fasting by eating only vegetables and drinking only water. Jesus fasted from food entirely. Today, our fast can include a dietary component and we can also fast from social media, mindlessly scrolling on our electronic devices, watching the news, or Net Flix, etc.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to lead you personally in what to fast from. We encourage you to drink an abundance of water throughout your fast. We also remind you to not simply go without. Go without in order to go up with God. The purpose of fasting is to pray, pray, pray!

Please attend each of the Tuesday Prayer Meetings from 12 to 1 pm throughout the 21 Days. Don’t miss Hope Works Good Friday Communion Service Friday, March 29 at 6:30 pm. Finally, we encourage you to invite many friends and family to Easter Sunday at Hope Works 9:30 and 11 am worship service.

Beware of the enemy! Chances are your fast will not go perfectly. God is not looking for perfection. He is after your heart. He wants you to pursue Him. He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. Don’t let the enemy discourage you. Simply set your heart on pursuing Jesus each and every morning. His mercies are new every morning!

**SUGGESTED FAST**

Days 1-7

* 4 days of fruits and vegetables
* 3 days of juice and water

Days 8-14

* 4 days of fruits and vegetables
* 3 days of juice and water

Days 15-21

* 4 days of fruits and vegetables
* 3 days of juice and water

Suggested foods

* Pot of homemade vegetable soup (usually lasts 3 days)
* Baked potatoes with salsa
* grilled veggies fajitas
* plenty of fruits and for snacking
* use as much spice and seasoning as you like

Suggested Juice and water

* Drink at least 1-2 gallons of water a day
* easiest to buy gallon jugs to monitor intake
* Use a juicer for the full affect and most nutrients
* most juicers have a recipe book or online
* drink something hot, this eases stomach pains from hunger decaf hot tea, hot vegetables bullion cubes, hot water with lemon

**OTHER SUGGESTED FASTS**

* Give up social media, tv, bad habits, amoral activity (neither good nor bad). Let the Holy Spirit lead you in what to fast from. The key is to give up in order to go up with Christ. We don’t fast as an end in and of itself. That is an exercise in futility. We fast to pray. We fast to know Jesus and to experience His mountain moving power and chain breaking authority in your life and our church,

**In addition to the 21 Day Fast of your choice, choose to give up something each and every day as an expression of obedience to Jesus.**

**There is no greater form of worship than obedience. (Romans 12:1-2) Each day give something to the Lord in Prayer and Fast for deliverance.**

**Examples:**

* Alcohol
* Anger
* Anxiety
* Anorexia
* Approval of others
* Apathy (lack of)
* Arrogance
* Belief in God/ Trust
* Binging
* Blasphemy
* Boasting /Bragging
* Body Image
* Cell Phone Dependent
* Codependency
* Control
* Covetousness
* Critical Spirit/ Complaining
* Debt
* Defined by my past
* Depression
* Disobedience / Rebellion
* Divorce/ Separation
* Drugs/ Substance Abuse/ Pills
* Emotional Dependency
* Fear of failure
* Fear of intimacy
* Fear of Man/ Others
* Fear of rejection
* Fear of success
* Food addictions
* Fighting -Verbal/Physical
* Gambling
* Gluttony
* Gossip
* Greed/ Love of Money
* Guilt and Shame
* Hatred of others/ self
* Hoarding
* Helplessness
* Idolatry/ Worship of the created
* Infidelity/ Sexual Purity
* Insecurity
* Isolation/Withdraw
* Jealousy/Envy
* Judgement
* Lack of Growth
* Lack of Self Worth
* Laziness
* Loneliness
* Loss of Relationship
* Lust
* Lying/Deceit/ Dishonesty
* Manipulation
* Materialism
* Mental Illness
* Mistrust in God
* Negativity
* Obsessive thoughts OCD
* Overeating
* Paranoia
* Passivity
* People Pleasing
* Perfectionism
* Pornography
* Pride/ Self Righteousness
* Profanity
* PTSD
* Racism
* Rage
* Relational Addictions
* Resentment/Bitterness
* Selfishness
* Self Worth
* Sexual addition
* Sexual immorality
* Sexually immoral imaginations
* Shopping/Spending
* Singleness
* Smoking/Dipping/Vaping
* Social Anxiety
* Social Media
* Stealing/Kleptomania
* Stress
* Suicidal
* Television
* Un-Forgiveness
* Vanity
* Victim Mentality
* Video Game Addiction
* Workaholic
* Worry