

# PRAYERCONNECT

Connecting to the Heart of Christ through Prayer

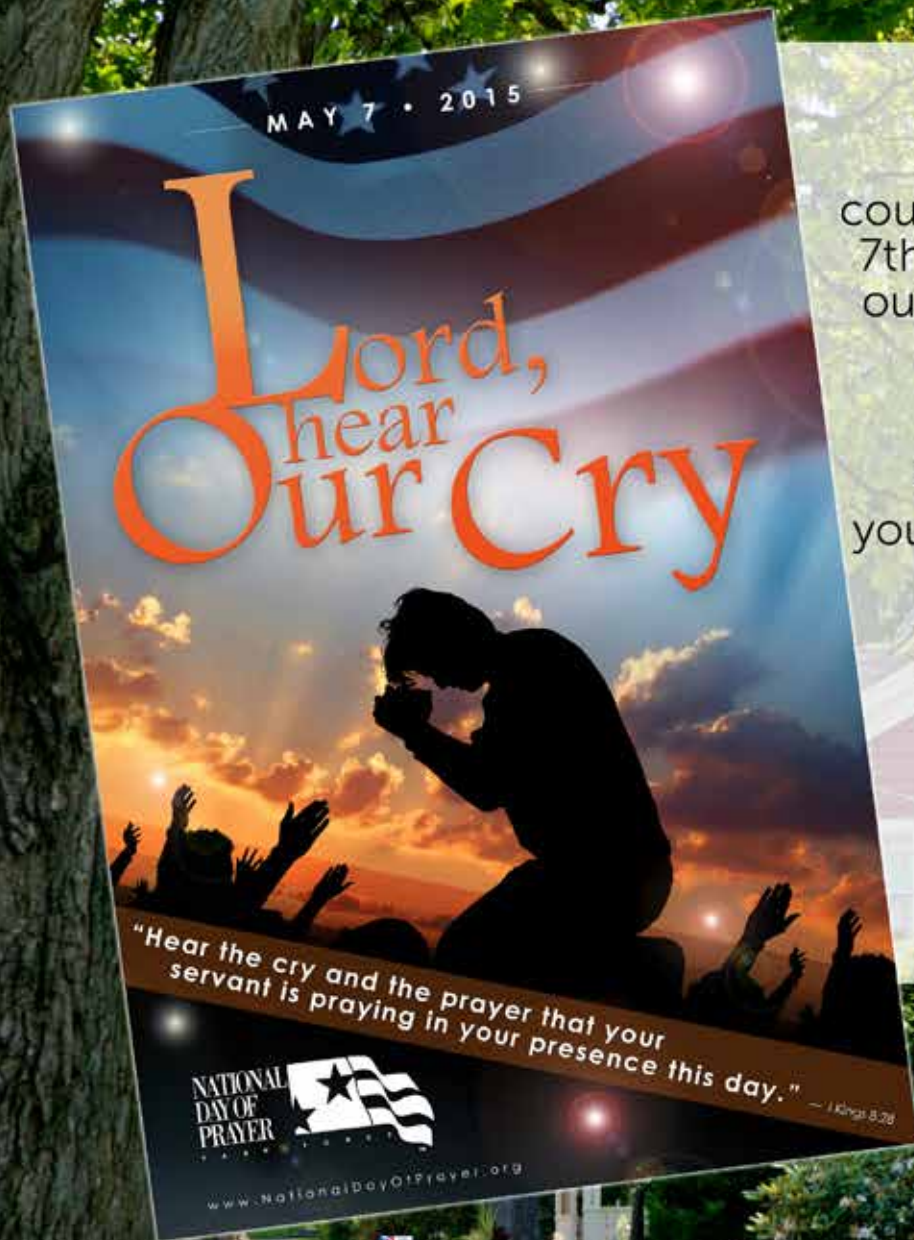


## Rediscovering FASTING

A Kingdom Key to Breakthrough

The Price of Revival | *Saints Who Wrestle*  
**A NEW DNA OF PRAYER**

# ENGAGE YOUR COMMUNITY TO PRAY ON THE NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER!



Join millions of Americans across the country on Thursday, May 7th, as we gather and cry out for our nation on the annual National Day of Prayer!

Resources to mobilize your community, church, or neighborhood are available from the National Day of Prayer Task Force!



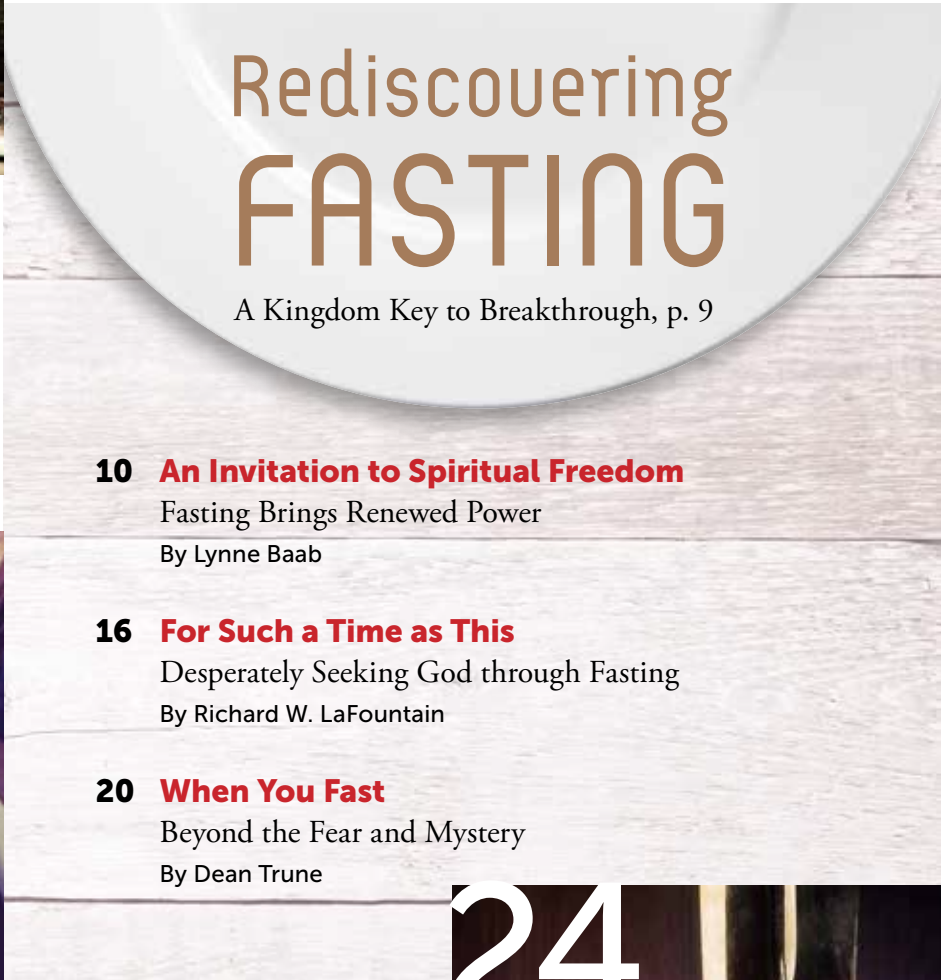
Visit [www.nationaldayofprayer.org](http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org)  
or call 1-800-444-8828





# PRAYERCONNECT

March/April 2015 | Vol. 5, No.2



## Features

### 24 **Making the Devil Tremble**

The Link between Prayer and Spiritual Warfare

By Alvin VanderGriend

### 10 **An Invitation to Spiritual Freedom**

Fasting Brings Renewed Power

By Lynne Baab

### 16 **For Such a Time as This**

Desperately Seeking God through Fasting

By Richard W. LaFountain

### 20 **When You Fast**

Beyond the Fear and Mystery

By Dean Trune



## Departments

### 5 **Publisher's Note**

Prayer or Panic?

### 7 **News & Events**

- Pray4Schools: Vision for Breakthrough Prayer
- Abortions Fall to Record Low in U.S.
- From Riots to Hopeful Prayer
- 20 People to Pray for in 2015
- Prayer Calendar

### 29 **Tips & Tools**

- Prayer Appointments as a Way to Encourage Staff
- Surf's Up: Helpful Prayer on the Internet
- Will You Pray with Us?

### 30 **Prayer Leader**

Learning to Pray Together

### 31 **Classics**

Are We Ready to Pay the Price for Revival?



www.prayershop.org

**Visit the Largest Prayer-Only  
Store on the Internet**

**We're Everything Prayer!**

- Corporate Prayer ■ Bible Studies/Small Groups
- Personal Prayer ■ Intercession ■ Prayer Guides
- Spiritual Warfare ■ Prayer Ministry Teams
- Church ■ Women ■ Children ■ Youth ■ Men
- Conferences ■ Prayer Evangelism and
- 24 other categories

*Join the CPLN  
and save 20-40%  
on all products*

*Take an  
Additional  
15% Off One Order*

Use Code PCPS315  
at Checkout to Receive  
Discount

www.prayershop.org

Sponsored by



# CONTACTUS

## Business and Shipping Address

### PRAYERCONNECT

3525 S. 3rd Pl. | Terre Haute, IN 47802  
812.238.5504 | [prayerconnect.net](http://prayerconnect.net)

## Article Submissions

We are looking for general articles, ideas, and news stories on what God is doing as a result of prayer. As a start-up magazine, we are primarily looking for newly written pieces that have not appeared in other publications. Writer's guidelines are available by emailing Carol Madison at [editor@prayerconnect.net](mailto:editor@prayerconnect.net). For news stories, we recommend emailing first to see if we have an interest in reporting on the event or item you wish to write about. Send your submissions to:

Carol Madison  
Prayer Connect Submissions  
4300 West 98th St. | Bloomington, MN 55437  
[editor@prayerconnect.net](mailto:editor@prayerconnect.net)

## Subscriptions

*Prayer Connect* is a bi-monthly publication, available in Church Prayer Leaders Network (CPLN) Membership (\$30 per year), Print (\$24.99 per year) or Digital (\$19.99 per year) formats. Both CPLN and Print subscriptions include access to the Digital version. To subscribe, go to [prayerconnect.net](http://prayerconnect.net). We also have multiple copy discounts available for individuals or churches who want to purchase copies for a prayer team or small groups:

[prayerconnect.net](http://prayerconnect.net)  
Joanne Telle  
800.217.5200 or 812.238.5504

## Permissions

Jonathan Graf  
[jong@harvestprayer.com](mailto:jong@harvestprayer.com) | 812.238.5504

## Reprint Permissions

If you are making copies for your small group or for church use, you have blanket permission to make up to 100 copies without asking for permission (as long as the copies are not sold or in a for-sale product). Please include the phrase: "Copied from *Prayer Connect* (Issue #). Used with permission." Contact us to gain permission for all other uses, including posting articles on the Internet. We do encourage you to put links on Facebook and Twitter to articles that are open to the public at [prayerconnect.net](http://prayerconnect.net).

## Advertising

If you would like information on placing an ad in *Prayer Connect*, or if you have concerns or questions about our ads, please contact:  
*Prayer Connect*, 3525 S. 3rd Pl. Terre Haute, IN 47802  
[advertising@prayerconnect.net](mailto:advertising@prayerconnect.net) | 812.238.5504

## Need a Speaker for Your Prayer Conference or Event?

There are a number of gifted speakers associated with *Prayer Connect*. Jonathan Graf regularly ministers in churches of varying sizes. Carol Madison is also available to minister in the area of prayer for revival and community transformation. Our parent organizations, Harvest Prayer Ministries and the Church Prayer Leaders Network, have many speakers associated with their ministries. You can find their contact information at the respective emails or websites.

Jonathan Graf | [jong@harvestprayer.com](mailto:jong@harvestprayer.com)  
Carol Madison | [editor@prayerconnect.net](mailto:editor@prayerconnect.net)

[harvestprayer.com](http://harvestprayer.com) | [prayerleader.com](http://prayerleader.com)

**Sponsored by**

America's National Prayer Committee  
Denominational Prayer Leaders Network  
International Prayer Council

**Published by**

Church Prayer Leaders Network  
Harvest Prayer Ministries  
PrayerShop Publishing

The mission of **PRAYERCONNECT** is

1. To encourage and equip believers toward a deeper walk with Jesus Christ through prayer—our experiential connection to God.
2. To resource prayer leaders and pastors with tools to help them motivate, disciple, and mobilize believers in churches to be a part of an army that seeks to pray the purposes of God for churches, communities, and the nations.
3. To be a unifying force between prayer ministries, community transformation groups, and churches.

**Publisher/Editor-in-Chief**

Jonathan Graf  
jong@harvestprayer.com

**Editor**

Carol Madison  
editor@prayerconnect.net

**Art Director**

J. Bridget Rennie

**Editorial Assistants**

Joyce Ellis  
Joan Sherman

**Contributing Writer**

Kim Butts

**Subscriptions/Orders**

Joanne Telle

## Previously in Prayer Connect

God is stirring on campuses across this nation with a renewed desire for prayer and spiritual awakening. This is such an encouraging sign because God often

uses young people in revival. What a strategic time for older generations to come alongside them! The January/February 2015 issue on "Awakening on Campuses" and other back issues are available at [prayershop.org](http://prayershop.org).



## Prayer or Panic?

I enjoy Facebook. Over the years that I've had a personal page, I have reconnected with dozens of friends from my childhood and college days. It has been great. I also like the political and spiritual banter that takes place in my news feed, though I admit the posts often get out of line and people are hurt by the short, snide comments. It is difficult to talk about sensitive areas of disagreement when you are not conversing face to face.



I've also noticed that on Facebook people have a tendency to display their emotions without a filter. They often say things they might not say in a personal conversation. I am not sure why, but somehow people have fewer inhibitions on the Internet.

One recent disturbing trend relates to the alarming perspectives shared about current events—and people's attempts to relate them to the need for prayer. With both the ISIS situation and the Ebola scare last fall, I was stunned by how panicked many believers were—even some leaders who should know better—and how openly they displayed that panic on Facebook.

We are living in tough times, and I sense they could keep getting worse. But as people of prayer, how should we respond with a biblical perspective? Maybe I am an odd person spiritually, or maybe it is due to my upbringing in a denomination that focuses strongly on the second coming of Christ, but I look at what is going on with interest—and even awe. No one will convince me that we are not living in the last days before Christ's return. (Yes, I understand that others thought the same thing thousands of years ago as well.) Personally I think we are fewer than 20 years away. That's not a prediction, just my gut feeling.

So I watch and pray with interest. What is Satan doing in various places? What is God doing to bring people to Himself? What is God doing to set up history for the final days? I watch with awe because we are seeing more and more clearly the battle is "not against flesh and blood" (Eph. 6:12). You only have to look at the absurd anti-Semitism that is rising around the world—even in our government—to realize that Satan is controlling the minds of many people.

No matter what rapture position you hold, the tribulation will not suddenly come upon us with an overnight change in tough situations in the world. Even if believers are raptured away prior to the tribulation, evil will be running amok well before it—perhaps as evil is doing now, and worse.

I don't want to panic about any of it. Instead, I want to pray. Pray for what? Mercy, certainly. Peace and comfort for suffering believers, yes. But I plan to spend more time praying for Jesus Christ to be glorified in the midst of all this turmoil. As evil tries to take the upper hand, God is going to bring many souls into His Kingdom before His return.

Therefore, I am guarded in how much I try to "pray away" hard times. Many revivals came during times of economic and social desperation. In these last days imagine what God could do with a Church that rises up and prays, "Maranatha! Come, Lord Jesus," instead of, "Help, get us out of this, Lord."

Maybe we should pray for *more* trouble, not less!

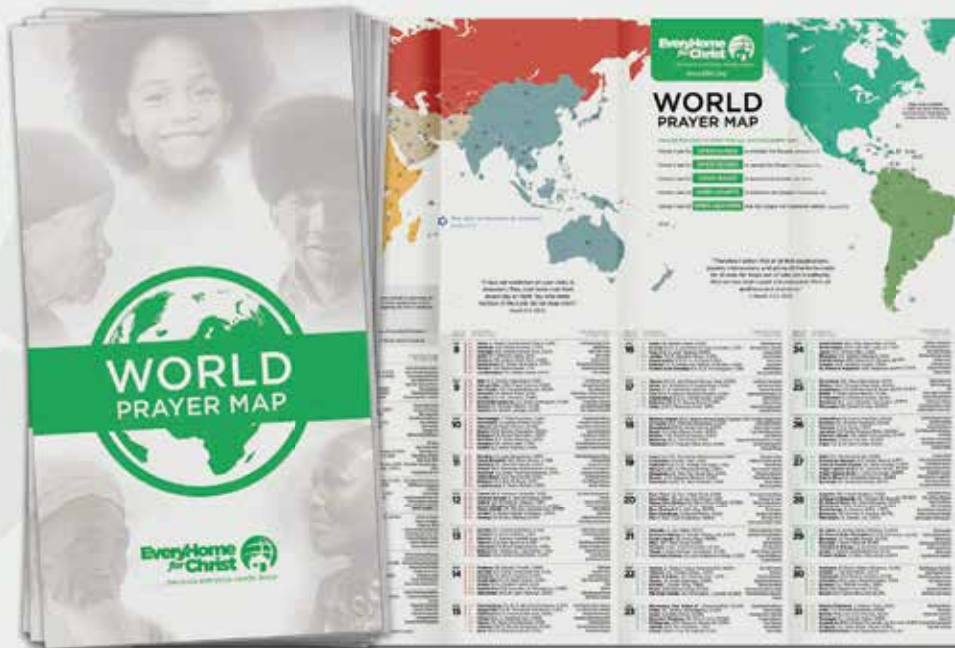
—Jonathan Graf

All New

# WORLD PRAYER MAP

from Every Home for Christ

Featuring 228 nations of the world broken down into a 31-day prayer calendar. The map shows the physical location of every country and provides up-to-date information on country leaders and population figures.



#### ADDITIONAL FEATURES:

- Gives specific prayer points on how to pray for the nations
- Includes how to pray daily for The Seven Spheres of Influence (Religion, Family, Government, Business, Education, Media and Arts and Entertainment)
- Information on other prayer and discipleship resources
- Also included from *The Hour That Changes the World* is a helpful Prayer Circle Diagram developed by Dr. Dick Eastman that will walk you through your prayer time, step-by-step, so you can achieve deeper focus and intensity.

Get Your  
**FREE**  
COPY NOW!

*"We rejoice that God has enabled Every Home for Christ to provide some five million World Prayer Maps in numerous languages globally to interested intercessors. Allow us to send you a free copy of our all-new edition of EHC's World Prayer Map. Join a great army of intercessors praying for every nation by name once a month using this systematic, day-by-day prayer guide for the nations."*

**Dick Eastman, International President, EHC**



... because everyone needs Jesus

Get your free copy at [www.EHC.org](http://www.EHC.org) or call 1-800-944-4693.

640 Chapel Hills Dr. | Colorado Springs, CO 80920



## Pray4Schools: Vision for Breakthrough Prayer

Several national prayer leaders and ministries have joined forces to develop a new concerted ministry targeting prayer for schools. The hope is that this united front will eventually cover every school and student in the nation.

According to the website of Pray4Schools ([pray4schools.us](http://pray4schools.us)), millions of people joined the “Praying Through the 10/40 Window” movement in the 1990s. As a result of praying together for the unreached nations and peoples of that part of the world, missiologists can trace direct connections between that movement and significant, even unprecedented, breakthroughs and spiritual harvest in 10/40 Window countries.

This prompted the developers of this new ministry to ask the question, “What kind of breakthroughs and spiritual harvest might we see among emerging



generations of America if God raises up a similar prayer movement for schools and students today?”

The mission of Pray4Schools (P4S) is to “raise the tide of prayer” for all schools and students who attend them, as well as affirm, enhance, and collaborate with the many existing prayer ministries and initiatives that are already targeting schools and students.

Over the next several months, the mission of P4S will be to see the adoption of every school for the purpose of

“focused, insightful, extraordinary prayer.” The hope is that the Church in America will join together for 30 days of united prayer and fasting for schools each September, using an online and smartphone app-based common prayer calendar. This is a way to “raise our voices together in prayer to God” (Acts 4:24) for the emerging generations, organizers say.

The target audience for prayer mobilization includes students, intercessors, local churches, parents, youth workers, and school personnel. The website will provide numerous links to other prayer ministries and resources, with the goal of engaging in Kingdom collaboration.

The development leadership and advisory teams acknowledge that “if Pray4Schools is to be successful, it will need to ‘go viral’ by the Spirit.” To support the launch of this ministry and learn more, go to [pray4schools.us](http://pray4schools.us).

## Abortions Fall to Record Low in U.S.

Intercessors for America (IFA) notes that the number of reported abortions fell to a historic low in 2011, according to a federal government annual tally of most of the nation’s states. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in its Abortion Surveillance document, reported 730,322 abortions in those 49 jurisdictions in 2011, with 91 percent occurring by the 13th week of gestation.

The abortion rate fell 5 percent and the abortion ratio fell 4 percent from the previous year, reaching “historic lows for all three measures of abortion,” the report said. These percentages refer to the absolute number of abortions, abortions as a share of pregnancies, and the abortion rate for the female population of childbearing age.

Intercessors for America responds to the statistics in its newsletter: “Reading this article may cause a mixture of emotions. First, the good news is summarized in this statement: ‘The number of reported abortions fell to a historic low in 2011.’ For this, we truly give God thanks. Second . . . we still see that more than 730,000 innocent lives were thrown away primarily for someone’s convenience. Please keep praying. Intercede for God’s mercy until these ‘personal choice’ laws are overturned.”

The organization also quotes Allan Parker of the Justice Foundation, who recently said *Roe v. Wade* could be overturned in 2015. In January the Federal Appeals courts (5<sup>th</sup> Circuit and 8<sup>th</sup>



Circuit) heard cases that could ultimately reach the Supreme Court and overturn legal abortion on demand. The judges who heard these cases were George W. Bush appointees. They are pro-life, and they were chosen by lot. The IFA news alert says, “We as intercessors can give thanks for this ‘random’ act, as God was clearly at work through our prayers.”



## From Riots to Hopeful Prayer

Chaplains from the Billy Graham Rapid Response Team fanned out and ministered throughout the city of Ferguson, MO, for six weeks following riots that erupted after the November 2014 grand jury decision not to indict a local police officer in the Michael Brown shooting case, according to Erik Ogren of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association (BGEA).

“We’ve heard from several pastors, and they view this as raw spiritual warfare. That’s what it is, and it’s very obvious,” says Jeff Naber, one of the Rapid Response Team. “But with that said, the potential for revival here is extreme.”

“This is different than a tornado or flood,” said Chaplain Strib Boynton as he maneuvered his truck through the streets of Ferguson. “This is changing the hearts of people, of a whole community.”

Ogren writes that this response was unlike anything the crisis-trained chaplains

from the BGEA have ever encountered in the decade-plus history of the ministry. A natural disaster often leaves a wide swath of destruction but dissipates in a way that allows for healing and reconstruction. However, the unrest in Ferguson following the death of Michael Brown was a tragedy of distrust and anger. These issues cannot be solved simply by carrying out moldy carpet or patching a roof.

Vivian Dudley, founder and evangelist for One Church Outreach Ministry, sat and spoke with chaplains just yards away from a dumpster bearing the spray-painted words “If we burn, you burn with us!” “[The people] feel hopeless,” she told the chaplains, “and they need to be reminded that all hope isn’t lost.”

The Rapid Response Team’s mobile command truck—parked on space provided by Bishop Giovanni Johnson of the Center for Hope and Peace—became a meeting point for many. Throughout the

day, a wide array of people—gang members, pastors, police officers, fire fighters, community leaders, family members of Michael Brown, and others—passed through to have a cup of coffee, sometimes to get out of the rain, and to share their stories with the chaplains.

“This has been an incredible experience for us in Ferguson,” said Naber, manager of chaplain development and ministry relations. “We’ve had people from the community . . . on opposite sides of this division . . . who have cried together, embraced each other, and prayed together. There is still a storm raging, but they’re looking for healing.”

One thing many who talked with the chaplains agreed on is that if hope and reconciliation are to come to Ferguson, it needs to be through spiritual healing.

**MICHAEL IRELAND** is a senior correspondent with Assist News Service ([assistnews.net](http://assistnews.net)).

## 20 People to Pray for in 2015


Global Prayer Resource Network (GPRN) has released a list from In Context Ministries that highlights 20 key leaders who may have a significant influence in the affairs of the world in 2015. According to the press release, “While there is no way of knowing for sure what lies ahead in 2015, we can look back to the past year for some ideas about who will be the likely ‘news-makers’ in the year to come.”

According to Isabel Spangenberg of GPRN, “Battles are underway for political rule in virtually every nation on earth. If the powers of darkness are allowed to work undisturbed and influence people, they will take control of governments and people in positions of authority. The consequences will be catastrophic for everyone.” She quotes Daniel 2:21: “He

changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning.”

Some of the 20 influencers include Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi (self-declared Caliph running rampage in Iraq and Syria), Benjamin Netanyahu (Israel), Hassan Rouhani (Iran), Recep Erdoğan (Turkey), Vladimir Putin (Russia), Barack Obama (United States), Chu Yiu-Ming (Christian leader of the Hong Kong “umbrella movement”), Kim Jong-un (North Korea), and Dr. Joanne Liu (president of MSF, primary respondents in the Ebola crisis, West Africa).

For more detailed ways to pray about leaders and their potential world influence, go to [incontextministries.org/images/20People2015.pdf](http://incontextministries.org/images/20People2015.pdf).



**Prayer Calendar**

---

Seek God for the City  
**February 18–March 29, 2015**  
[waymakers.org](http://waymakers.org)

---

Global 4/14 Day of Prayer  
for Children  
**Tuesday, April 14**  
[global414day.com](http://global414day.com)

---

National Day of Prayer  
**Thursday, May 7**  
[nationaldayofprayer.org](http://nationaldayofprayer.org)

---

Global Day of Prayer  
**Sunday, May 24**  
[globaldayofprayer.com](http://globaldayofprayer.com)



# Rediscovering FASTING

## A Kingdom Key to Breakthrough

**T**he first time God called me to fast was entirely unexpected. I was driving down the freeway, crying out to Him about a friend's situation. I asked the Lord, with a tone of desperation, "What else can I do? How much more can I pray?"

A thought came to mind. *You can fast.*

Startled, I put away the snacks sitting on the seat next to me. I knew nothing about

fasting. I knew of no one else who fasted. But I was convinced I had just heard from the Lord. And somehow, in my spirit, I knew it was to be for seven days.

My fast started immediately that weekend. I simply stopped eating. But I knew I needed to understand more. So I went to a Christian bookstore on Monday morning and sought out the prayer section. I pulled every book about prayer off the shelf, looking for chapters on fasting, and started reading about common fasts. *Oh, I can have juice and other liquids. That's good, I thought. Oh, but milk shakes don't count. That's a disappointment.*

By the end of the week, I had walked through my first fast with amazing grace and enablement from the Lord. I prayed with frequency and fervency—and felt strengthened the entire time. Of course, I did all the wrong things when I finally broke my fast. I learned that throwing a steak on the grill and eating a huge meal was not the best way to do it!

But God answered my prayer for my friend that week. I saw a breakthrough in her situation. More than that, God started teaching me to fast in ways I never thought possible.

Along this journey over many years, I continued fasting, when I sensed the Lord was calling me to it, for a variety of reasons.

Sometimes it was a Daniel Fast (fruits and vegetables) for 21 days. Other times, it was a simply no food for a day. I was terrified of a 40-day fast—so wouldn't you know—of course God called me to that. Twice. It was hard, but not impossible.

Sometimes I fast for specific situations (the health of a friend, a struggling marriage, a prodigal). But more often my fasts focus on a longing for spiritual breakthrough, especially revival. This is becoming increasingly true.

### WHEN YOU FAST

For many, fasting is either a mystery or a fearful thought. Although Jesus said in Matthew 6:16, "when you fast" (not, "if you ever have occasion to"), it is not a common practice in much of the Western Church.

In this issue, you will learn from our authors—Lynne Baab, Dean Trune, and Richard LaFountain—about Old and New Testament fasts, various ways and reasons to fast, the necessity of a right heart motive, reasons people shy away from it, and some of the hopeful outcomes of fasting. Most likely any question you have about fasting will be answered by one of these writers.

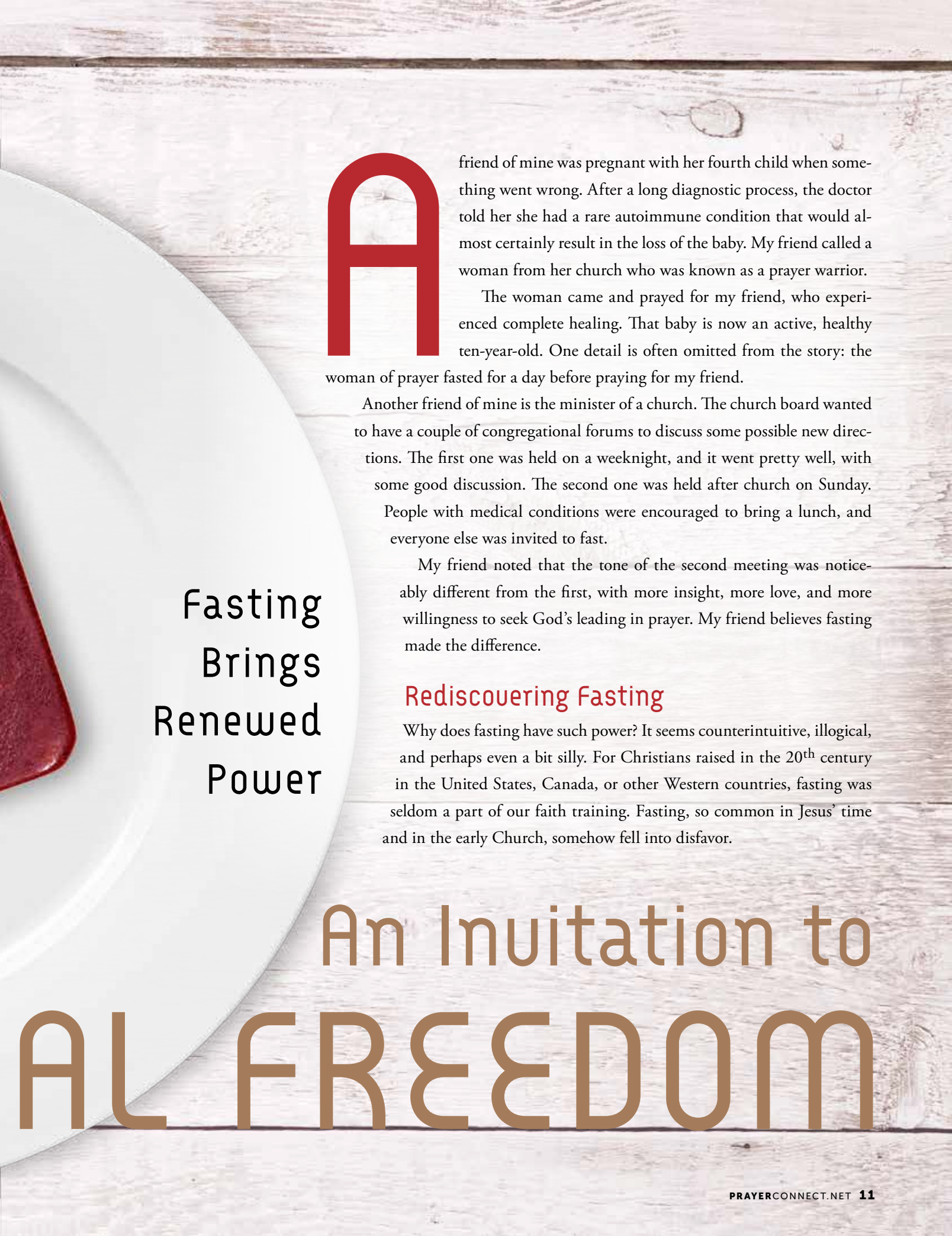
Whether or not you have fasted before or even considered it as a regular, ongoing spiritual discipline, may I suggest a corporate fast for all of us in the next few months? Will you join me in fasting for one of our most urgent needs of the day—a move of God in revival in the Church? Let's combine fasting with our prayers and ask God to send another great spiritual awakening in our nation. That is certainly worth the sacrifice of a few meals.

**CAROL MADISON** is editor of *Prayer Connect*.



BY LYNNE BAAB

# SPIRITU



## Fasting Brings Renewed Power

**A** friend of mine was pregnant with her fourth child when something went wrong. After a long diagnostic process, the doctor told her she had a rare autoimmune condition that would almost certainly result in the loss of the baby. My friend called a woman from her church who was known as a prayer warrior.

The woman came and prayed for my friend, who experienced complete healing. That baby is now an active, healthy ten-year-old. One detail is often omitted from the story: the woman of prayer fasted for a day before praying for my friend.

Another friend of mine is the minister of a church. The church board wanted to have a couple of congregational forums to discuss some possible new directions. The first one was held on a weeknight, and it went pretty well, with some good discussion. The second one was held after church on Sunday. People with medical conditions were encouraged to bring a lunch, and everyone else was invited to fast.

My friend noted that the tone of the second meeting was noticeably different from the first, with more insight, more love, and more willingness to seek God's leading in prayer. My friend believes fasting made the difference.

### Rediscovering Fasting

Why does fasting have such power? It seems counterintuitive, illogical, and perhaps even a bit silly. For Christians raised in the 20<sup>th</sup> century in the United States, Canada, or other Western countries, fasting was seldom a part of our faith training. Fasting, so common in Jesus' time and in the early Church, somehow fell into disfavor.

# An Invitation to

# ALL FREEDOM

# FASTING can be a way to make space for prayer.

However, Christians in other parts of the world—Asia, Africa, and Latin America—never lost sight of it. My husband visited a church in Kenya a few years ago, and the printed Sunday bulletin listed the monthly fast day for the congregation along with prayer requests for that day. When I was writing my book on fasting, I corresponded with a pastor's wife in South America who told me about her congregation's weekly fast day when they pray for needs inside and outside the congregation. They also have a week-long fast at the beginning of every year when they pray for guidance as a congregation.

Christians today in Western countries are rediscovering fasting. Some of the rediscovery has come from contact

with Christians in other parts of the world who never abandoned this important practice. Some of the rediscovery has been nurtured by different voices in recent years. Mother Teresa, for example, emphasized fasting as a way to save money to give to the poor and as a way to experience a feeling of lack in solidarity with the poor. Richard Foster, in *Celebration of Discipline*, emphasizes fasting as a way to make space for prayer.

The secular world has discovered the freedom of fasting from technology. I've read numerous articles about teenagers and adults who have engaged in fasts from smart phones, iPods and tablets in order to regain a sense of freedom and perspective. All of these influences

have brought fasting back into focus for Christians today.

## What is Christian Fasting?

Here's the definition I like: *Christian fasting is the voluntary denial of something for a specific time, for a spiritual purpose, by an individual, family, community, or nation.* Let me explain some of the components of this definition.

*Voluntary denial of something.* Fasting in the Bible relates mostly to food, and the same is true for fasting in most of Christian history. Today, Christians still fast from all food or from certain kinds of food like sugar or meat. In addition,

## read your favorite prayer blogs in one location.

*Prayer Connect* Currently Features the Blogs of 9 Popular Prayer Teachers



**Cynthia Bezek**  
Let's Talk



**Dave Butts**  
Prayer  
Awakenings



**Kim Butts**  
Prayer as  
Everyday Life



**Linda Fegins**  
Lady of Prayer



**Jonathan Graf**  
Prayer  
Points



**Daniel Henderson**  
Strategic Renewal  
E-Devotional



**Carol Madison**  
Just Carol  
Pondering



**Phil Miglioratti**  
Prayer Leader



**Beth Rudy**  
Prayer Pal

View them at [prayerconnect.net/blogs](http://prayerconnect.net/blogs) or have them automatically emailed to you.  
Be encouraged or challenged in prayer every day!

**PRAYERCONNECT.NET**

Christians are finding great benefit in fasting from other components of daily life, such as coffee, shopping, news media, television, movies, and various forms of technology. Prayerful discernment about what to fast from is one of the first steps of fasting.

Whenever a small group or congregation wants to encourage fasting among its members, options for fasting that do not involve food need to be presented. Anyone with a past or present eating disorder should not be encouraged to fast from food in any form. Children and the frail elderly should not fast from all food. With so many other options for everyday things to fast from, anyone can fast.

**F**or a specific time. Most fasts last for a day, a weekend, a week, or perhaps six weeks. Fasting is different from an ongoing lifestyle habit. For instance, people committed to a vegetarian diet are not fasting from meat, because they have no intention of going back to eating meat. The benefit of a fast comes from the surprise component, the sense of being slightly off balance.

For a spiritual purpose. A Christian fast is primarily for the purpose of drawing near to God. At its best, the slightly off-balance feeling that comes from giving up a common component of everyday life provides motivation for prayer and reflection.

A fast without prayer and reflection will seldom result in the kind of freedom God desires to give us when we fast. Sometimes, as we eliminate something for a time, we see more clearly how that particular thing has affected our lives, which can help us honor and serve God more fully.

By an individual, family, community, or nation. Individual fasts can be very rich, a time of drawing close to God in our hearts. Fasting with others has major benefits: encouragement, prayer together, and someone to talk with about what God might be saying during the fast. Therefore, fasting in a small group or congregation

can work well. In Africa, it is not uncommon for national leaders to call for a day of fasting and prayer for the whole country.

## Fasting and Freedom in the Bible

In the Old Testament, fasting is closely connected with mourning, repentance, and intercessory prayer. One of the most fascinating Old Testament passages about fasting is in Isaiah 58. The people ask God why He doesn't hear their prayers when they fast, and God replies that they are serving their own interests (Isa. 58:3-4). God then goes on to describe the right attitude for fasting (vss. 6-7):

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:

to loose the chains of injustice  
and untie the cords of the yoke,  
to set the oppressed free  
and break every yoke?

Is it not to share your food with the hungry

and to provide the poor wanderer  
with shelter—

when you see the naked, to clothe them,

and not to turn away from your  
own flesh and blood?”

Fasting, in this view, is about freedom and well being for others, not just ourselves.

In New Testament times, the Jewish people routinely fasted two days each week. Jesus says, “When you fast” (Matt. 6:16), which makes sense in the light of the common weekly practice of fasting. Jesus goes on in the next two verses to say that we should not look dismal when we fast, seeking the approval of others. Instead, we should act normal “so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father. . .” (Matt. 6:18).

This verse has often been interpreted by Christians in the West to mean that all fasting should be in secret. In contrast, Christians in Asia, Africa, and

## Subscription Information

Take Prayer  
to a  
**NEW  
LEVEL**



If you enjoy this issue of *Prayer Connect* magazine, why not start a regular subscription? There are three types of subscriptions available:

**Print Subscription.** Our most popular subscription, the print sub sends a hard copy of *Prayer Connect* through the mail. Price: \$24.99

**Digital Subscription.** This version provides just the online version of *Prayer Connect*. Price: \$19.99

### CPLN Member Subscription.

This subscription is an annual membership in the Church Prayer Leaders Network. Besides a subscription to *Prayer Connect*. Price: \$30

## Three Ways to Subscribe:

**Online.** Go to [prayerconnect.net](http://prayerconnect.net) and click on “Purchase” on the upper right hand side of the toolbar at the top. Then simply select the type of subscription you want and follow the instructions.

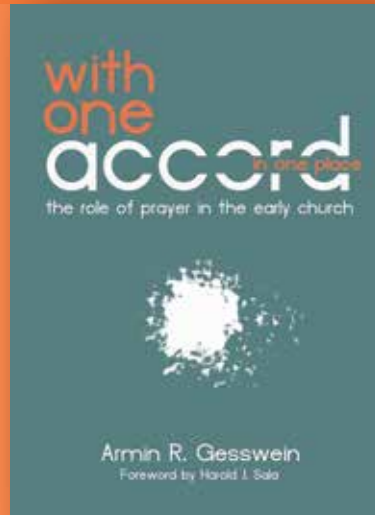
**Phone.** Call Joanne at 1-800-217-5200 or 1-812-238-5504 and have her help you place an order (you need to have a credit card available). She is available 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM EST.

**By Mail.** Simply make out a check to *Prayer Connect*, in the amount of the subscription you want and mail it to us. Mail to: **Prayer Connect, P.O. Box 10667, Terre Haute, IN 47801.**

**PRAYERCONNECT**  
1-(812) 238-5504  
[prayerconnect.net](http://prayerconnect.net)

# Should Prayer Be Important?

*With One Accord in One Place* looks at the role of prayer in the early church and how through prayer and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, this praying church changed the world forever. This modern classic will challenge and inspire you to work toward prayer's rightful place in your own church.



Order through your local Christian bookstore or from [prayershop.org](http://prayershop.org). E-book versions also available.

812 238-5504



Latin American have interpreted this verse to mean that the  *motive* for fasting is what matters. They recognize that fasting with others can be much easier than fasting alone. This gives them the freedom to engage in fasts with others. It is a blessing to many Christians when they understand Matthew 6:18 can be interpreted as focusing on motives for fasting, not on fasting by oneself.

In the first centuries after Christ, Christians emphasized Isaiah 58 and often fasted to save money or food to give to others. Sometime around 128 AD, Aristide, a journalist, explained to Emperor Hadrian the way Christians lived: "When someone is poor among them who has need of help, they fast for two or three days, and they have the custom of sending him the food which they had prepared for themselves."

World Vision's 30-Hour Famine builds on this ancient tradition, providing a structure for fasting and learning about the needs of the hungry in the world. Many youth groups and young adult groups have participated in this program by spending 30 hours together in a controlled setting, raising money and praying for the poor as they fast. Participants have told me they experienced a deep solidarity with the hungry that they never expected.

The Bible also has several stories that demonstrate how a person can have bad motives for fasting. Jezebel proclaimed a public fast in order to try to get a prime piece of land that Naboth didn't want to sell her. She went on to murder Naboth in order to get the land (1 Kings 21:9–10). Jesus tells a story about a tax collector who fasted in order to look impressive to others and to God (Luke 18:9–14).

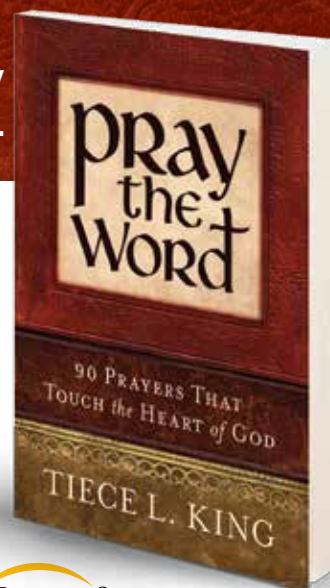
These stories stress that our hearts matter when we fast. We must center our fast on drawing near to God, and not on proving something to ourselves, to others, or to God. The freedom that comes through fasting is related to our heart attitude.

## Prayer Made Simple

Add power and depth to your prayer life. Learn to effectively pray God's Word back to Him.

*Pray the Word* resources will teach believers to pray Scripture, but they focus on spiritual development and warfare in the life of a believer, not on fix-this-problem praying. Believers who *Pray the Word* will grow rapidly and become kingdom-changers.

Available through your local Christian bookstore or [prayershop.org](http://prayershop.org)  
Also available in e-book formats



[praytheword.net](http://praytheword.net) | [www.prayershop.org](http://www.prayershop.org) | 800-217-5200 | 812-238-5504

The major fasting themes from the Bible—repentance, mourning, intercession, caring for the poor, and heart motives—are still relevant today.

## Want to Try Fasting?

God is the initiator of Christian fasts, so begin by asking God if a fast is the right thing for you at this time. If He is calling you to fast, be sure you ask for clarity on why you are fasting. Ask Him about the length of your fast. Are you to fast from all food or some specific foods? Coffee drinks? Shopping or TV sports? Media or email or surfing the web? You may want to ask others to pray for you for guidance about your fast.

Think about what you want to pray about during the fast, and what different patterns of prayer you will engage in. Make plans for Bible study and prayer during some or all of the time that's

been freed up by not eating or by staying off the Internet.

**A**s you plan, remember that the primary purpose of Christian fasting is not to change habits, confront addictions, or even to lose weight. A Christian fast comes from the desire to draw near to God—pure and simple. Of course, while fasting, we may be called to pray about the place in our life of the thing we are fasting from—and God may change our desires about that thing or give us insight into ways we can live a life more free and more centered in a relationship with Jesus.

Lisa, a teacher in her 30s, knows she should never fast from food because she had an eating disorder when she was younger. Instead, she fasts from lattes and shopping for clothes. She reflects, “Denying myself something that I use for comfort is a great reminder of my desire to

keep my relationship with God as my first and foremost priority. Fasting challenges me to keep a perspective of who I’m living for at all times of the day.”

In the midst of the plethora of advertisements that push us toward consumerism and consumption, Jesus is calling His followers to find ways to step aside from the values of our culture and draw near to Him. Fasting offers a way to take that step. It clears our minds, opens our hearts, and enables us to see Jesus more vividly. God’s voice and call are more understandable and unhindered. We pray in new ways and with renewed power. **PC**



**LYNNE BAAB** is the author of numerous books, including *Fasting: Spiritual Freedom Beyond Our Appetites*. Originally from Seattle, she and her husband live in Dunedin, New Zealand, where she teaches pastoral theology. She also writes articles and blogs on Christian spiritual practices ([lynnebaab.com](http://lynnebaab.com)).

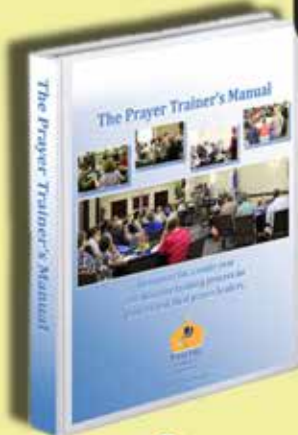
## Q: HOW DO I LAUNCH A PRAYER MOVEMENT IN THE LOCAL CHURCH?

## A: Join the Prayer Trainer's Network

- *Learn the purpose*
- *Implement the process*
- *Equip the people*

**JOIN TODAY >**

[WWW.PROJECT PRAY.ORG/ABOUT/MINISTRY/PRAYER-TRAINER-PROGRAM](http://WWW.PROJECT PRAY.ORG/ABOUT/MINISTRY/PRAYER-TRAINER-PROGRAM)



Become a Premium Member of the Praying Church Movement, receive this resource for FREE!





BY RICHARD W. LAFOUNTAIN

# For Such a



**I** am hypoglycemic. That means I get sudden and unexpected sugar lows. When that happens I go crazy. Sometimes I just get agitated, other times I get grumpy, and still other times I run in circles getting nothing done. The dictionary clarifies it as “an inadequate supply of glucose to the brain, resulting in impairment of function.” What I need is to get sugar (glucose) in my system that restores my metabolism to normal, so I can get things done.

In the spiritual realm I get hypoglycemic as well. I should probably call it heaven-glycemic. When it happens I’m out of sorts. I can’t seem to think clearly or see God’s plan for my future. I have difficulty focusing and discerning the voice of the Spirit over my own internal voices, as well as the myriad of other voices surrounding me.

When that happens I need a heavenly rush. I need an infusion of God’s presence so I can hear His voice and gain my equilibrium to His will. I need the sweet presence of God to calm my anxious heart and get me going the right direction.

### Not a Bribe

Fasting is never to be an attempt to get God’s attention, twist His arm, or bribe Him with personal sacrifice or suffering. Fasting isn’t going on a hunger strike to get God to do things your way. Fasting is giving up food (or anything you treasure) so that you can seek God’s face more than anything else. Fasting is about focus. It is about paying attention to God and His voice rather than the cravings for food or anything that distracts you from seeking God’s presence.

Desperately  
Seeking God  
through  
Fasting

# Time as This

In the Old and New Testaments we find that men and women of God fasted when they had a problem they didn't know how to solve. Fasting usually involved food, but isn't limited to food alone. It also served as a "time-out" to set aside time to focus on God for a predetermined purpose. In other words, it was a designated time to seek the Lord for His voice and direction.

- Esther fasted when Mordecai heard the Jews would be exterminated (Est. 4:16).
- David fasted and prayed all night for his dying child (2 Sam. 12:16).
- Israel fasted for direction and victory when they had to war against Benjamin at Gibeah (Judg. 20:26).
- Ezra fasted when raising funds for the rebuilding of the Temple (Ezra 8:21).
- Nehemiah fasted to know the mind of God for rebuilding the wall (Neh. 1:4).
- Jehoshaphat declared a fast when the enemy came in like a flood (2 Chron. 20:3).
- Joel called for the people to fast to avoid God's judgment on the nation (Joel 1:14).
- Jonah and the people of Nineveh fasted in repentance and brokenness (Jonah 3:5).
- Daniel fasted to understand the vision God sent (Dan. 9:3, 10:2).
- Jesus fasted 40 days before beginning His ministry (Matt. 4:2).
- The church fasted and ministered to the Lord before Saul and Barnabas were sent out (Acts 13:3).
- Jesus said His disciples would fast (Mark 2:20).

## Keep Attention on God

I believe that if my fasting is for any other purpose than acknowledging my desperate need for God, it is a works-oriented effort to please or impress God. Fasting to try to be or appear more spiritual is wrong. Jesus said it was to be a secret thing to assure that the focus

remains on God and not on the person fasting (Matt. 6:16–18).

I have a couple of friends who decided to do a 40-day fast. Neither of them defined the fast clearly, other than they wanted to do it to be more spiritual. Both inadvertently called attention to themselves because they lost a lot of weight. One attended banquets and dinner occasions, making a fuss over eating only broth, which served only to call attention to his fast. This is the danger of fasting to be spiritual—it is pride.

We should fast to pay attention to God. Food has a way of making us contented, self-satisfied, and comfortable. Denying ourselves food for the purpose of seeking God's will and hearing His voice is the real secret of fasting. It's not a marathon. It's not a diet. It's not spiritual showmanship. It's a pursuit. It's a pursuit of God—and that's all.

When I first entered the ministry I tried fasting because I had never done it and thought it might make me more spiritual, more holy, or more powerful in prayer. But all I could do during those fasting days was think about food. It was distracting. It was frustrating. What was supposed to draw me close to God did the opposite. It drove me to food cravings.

Then I discovered that I was indeed hypoglycemic and could not fast without the adverse physical reactions that defeated the purpose of my time with God. So a friend suggested I do a modified fast. I found if I ate crackers and soup or broth, my time of fasting was tolerable—even enjoyable—and I could focus on God, not on my food addiction.

## Discerning God's Will

During my 42 years of ministry as a missionary and pastor I discovered fasting to be an essential ingredient to finding the will of God and discerning matters of importance. So I fast with purpose. I seek one thing—to discern the mind

of God and hear the voice of the Spirit. Usually I set apart time away from everyone and ministry distractions to focus on soaking myself in the Word and His presence. I seek a private solitude in a retreat center for several days while I focus entirely on the matter before me, seeking the will of God.

Before accepting a call to a church that I did not want to go to, I covenanted to fast and pray to seek the mind of Christ, fully expecting to turn down the offer. During that three days of fasting God clearly revealed His call to pastor that flock. In addition He gave me His plan of action for the church for the next ten years. I wrote it down in my journal as He revealed it to me.

Over the next ten years that became God's game plan. The Lord did each one of those action items just as they were revealed, and the church went from around 100 people to nearly 1,000 people in ten years.

When we called our youth pastor, he came with Bible training and some experience with youth groups. But he had no clear plan from God. So the elders sent him away to fast and pray. He was not to come back until he had a clear vision from God.

He did so and chose a retreat center that did not allow any food on the premises. It was his first fasting occasion and he said it drove him to his knees. He returned home with a complete outline of his ministry tasks as God revealed it to him. Over the next 12 years he guided the youth and children's ministry from a non-existent state to a large and spiritually dynamic youth ministry in our town.

Our church was considering expansion and a building plan for our overcrowded conditions. We decided to call the church to a week of prayer and fasting, after which we would vote on the direction we would take. God took a church of overly cautious people from timidity and fear to faith to do the impossible.

Then our consultant told the board we needed more land to provide for parking and expanding ministries. The next morning our neighboring farm land had a “for sale” sign on it. We didn’t have the money needed to buy it, so for a year we prayed and played with plans to acquire it. Someone suggested we fast again and pray to ask the Lord what to do. We did and God directed us to believe Him to provide. He did. Within a month the property was purchased without any obstacles. It gave rise to a saying in our church: “What God orders, He pays for.”

## So Many Good Reasons

Jesus, though filled with the Holy Spirit, was still driven by the Spirit into the wilderness to fast and pray before setting out on His ministry. If it was necessary for Jesus, how much more is it for us?

Jesus also promised that when He

was gone His disciples would fast and pray (Mark 2:20, Luke 5:33–35). And Jesus warned that some things are too stubborn to break through with only prayer. Fasting and prayer go together when things need a breakthrough or we need wisdom to know what to do (Matt. 17:21, Mark 9:29).

I see two main principles concerning fasting in Scripture: 1) When you need to hear from God, get away from everyone and everything, and 2) When you want to know where to go or what to do, fast and pray.

Elmer Towns, in his book *Fasting for Spiritual Breakthrough*, suggests additional reasons to fast:

- For *lost souls*
- For *understanding* God’s Word
- For *deliverance* in times of trouble
- For a *miracle* when all seems lost
- For *healing* from a prolonged disease

- For *miraculous provision* in times of need
- For *employment* when you need a job
- For God to *send help* in time of crisis or trouble
- For God to *send revival* to His people.

Whenever the will of God is involved and you need to be led of the Spirit rather than by voices of men or your own opinion, then fast and seek the mind of God. When you are desperate enough to go to unusual measures, God uses your fasting to call you to draw near so you can hear Him. ☒

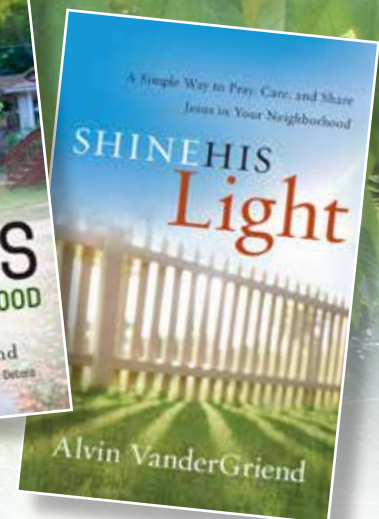
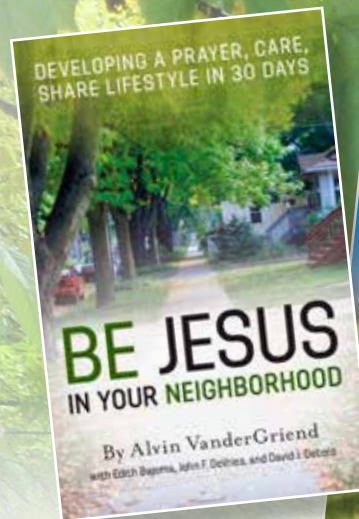


**RICHARD W. LAFOUNTAIN**  
retired in 2012 as the senior pastor of Grove City Alliance Church in Grove City, PA, where he served since 1999. He now mentors and coaches pastors in the ministry disciplines, prayer disciplines, and strategic planning ([prayertoday.org](http://prayertoday.org)).

# Inspire Your People to Pray for the Lost

MOST PEOPLE NEED GENTLE reminders and encouragement to faithfully pray for the salvation of neighbors and coworkers. *Be Jesus in Your Neighborhood* and *Shine His Light* are two complementary books that encourage people to make “prayer, care and share” a lifestyle.

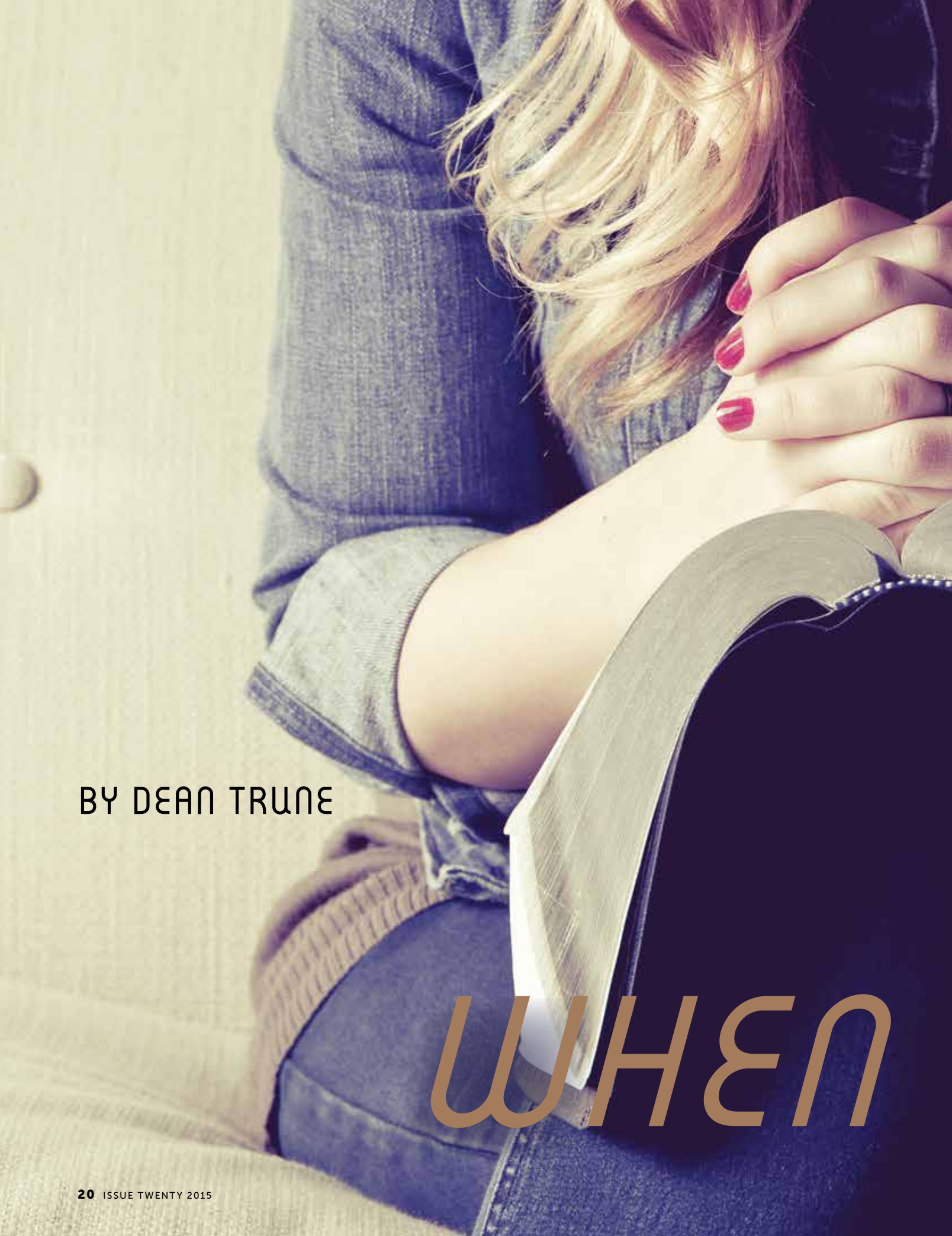
*Shine His Light* will inspire people of the possibilities and *Be Jesus in Your Neighborhood* is a 30-day devotional to equip and motivate them to pray for, care for, and share Jesus with those around them.



Developed by prayer evangelism expert, Dr. Alvin VanderGriend, these two products have quantity discounts.

[www.prayer-shop.org](http://www.prayer-shop.org) | 800-217-5200 | 812-238-5504





BY DEAN TRUNE

# WHEN

**I** was out of answers. I kept thinking of different possible scenarios, but no idea seemed capable of resolving all the pieces of the problem. Something had to change, and I was pretty sure it was the whole situation.

I decided to fast about the issue. I consulted my calendar and saw that I had an extra day open. Instead of fasting just one day that week, I decided to fast an additional day to listen more intently and see what God would reveal.

When I began my fast, I had a list of objectives that I asked God to accomplish. In fact, I wrote out ten objectives. Only one of them had anything to do with my initiating something. The other nine objectives required God to change something in my environment.

During the second day, about noon, I had just finished a frustrating phone call and I sat down to focus on God for a while. I thought about how hopeless the whole situation seemed. I began to realize that God did not want to change the situation. He wanted to change me.

I was shocked. My attitudes troubled me. The change God needed to make was so drastic that it led me to repentance, confession, and action. I was humbled by how I had totally missed His perspective in a critical area of my life. God completely renewed my thinking. As He changed my perspective, the problems I thought were so insurmountable dissipated.

Sometimes the mountains He moves are my own blind spots. God takes us to a much deeper place in the midst of our fasting. I have seen it repeatedly in my life and in the lives of others.

## Common Practice in Scripture

Fasting is mentioned throughout the Bible. It appears to have been utilized either when people were humbling themselves before God (Ezra mourning the unfaithfulness of the Jews in Ezra 10:6–17), or when they were in an intense time of petitioning God about an important issue in their lives (David in petitioning God for the life of his son in 2 Samuel 12:1–23, Esther fasting for the safety of the Jews in Esther 4:15–17).

# Beyond the Fear and Mystery

# YOU FAST

Fasting was typically connected with such activities as solemn assemblies, weeping, confessing, repenting, or appointing leaders to the Lord. We don't often see a lot of weeping, confessing, and repenting in many churches today—and this is possibly the result of the absence of the practice of fasting. Deprivation for spiritual reasons helps redirect our focus and attention back on our Heavenly Father and on His purposes—and the natural response is to humble ourselves and mourn our sin.

Jesus assumed fasting to be a part of a believer's life.

*“When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to men that you are*

fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you” (Matt. 6:16–18, italics added).

Jesus is not condemning the activity of fasting. He is simply condemning the wrong motives by which proud people fasted. Jesus also made it clear that from the time He ascended to His Father in heaven until He returns again as the Bridegroom, He also expects His present-day disciples to fast:

They said to him, “John’s disciples often fast and pray, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours go on eating and drinking.” Jesus answered, “Can you make the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; in those days they will fast” (Luke 5:33–35).

some people with these medical conditions make a partial fast work. A couple years ago, God prompted me to fast from desserts for a while because my consumption of them seemed to be out of control. After a few months I concluded this partial fast, and the additional self-control was extremely evident in my life.

*Wesley Fast:* John Wesley used to fast by consuming whole wheat bread and water only. Apparently this type of fast was a great benefit to him.

*Rotational Fast:* People utilizing a rotational fast will rotate certain foods and meals in and out of their diets. For example you can rotate meats, pasta, and breads at different times out of your diet. Or you might rotate and fast from a different meal each day.

## Why Don't Most Christians Fast?

Fasting is not always an assumed and common spiritual practice today. I believe there are three main reasons most Christians do not fast:

**First, most Christian are not taught about fasting.** I have attended Sunday morning worship services for more than 50 years, and I have never heard a sermon on fasting. Most of my exposure to teachings on fasting has come in the context of campus ministry, retreats, or seminars. The church is rarely a context where fasting is taught and practiced. I believe Satan loves to keep us ignorant about fasting because he knows how effective it is in defeating his schemes.

**Second, many Christians do not fast because they are addicted to food.** This is especially true of Christians in America. We do not do well at handling hunger or other discomforts. If we have a headache, we immediately take something for it. If we experience pain elsewhere, we immediately seek relief. I am not suggesting this is wrong, but we normally follow that pattern when we experience hunger. We “fix” the discomfort right away.

## Types of Fasts

Biblically, a fast is abstaining from food, either entirely or partially. Can we benefit from fasting from other things such as television, sports, or dating? Absolutely! In the Bible though, fasting dealt with food. From my research and personal experience with fasting, I see at least five different types of fasts.

*Liquid Fast:* This type of fast is either water and/or juices only. I have found this fast to be the most beneficial to me. People have utilized this type of fast for up to 40 days. If you are experiencing health issues, I highly recommend you consult your physician.

*Absolute Fast:* An individual on an absolute fast will consume no food and no liquids. Our bodies need water, and so to go beyond 72 hours without water can cause damage to our bodies.

*Partial Fast:* Eliminating certain foods or certain meals is a partial fast. People who are hypoglycemic or who have diabetes should consult a physician when changing an eating schedule. I have seen



**FREE**  
**DOWNLOADS**

A central location  
that points you to  
free prayer resources.

[harvestprayer.com](http://harvestprayer.com)

Click on  
Resources/Free Downloads

 **Harvest Prayer**  
MINISTRIES

Once, in a listening time with God, I was led to write down 30 indications of a possible addiction to food. These include eating when not hungry, eating what tastes good rather than what is good for health, inability to say no to certain foods, and using food to make one's self feel good. We may be more addicted to food than we realize, and this makes fasting more difficult. (For the complete list, go to [deantrune.com](http://deantrune.com), click on Resource Order Form, then downloads, then "Addicted to Food.")

### **Third, many present-day Christians do not fast because of spiritual laziness.**

It is always easier not to go the second mile with God or not to be a passionate pursuer of Him. We allow ourselves to be trapped in our busy lifestyles, and as a result, God receives our "leftovers" instead of our "best." Fasting becomes more work than we're willing to undertake.

## Spiritual Benefits of Fasting

Here are four spiritual benefits I have experienced in my life through a lifestyle of fasting:

1. *Humility.* Fasting is certainly not the only way to humble ourselves before God. But it is a noteworthy way! James 4:6 and 1 Peter 5:5 express why humility is so important: God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.

Fasting done with the correct motives will produce humility in our lives. God bestows grace on us when we humble ourselves. Properly motivated fasting increases His grace.

2. *Joy and Gladness.* Zechariah speaks of joy-filled seasons of fasting: "Again the word of the Lord Almighty came to me. This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'The fasts of the fourth, fifth, seventh and tenth months will become joyful and glad occasions and happy festivals for Judah. Therefore love truth and peace'" (Zech. 8:18-19).

Sometimes people approach me during a seminar I'm teaching and confess

their depression. They typically want to know what they should do to overcome it. I often recommend fasting. Most of the time they get a look on their face that says, "You're crazy. I am depressed and you want me to go without food?" Yet God has a way of injecting more joy and gladness into our lives through fasting. How He does it is a mystery, but I know it to be true.

3. *Eternal Rewards.* Jesus speaks of this reward in Matthew 6:18: "so that it will not be obvious to men that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you." Our Father desires to reward us through properly motivated fasting. I believe this is a spiritual reward that draws us into closer intimacy with Him.

4. *Heightened Sensitivity.* The leaders at the church in Antioch heard the Spirit clearly in the midst of fasting. "While they were worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.' So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off" (Acts 13:2-3).

Why is this so significant? Up until this time in the early Church, no one had been sent out with the express purpose of taking the gospel somewhere else. Some had been scattered by persecution but no one had been sent on a mission trip. The Holy Spirit directed these church leaders to do something new in order to spread the gospel—and He spoke to them during a time of worshiping and fasting.

In 2004, the leadership at Impact Ministries sensed God was leading us in a particular direction concerning a retreat center, so our staff fasted for understanding. God spoke with great clarity. We obeyed and He magnificently blessed us.

## Supercharged Prayer

As I travel and speak on spiritual disciplines, I find a very small percentage

of Christians who actually fast. I find a much smaller percentage of Christians who fast regularly. This is one reason why I believe that, in general, the 21<sup>st</sup> century Church in America operates with little power. Prayer obviously gives us some direction and power, but fasting seems to "supercharge" our prayers.

In his book *Shaping History through Prayer and Fasting*, Derek Prince relates how God prompted him to organize a day of prayer and fasting in England after World War II. He had heard of Joseph Stalin's plan to purge Russia by killing thousands of Jews. Many people in England joined Prince on a particular Thursday by praying for God to stop the plan to kill Jews. Two weeks later, to the day, God stopped the planned killings. Stalin had a heart attack and died.

Fasting is not meant to be some legalistic activity. Pursuing God with relentlessness is a heart issue, not a behavior to be copied. Personally, I fast because I want to know God on a deeper level. I love Him—and fasting is one way I can express my love for Him.

A few years ago I was up in the middle of the night on the last day of a ten-day fast. I was so enjoying an intimacy with God that I did not want to end the fast. I was hearing Him with greater clarity, principles were jumping off the pages of Scripture, I was seeing myself from His perspective, and I was thoroughly enjoying the precious Father-child relationship. I sensed a grief over those in the Church who did not regularly embrace fasting.

It is easy to come up with a list of reasons why fasting is not convenient or easy. But if I had to list just one major reason why I fast regularly, it is because it helps me get to know God better. And that is the only reason I need. ☞



**DEAN TRUNE** is the director of Intentional Impact Living, as well as an author and speaker on spiritual disciplines and deepening one's passion for God ([deantrune.com](http://deantrune.com)).



*Making the* **Devil**



BY ALVIN VANDERGRIEND

## The Link between Prayer and Spiritual Warfare

**I** was a pastor at the time. Alivia (name changed) came for counseling. By the end of the counseling session she was ready to commit her life to Christ. I suggested a way for her to pray. We bowed together and I prayed first. When it was her turn to pray, there was silence, then gentle weeping.

“What’s happening?” I asked.

“I can’t say those words,” she said. “I want to, but I just can’t say them!”

# Tremble

I realized then that something deeply spiritual was going on, that the evil one was binding her and keeping her from praying that prayer of trust and surrender.

I remembered John’s contention that the power of Christ in us is greater than the spirit of antichrist (1 John 4:3–4). I explained to Alivia that Christ was stronger than Satan and that, if she really wanted Jesus to occupy the throne of her heart, He would expel the evil one and take up His place there.

“Do you want Him to do that?” I asked.

“Yes,” she said, “I do!”

So I prayed and asked Christ to do just that—to overpower the evil one, evict him from her heart, and take up His place there. Then *she* prayed and spoke the words she had been unable to speak before, words of faith and surrender that began her journey of new life in Christ.

After receiving Christ, the first words out of her mouth were, “I felt it, I felt it! It felt like someone moved out of me and someone else moved in.” She understood what happened. It was a wonderful moment of joy and peace for Alivia, a moment of victory for Jesus, a moment of defeat for the devil, and a moment of enlightenment for me. I understood, more clearly than before, why Satan dreads our prayers.

### Our Supreme Weapon

One of my favorite quotes on spiritual warfare comes from the anonymous book *The Kneeling Christian*: “There is nothing the devil dreads so much as prayer? His great concern is to keep us from praying. Someone has wisely said, ‘Satan laughs at our toiling, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.’”<sup>1</sup>

The phrase I like best says, Satan “trembles when we pray.” Even though I like the phrase, I find it hard to imagine that Satan trembles when I pray. Can my prayers really make him tremble?

But then, when I remember what God does when I pray, I understand. You see, it’s not us or our prayers that Satan fears. It’s Christ that he fears. He dreads prayer because he dreads what Christ does when we pray. He knows that Christ hears and answers prayer. And that spells trouble for him.

Prayer is our supreme weapon against evil. By prayer we can thwart Satan’s attacks, foil his schemes, and lessen his effectiveness. By prayer we assault the devil’s strongholds, build the Kingdom of God, send workers into the harvest fields, and open doors for the gospel. Prayer, real prayer, is Satan’s undoing. He does not know how to cope with prayer. That’s why he works so hard to keep us from praying.

Wesley Duewel defines warfare prayer as “joining Christ in driving out and defeating Satan and in setting his captives free. It is advancing against Satan’s strongholds and dislodging and expelling demon forces.”<sup>2</sup>

Two elements in this definition are particularly important. First, Duewel emphasizes that warfare prayer is “joining Christ” in His victory over the forces of hell. Christ is the One conquering Satan, not us. We are cooperating with Him, not He with us. He won the victory on the cross. We are pitching in with the mop-up operation.

Second, Duewel underscores the crucial fact that the battle is primarily offensive: moving out against Satan and reclaiming what is rightfully Christ’s. The primary way that Christ claims His own, and wrests people from the grip of Satan, is through conversion.

I serve as the chairman of the board

of Light of the World Prayer Center, a ministry that impacts the Pacific Northwest. A recent newsletter described the joy of a captive finding salvation through Christ:

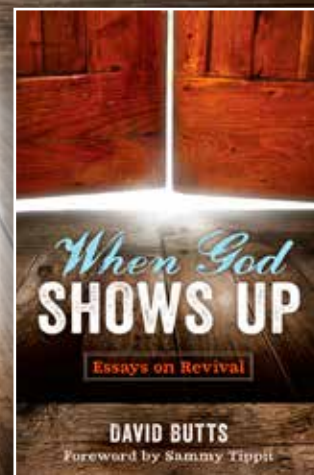
A man sat slumped in a doorway—homeless, without hope, weeping. He did not know that this night his life would forever change. He had no idea that a young man named Jon was on a mission to find him or that across town at the Prayer Center a group of people were praying for Jon and for him. Jon and his team with *Rising Hope* were on the streets that night to share the love and gospel of Jesus Christ with the broken and out-cast of our community. Jon stopped for the man weeping in the doorway and shared the good news of the gospel with him. The man put his faith in Jesus and prayed a prayer of salvation! A huge smile crossed this

# Revival...

## What is it? Do we need it?

“Revival is not strange or mystical,” writes Dave Butts in his new book *When God Shows Up*. “It is simply the church waking up to the presence of Christ in her midst.”

In this series of essays, Butts shows us what true revival is, how the church needs it, and how to effectively pray for revival. If you hunger for more of God’s presence in your church, read *When God Shows Up*.



\$10.99

(Multiple Copy Discounts Available)

812 238-5504 • 800 217-5200

[www.prayershop.org](http://www.prayershop.org)



once-weeping face and he exclaimed, “I don’t know what exactly happened here, but I know I am *totally* changed!”

Christ set him free. The devil was defeated.

## Link between Prayer and Warfare

The conflict between good and evil, between God and the devil, is a consistent theme throughout the Bible. Christ’s coming to earth moved the battle to a whole new level.

- John stresses that “the reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work” (1 John 3:8).
- Luke summarizes Jesus’ life and ministry by saying, “He went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him” (Acts 10:38).
- Paul disclosed the “how” of Christ’s victory: “Having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross” (Col. 2:15).
- Jesus, on His way to the cross, foresaw that His death would have both a repelling and an attracting effect. He said, “Now the prince of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself” (John 12:31–32). Christ, who won these victories on earth, now continues to enforce His victory from heaven through the intercessory prayers of believers. And, as the finale approaches, the God of peace is going to “soon crush Satan under your feet” (Rom. 16:20).

Several Bible passages clearly link intercessory prayer and spiritual warfare. The one we are probably most familiar with comes at the end of the Lord’s Prayer where Jesus teaches us to pray, “Deliver us from the evil one.” Jesus

understood the reality and the power of evil in the world. He knew that we would need constant protection, so He urges us to make prayer for deliverance a regular part of our prayer lives. Near the end of His life Jesus practiced this very thing when He asked the Father not to take His disciples out of the world but to “protect them from the evil one” (John

17:15). Spiritual deliverance depends on constant prevailing prayer.

On another occasion, after Jesus’ disciples had failed to cast out a demon, they asked Him, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?” Jesus answered, “This kind can come out only by prayer” (Mark 9:28–29). Jesus was reminding them, and us, that we do not have the ability to defeat

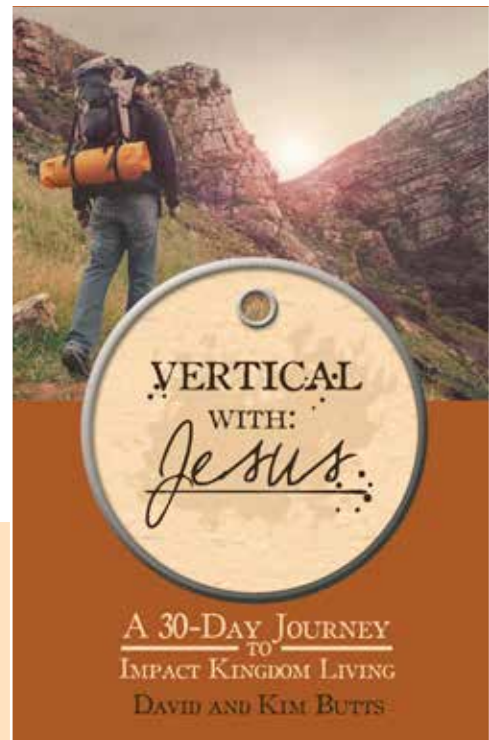
# BECOME MORE KINGDOM-MINDED

*Vertical with Jesus* is a 30-day devotional that encourages a balance between connecting with Jesus through prayer and doing the work of the Kingdom. Each day you will be stimulated in your connection with God, and you will consider how to keep focused on Him as you live the life He has called you to.

A GREAT DEVOTIONAL PRAYER GUIDE FOR A CONGREGATION TO GO VERTICAL WITH JESUS TOGETHER.

Available through your local Christian book outlet or **prayershop.org** (Multiple Copy Discounts Available at PrayerShop)

**prayershop.org | 800 217-5200**



# LET YOUR CHURCH BE A PRAYER CATALYST

## HOST A REGIONAL



### CHURCH PRAYER LEADERS NETWORK EVENT

Fire up your people to pray

Position yourself as a regional church

Bless your community with an  
excellent prayer resource

A recent conference host-church prayer  
leader reported:

"Please share a huge thank you and praise with your team. . . . Our small group saw revival tonight as I have never witnessed in our church. Half of them were not even at the conference, but those that were shared with such testimony and passion that the entire group went to prayer on our knees . . . in humbleness and repentance and brokenness before the Lord. We made a commitment tonight to be the start of Spiritual Awakening in our church, community and beyond."

**WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING  
FOR HOST CHURCHES FOR 2016**

#### WHAT'S INVOLVED?

The CPLN brings in two keynote speakers and additional workshop teachers, you provide the facilities, worship and local logistics. Depending on which package you select, your costs beyond facility use range from free to \$2,000.

Contact the CPLN today for more details.

Email [jong@harvestprayer.com](mailto:jong@harvestprayer.com)  
for information.

[www.prayerleader.com](http://www.prayerleader.com)

forces of evil in our own power. That power belongs to God, and God's hand is moved through our prayers. Christ wants us to pray so that He can gain the victory. Satan would like to have us try to win the victory in our own strength—for obvious reasons.

A short time before Simon Peter's denial, Jesus said to him, "Simon, Simon, Satan has asked to sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, Simon, that your faith may not fail. And when you have turned back, strengthen your brothers" (Luke 22:31–32). What's surprising in this account is that Jesus does not ask the Father to deny Satan's request to sift Peter. He allows the test, which was somehow for Peter's benefit. Peter had to come to grips with what was in his heart—with the arrogance that made him think that he was stronger than all the other disciples and with the fear that gave rise to his denial.

But Jesus prayed, and, as a result, Peter's faith did not fail. Satan's sifting brought him insight and healing. Peter gained a victory and was able afterward to strengthen his brothers. Satan's plan was derailed by Jesus' prayer.

### Saints Who Wrestle

Intercession was also the key to winning battles over the powers of evil in the early years of the Church. When commanded not to speak in Jesus' name and threatened with harm if they did, the believers of Jerusalem "raised their voices together in prayer to God." They asked to be able to "speak [the] word with great boldness" and to "heal and perform [miraculous] signs and wonders" (Acts 4:24, 29–30).

What happened? Just what you would expect! God heard and answered. They spoke the word with boldness. They "performed many . . . signs and wonders among the people" and "more and more men and women believed in the Lord. . . . Crowds gathered . . . bringing their sick and those tormented by [evil] spirits, and all of them were healed" (Acts 5:12–16). Satan was defeated, his territory invaded,

and his captives released. That's spiritual warfare by means of intercession.

Our struggle, said Paul, is "against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms." Paul ends his somber depiction of the operations of evil in the world by calling us to "be alert and always keep on praying for all the [saints]" (Eph. 6:12, 18).

The weapon of prayer is a strong weapon that God has placed in our hands in order to come against the invisible forces of evil that operate in our world today. Our prayers move the arm of God to destroy the works of the devil.

Satan can deal with most everything we come at him with, but he cannot deal with the arm of the Lord moved through prayer. You can be sure that the saints you know are under attack, and they need your sustaining prayers.

Ask Jesus for the resolve to faithfully pray, "Deliver us from the evil one." Ask for the Spirit's help to "always keep on praying for all the [saints]," the Lord's people, starting with those who are nearest and dearest to you. Ask God to give you a holy boldness and strong faith as you join Him in setting captives like Alivia and the homeless man free.

It can be a wonderful moment of joy and peace for the freed captives, a moment of victory for Jesus, a moment of defeat for the devil, and a moment of enlightenment and strengthening for us all. **PC**

<sup>1</sup> *The Kneeling Christian* (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1986), 17.

<sup>2</sup> Wesley Duewel, *Touch the World Through Prayer* (Grand Rapids, MI: Francis Asbury Press, 1986), 208.



**ALVIN VANDERGRIND** is the co-founder of the Denominational Prayer Leaders Network. He has served as a pastor and national prayer leader, and is the author of several books.

This article is adapted from his book *Praying God's Heart*, available from [prayershop.org](http://prayershop.org).

## Learning to Pray Together | By Douglas Kamstra

*“Before we leave, let’s spend a few moments in prayer. . . .”*

As a specialized transition pastor and denominational prayer leader, I’ve spent a lot of time in church meetings. It’s encouraging that leaders are pausing to pray during these meetings; it’s discouraging that for so many leaders, prayer is simply an add-on to their work and ministry.

*“Bob, if you would begin, I’ll finish after we’ve all prayed.”*

The opening pray-er provides the initial address to God, then passes the “baton” to his right. The next pray-er prays through his list of five or six requests. The third pray-er now mentally crosses off three of her items that the previous pray-er mentioned, and she mentions five more. Eight or nine minutes later, the seventh pray-er concludes the prayer.

*“Amen.”*

*“All right, everyone. Thanks for coming. See you next month!”*

### Changing the DNA

Prayer, as has often been said, is the work of the church. The correlation between praying churches and healthy growing churches has been proven. But the prayer level of a congregation seldom rises above the passion level in the prayers of its leadership.

We need to learn to pray. But, even more importantly, we need to learn to pray *together*. Most of the group praying I’ve observed is actually little more than a string of individual prayers spliced together.

Changing the DNA of prayer in our churches requires a great deal of fortitude and perseverance. The early Church learned how to pray together, and they set the world aflame with the gospel.

Although some training and education are always helpful, little will change until we actually start praying *together*.

So at the next church meeting, small group, or prayer group you attend, suggest and integrate one or two of the following (recognizing change takes time):

1. *Pray together at the beginning of the meeting.* “Praying first” underscores the importance of prayer and sets the context for the meeting. When prayer is relegated to the end of the meeting, participants are looking at their watches, focused on getting home. Set aside a block of 30 minutes minimum at the top of the agenda.

2. *Begin with silence.* Most of those in attendance have had busy days. People need some silence to reset their souls.

3. *Remind everyone to pray throughout the entire prayer time.* By encouraging participants to also pray silently and continuously, you remove the expectation that everyone pray aloud. Typically in group prayer, participants are only half listening to what others are praying because they are thinking about what they are going to pray when their turn comes.

Silence is always acceptable. It doesn’t necessarily mean we can’t think of anything else to pray for. Silence is an opportunity for the Spirit to work in our hearts.

4. *Pray aloud only when prompted by the Spirit.* When you feel the Holy Spirit’s encouragement, pray aloud. Focus on praying what you sense the Spirit is inviting you to pray. That is, pray God’s agenda—often a continuation of what is currently being prayed.

5. *Pray one praise, one confession, or one intercession at a time.* Praying one item at a time allows others to participate in praying for that same need. When that need has been saturated with prayer, the Spirit will provide another praise, confession, or need for prayer.

6. *Pray in agreement.* When you pray aloud, you are articulating the Spirit-directed prayer on behalf of the community of Christ, so use plural pronouns: “Our Father . . . give us our daily bread, deliver us from evil. . . .”

7. *Pray Scripture.* When we pray Scripture, we are praying God’s will. Praying Scripture assures us we are praying *together*.

8. *Pray Kingdom prayers.* The focus of many prayer gatherings is on *us*—our personal needs or items on our prayer list. Encourage broader prayers, such as prayers for the protection of believers, for unity among Christ-followers, for revival in the nation, for global evangelization, for growing awareness of God’s presence. Kingdom prayers are prayers we can all pray *together*.

By beginning in prayer, you will lay the foundation to return to praying at any time and for any reason the Spirit might provide. “These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer. . . .” (Acts 1:14, NASB). **PC**



**DOUGLAS KAMSTRA** is a specialized transition minister, spiritual director, leader of the *Deeper Journey* (a ministry to deepen intimacy with God through the spiritual disciplines), author of the *Praying Church Idea Book*, and chair of the Denominational Prayer Leaders Network.



## Prayer Appointments as a Way to Encourage Staff

One of my “side jobs” is to provide prayer support for a national ministry that is focused on the next generation through evangelistic outreaches and a call to prayer for national spiritual awakening. A core group of intercessors prays regularly with me by phone. But I also provide monthly prayer appointments for the staff, with the help of a seasoned intercessor who joins me.

Each month my intercessor friend and I spend a day in the office with staff members, and they can sign up for half-hour prayer appointments. During these confidential sessions, they can share any prayer concerns with us—whether personal or job-related—and receive “hands-on” prayer for their requests. We emphasize that their conversations with us

are shared only with the Lord in prayer. This creates a greater sense of trust and openness, which is especially important in a ministry with a lot of young staff, crazy schedules, and the many stresses of a fast-growing organization!

We spend time listening to them, reviewing our notes from a previous prayer appointment, following up with them, and giving God praise for answers. We usually pray for eight or more people each day. That’s not enough time to cover the entire staff, but it does create incentive for people to sign up early for the next prayer day.

In the several months we have been praying for the staff, we’ve witnessed many specific answers to prayer that have greatly encouraged them. We have also noticed a change in the “spiritual climate”

of the office. Anxiety levels seem to be lessening and more peace and unity prevails in the office. Each month many challenges come to us in prayer, but the staff members often express their gratitude for the opportunity to be listened to and prayed over.

This idea can be adapted for the staff of any church or ministry. Often staff members need the confidential prayers of a trusted intercessor team. If you have a couple of seasoned intercessors who can consistently make this a monthly ministry for your church staff, you will see the trust and eagerness grow in staff members who are willing to take time to receive much-needed prayer.

**CAROL MADISON** is editor of *Prayer Connect*.

## Surf’s Up: Helpful Prayer on the Internet

Kingdom Praying is a website dedicated to training people how to pray “Thy kingdom come” kinds of prayers. These prayers include praying for lost family members and the fulfillment of the Great Commission around the world. Founded by Dr. Kevin Meadors, director of Prayer Closet Ministries, Inc., this website ([kingdompraying.com](http://kingdompraying.com)) offers helpful resources you can download for your congregation. Resources include guides for praying scriptural prayers for the lost, praying for missionaries and their marriages and families, praying “I Am” statements from the Gospel of John, and praying for world leaders.

In addition, Prayer Closet Ministries’ website ([prayerclosetministries.org](http://prayerclosetministries.org)) focuses on “transforming lives through prayer and fasting.” This site offers resources to equip your church to pray more effectively on topics such as praying for the president, praying for

schools, seeking God for revival, praying for the addicted, scriptural prayers for physical healing and marriages, and praying for your pastor. There are also

resources available for purchase.

Both of these websites have practical intercessory resources to help your congregation intercede in biblical ways.

### Will You Pray with Us?

You may have noticed this issue of *Prayer Connect* is a little thinner than previous issues. Because of ongoing financial constraints with the magazine, we sensed it was necessary to reduce the magazine from 48 pages to 32 pages. You have been praying with us that *Prayer Connect* will turn the corner financially. Thank you—and please keep praying! We are taking cost-cutting measures.

Here are a few more ways you can be praying with us:

- Pray for a dramatic increase in subscriptions in the next few months. This will relieve some financial stresses and keep us moving forward.
- Pray for wisdom in business decisions, especially for Jon Graf as publisher and Harvest Prayer Ministries as the parent company. Donors are a very important part of the team, so please pray that God will raise up more people who can commit to regular support.
- Pray for the growth of the prayer movement and discernment for our editorial staff in understanding how we can support the urgent need for prayer in our day.



## Are We Ready to Pay the Price for Revival? | By Jonathan Goforth

**A** missionary once remarked apologetically to me: “I have always longed for revival; but my station is so out-of-the-way that it is impossible for *me* to obtain the services of an evangelist.”

As if the Spirit of God is necessarily limited in His workings to a select few! We wish to state most emphatically as our conviction that God’s revival may be had when we will and where we will.

Our reading of the Word of God makes it inconceivable to us that the Holy Spirit should be willing, even for a day, to delay His work. We may be sure that where there is a lack of the fullness of God, it is ever due to man’s lack of faith and obedience.

If God the Holy Spirit is not glorifying Jesus Christ in the world today as at Pentecost, it is *we* who are to blame! After all, what is revival but simply the Spirit of God fully controlling the surrendered life? It must always be possible, then, when man yields. The sin of unyieldedness alone can keep us from revival.

But—are we ready to pay the price of Holy Ghost Revival?

### Preparing by Prayer

The history of revival shows plainly that all movements of the Spirit have started in prayer. Yet is it not right there that many of us wilt and falter at the cost? The Bible does not tell us very much of what went on in that Upper Room in Jerusalem between our Lord’s ascension and the Day of Pentecost.

But we may be reasonably certain that little band of disciples begrudged every minute that was spent off their knees. There was so much to be got rid of, so many hindering things to be laid away, so much dross to be consumed. We

know that all subsequent outpourings of the Spirit were linked with prayer.

“And when they had prayed,” Luke tells us, “the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the Word of God with boldness” (Acts 4:31, KJV).

It is not likely that the Eternal Spirit of God has grown weary. Surely we may count on it—that the blessing is waiting for us, if we will only get down on our knees and ask for it.

It was intense, believing prayer that had so much to do with the revival which, in 1907, brought 50,000 Koreans to Christ. We are convinced, too, that all movements of the Spirit in China, which have come within our own experience, may be traced to prayer. After one particularly moving series of meetings, a missionary remarked to me: “Since the Lord did so much with our small amount of praying, what might He . . . have done if we had prayed as we ought?”

“What is the secret of revival?” a great evangelist was once asked.

“There is no secret,” he replied. “Revival always comes in answer to prayer.”

### Believing and Pleading the Promises of God

The Author of the Bible is being greatly dishonored these days by the doubt cast upon His Word. It must, indeed, be a cause of intense grief to Him that the Book which alone testified of the Lord Jesus should be lightly esteemed by man.

Unless the Bible is to us in very truth the Word of God, our prayers can be naught but sheer mockery. There never has been a revival except where there have been Christian men and women thoroughly believing in and wholeheartedly pleading the promises of God!

The Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, is the only weapon which has ever been mightily used in revival (Eph. 6:17). Where it has been given for what it claims to be, the Word of God has always been like a sharp, two-edged sword, like fire, and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces (Heb. 4:12; Jer. 23:29).

### Exalting the Lord Jesus Christ

Finally, the call to revival must be a call to exalt Jesus Christ in our hearts as King of kings and Lord of lords. He is like an Everest peak, rising from the level plain. There must be room only for Him, if we would have Him dwell with us at all. Every idol must be smashed; every darling Isaac laid on the altar; every urge of self denied! Then and then only can we expect the larger fields to open before us.

Brethren, the Spirit of God is with us still. Pentecost is yet within our grasp! If revival is being withheld from us, it is because some idol remains still enthroned, because we still insist in placing our reliance in human schemes, because we still refuse to face the unchangeable truth that it is: “Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts” (Zech. 4:6). **PC**

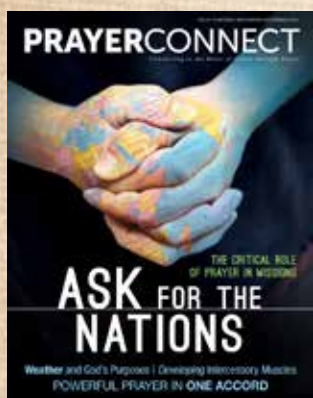
**JONATHAN GOFORTH** (1859–1936) was a Canadian Presbyterian missionary who became the foremost missionary revivalist in China in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. This article is excerpted from his book *By My Spirit*.



3525 S. 3rd Place  
Terre Haute, IN 47802

Start with a Complete Set

# GET EVERY BACK ISSUE OF PRAYER CONNECT



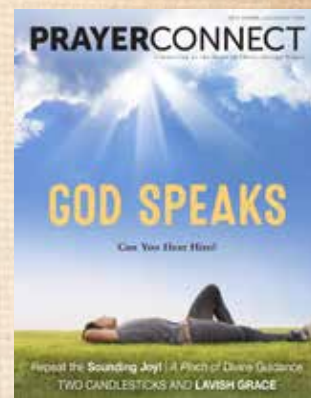
**Issue 13**  
**ASK FOR THE NATIONS**  
The Critical Role of Prayer in Missions



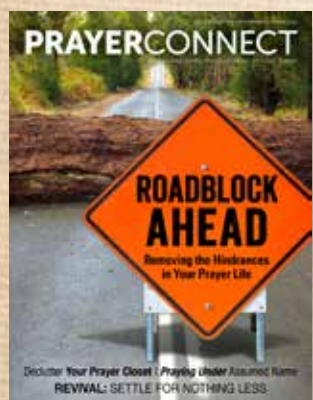
**Issue 14**  
**HELP!**  
The Heart Cry of Desperate Prayer



**Issue 15**  
**THE POWER OF PRAISE**  
Touching Heaven, Transforming Earth



**Issue 16**  
**GOD SPEAKS**  
Can You Hear Him?



**Issue 17**  
**ROADBLOCK AHEAD**  
Removing the Hindrances in Your Prayer Life



**Issue 18**  
**FAITH AND PRAYER**  
Walking in Confidence and Expectation



**Issue 19**  
**AWAKENING ON CAMPUSES**  
God is Stirring Prayer

- Issue 1** Can Prayer Save America?
- Issue 2** Fresh Fire
- Issue 4** As the Waters Cover the Sea
- Issue 5** The Place Was Shaken
- Issue 6** Stand Firm & Strong
- Issue 7** Open Hearts, Open Doors
- Issue 8** The Lord is Near
- Issue 9** Releasing Children to Pray
- Issue 10** Living in the Upper Room
- Issue 11** Our Great Intercessor
- Issue 12** Hope Undaunted

**MULTIPLE COPY DISCOUNTS available!**

COVER PRICE: \$6.00 | PRAYERSHOP PRICE: \$5.00

[www.prayershop.org](http://www.prayershop.org) | Click on "Prayer Connect Magazine" "Back Issues" | 812-238-5504

Prayer Connect and PrayerShop Publishing are ministries of Harvest Prayer Ministries