

October 15 - November 14, 2012— Thirty one Days of Prayer and Fasting

Biblical Teaching Regarding Fasting and “An Intimate Hour with God”—

See the *Grow in Grace Newsletter*, for 10/9/12

Suggested FOCUS for the 31 Days of Prayer and Fasting:

As we have done several times over the last few years, we once again call for Southsiders to band together for a time of prayer and fasting. **There are more than a few reasons** we could set forth as to why we call for a time of Prayer and Fasting— **here are 4 primary ones!**

1. Chief among them is that we need to be much more focused in INTIMACY with and in the worship of the KING OF KINGS and LORD of LORDS!

2. Moreover, we need to be much more focused upon and effective in the work of the KINGDOM OF GOD— modeling the good news of the GOSPEL with our lives and proclaiming the GOSPEL with boldness.

3. Let us also make this a time to heed the Biblical prayer call of 1 Timothy 2:1-3 —

“... I **admonish *and* urge** that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be offered on behalf of all men, **for kings and all who are in positions of authority or high responsibility, that [outwardly] we may pass a quiet *and* undisturbed life [and inwardly] a peaceable one in all godliness *and* reverence and seriousness in every way. For such [praying] is good *and* right,** and [it is] pleasing *and* acceptable to God our Savior,...” (Amplified)

4. Many years ago at a similar emphasis of Prayer and Fasting— we also included a request that we pray for the Hartsville Christian Fellowship. The church was young; the lead pastor was leaving and had suggested that the church disband.

I, Pastor Bell, was called to a meeting of the men of Hartsville Christian Fellowship. I strongly encouraged them to stay together and to seek to go forward. It was some months later that we were having a special time of Prayer and Fasting. **We included the Hartsville Christian Fellowship, specifically petitioning the LORD to help them go forward and that the LORD would provide godly leadership for them.** Little did we know that the LORD would provide through Southside:

Later, the LORD provided Dennis Morris [wife, Christy] to serve there. Still later, we had the honor of releasing and sending forth to the Hartsville Christian Fellowship one of our elders, Donnie Martin, [wife, Jane].

Yes, the church is now Grace Baptist Church, there in Hartsville! To God be the glory; what great things HE has done!

I am impressed that for this present time of Prayer and Fasting that we include special prayer for another of our former Elders, Randy McReynolds and the Cornerstone Chapel in Bristol, Tennessee.



[Randy and Beth were married in 1990, [Beth is a SCS graduate!]. Randy taught at SCS, was our Minister of Music and served as one of our Elders.

God has richly blessed them with four children: Alex (1996), Charis (1999), Kendal (2002), and Camden (2006). Randy has been serving the Cornerstone Chapel church since July of 2003.

[The above is not their most recent photo! Alex is now as tall or taller than Randy!]



It was my joy to preach for the congregation last November. It was a great blessing to sense that the LORD has knit the congregation and pastor in love, vision, and with a heart for God. LET US especially PRAY FOR THEM during the 31 Days of Prayer and Fasting.

[HOW ABOUT PRAYING for them in line with the first

THREE Primary reasons listed above in this letter!?!]

4. Thus, in prayer and fasting we are issuing a call to WORSHIP and ADORE the LORD our GOD! We are issuing a call to PRAY FOR one another; to pray for MISSIONARIES; to pray for those who still abide under the wrath of God; to pray for BOLDNESS in proclaiming the GOSPEL; and to pray for our nation and for all who are in authority!

PRAYING FOR MISSIONARIES!

Missionaries are people just like us. They have difficulties and frustrations. They deal with stresses of everyday life. Some are thousands of miles away from family. Some live in cultures so different than that in which they grew up. As we do, they need prayer. The Bible tells us to pray for one another, to pray without ceasing. Jesus modeled a lifestyle of prayer for His children. Through the power of prayer, God's people can change the world and lives of people, here and around the world. **When asked what we can do for them, missionaries respond, "PRAY!" So how do you pray for missionaries?**

How to Pray? One way is to use the 'alphabet' to pray.

DURING OUR 31 DAYS OF PRAYER AND FASTING, LET US commit to pray the missionaries on our LIST, missionaries we are blessed to know; and also let us pray for the 10,200 plus state, North American, and international Southern Baptist missionaries.

Ability with Language- ask God to give those who must learn another language the ability to be fluent in their adopted language.

Boldness- pray that each will be a bold witness for Jesus.

Comfort- pray for God's comfort in times of discouragement, despair, or mourning.

Direction- ask God to give them specific direction in ministry.

Energy- ask God to renew their energy when the tasks seem overwhelming and the body is weary.

Family Members- pray that children of missionaries (MKs) will have a sense of God's presence when they're away from their parents.

Glorify God- ask God to enable missionaries to live each day to glorify God.

Health- ask God to give physical and emotional health so missionaries can function effectively.

Insight- pray that missionaries will have insight to see people and things from God's perspective.

Joy- pray that the "joy of the Lord" will be evident in their daily living.

Knowledge- pray that missionaries will grow in their personal knowledge of God so they will become all that He intends.

Love- pray that God's love will be evident in their lives, love that will draw lost people to the Father.

Mercy- pray that missionaries will extend the hand of mercy to those around them.

Needs- pray that they will always remember that in Christ all needs will be met.

Open Doors- pray that they will recognize all open doors that God provides them for sharing the gospel.

Power- pray that missionaries will be strengthened daily by the power of God and will live productive lives.

Quiet Time- pray that nothing will keep them from having a quality quiet time with God each day.

Rapport- pray that missionaries will have rapport with co-workers and those they serve.

Safety- pray for their safety in travel, safety from robbers, theft, and the threat of war

or revolution.

Trust- ask God to help missionaries trust Him in all things and for every situation they face.

Understanding- as missionaries share the Good News, ask God to give those who hear the gospel the ability to understand who Jesus is, what He did for them, and how they can have eternal life.

Victory- pray that each will experience victory in times of spiritual warfare.

Wisdom- ask God to give wisdom as decisions are made that affect Kingdom work.

X-ray Vision- pray that missionaries will have x-ray vision of the heart and desire a cleansed life.

Yielded- pray that each will be completely yielded to Christ and His ways.

Zealous- pray that missionaries will be zealous in sharing the gospel.

“And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you shall receive.” Matthew 21:22 (NAS)

Beginning with Monday, October 15, through Wednesday, November 14, we want AT LEAST one person or family PRAYING and FASTING on EACH DAY.

It will be wonderful to have MORE THAN ONE! But, let's get every day covered... then , we can add additional people on various days.

We ask that on the day you choose that you commit to pray at least ONE hour and fast for at least one meal.

Note: Everyone will have a copy of the *HOUR THAT CHANGES THE WORLD* prayer guide — It will be in the Grow in Grace Newsletter for NEXT WEEK, 10/16/12 — this will further enable anyone with a willing heart to spend ONE hour in prayer.

BELOW, SIMPLY SIGN YOUR NAME ON THE DAY OR DAYS TO WHICH YOU WILL COMMIT; AND write the Phone # by which you can best be reached. Someone will call and give you a brief friendly reminder of the

day you have agreed to cover.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	10/15	10/16	10/17	10/18	10/19	10/20
10/21	10/22	10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/27
10/28	10/29	10/30	10/31	11/1	11/2	10/3
11/4	11/5	11/6	11/7	11/8	11/9	11/10
11/11	11/12	11/13	11/14			

Note: We will have a SIGN UP CALENDAR at church. Sign it. Once you have done that— sign the one on this page AND KEEP IT... to help you remember your date/dates.

GRACE TO ALL IN CHRIST! James Bell