



PRAYER & FASTING

Title: FASTING FOR POWER & DIRECTION

Main Scripture: Acts 13:1-3

God's Kingdom and plans are way better than anything we could ever dream up for ourselves.

Real power and direction are found when we move ourselves off of the centre of our heart, and we are filled with the Holy Spirit of the Living God.

Calling is an external commission from God for the sake of other people.

You can experience real power and the best direction for your life through the filling of the Holy Spirit.
(Jn 14:16-18, 25-27; Act 1:8; Eph 5:15-20)

The Holy Spirit wants to keep on filling us with the power and direction of God Almighty!

Prayer of Reflection

Search me, Holy Spirit of the Living God. Show me where I have been the centre of my life, where I have made myself the source of strength and direction.

Show me the ways that I have sought selfish value and meaning without You.

Lord, reveal to me the fears and needs of my heart. I offer my insecurities and feelings of inadequacy, insignificance and disconnection to You.

I admit, confess and turn away from keeping myself at the centre of my heart.

Forgive me for discounting You and not putting You first, Father God, Lord Jesus and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer of Invitation

Come Holy Spirit; please come closer to me now.

Reveal Your purposes, Your love, presence, power, joy, kindness and strength.

I need You. I love You. I want more of You in my life.

Thank You that You see me, You are with me, You give me value, meaning, purpose and gifts.

Please fill me. Please fill us as a church. You are the gift from God that I need. Pour out Your gifts to me and to us so that the world around us can experience the goodness and love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Small Group Sermon Study

Opening Prayer: Father, in Jesus' name, through the Holy Spirit, come and speak to us, teach us and transform us as we read, discuss and reflect on Your word.

Read the key passage(s) of Scripture from the message and review the points from the sermon notes, then answer the following questions:

1. What did you like or appreciate about this message? What was new or surprising to you?
2. What do we learn from this passage and message about God (Father, Jesus, Holy Spirit)? What do we learn about who He is, how He feels, what actions He takes, etc.?
3. What does this passage tell us about responding to God? What does living by faith look like in this passage?
4. What don't you understand or what other questions does this passage/sermon make you ponder?
5. What challenges are being brought to light in this sermon/passage? Are there any obstacles to which you can relate?
6. What attitudes, emotions, behaviors, or ideas are being exposed? How do they line up with what we know about God's character and His word?

Personal Reflection:

Silently re-read the key Scripture(s) from the message, asking the Holy Spirit to speak to you.

- What do you need to surrender to Jesus? How will you respond to what God is showing you?
- What verse, phrase or word do you need to take with you this week? How will you act on what you've heard?

Prayer: Spend time praying for one another (that we would grow in our love for God and others, that we would be transformed by what God has revealed, that we would be alert and obedient to God, etc.).