

Go2 Week Two: *Fast & Pray*

The second week of each month we will fast from one meal. Instead of eating, we will read the word of God and pray for those who are living without Jesus.

This is a good time to get out our bookmarks and pray specifically for those whom we have listed.



PRAYING FOR THOSE LIVING WITHOUT JESUS

First, we must determine, is the person on our list seeking the Gospel? It may seem strange, but in today's world, there is easy access to a lot of misinformation out there. The only way to know if a person might be responsive to the Gospel is to share the Gospel with them and then ask, "Have you heard anything like this before?" Based upon their response we now have the opportunity to share more or begin the prayer battle.

Keep in mind, a person living without Jesus is

- Spiritually Blind (2 Corinthians 4:3-4)
- Spiritually Deaf (John 8:43, 47)
- Spiritually Enslaved ((John 8:33-37)
- Spiritually Dead (John 3:18)

Choosing to enter a relationship with Jesus Christ is a free will choice. As we can see from the bullet points above, a lost person's will is not operating freely.

(Does this mean that a lost person is excused from personal responsibility for his lost condition? Of course not. Paul says that "...they are without excuse" (Romans 1:19-20). A lost person has chosen to reject as much of God as he understands and by that choice has made himself Satan's captive.)

SO, WHAT DO OUR PRAYERS DO?

We do not pray for those living without Jesus because we need to convince God to save them! Prayer is not bringing a need to God's attention, convincing God to meet a need, or influencing God to move.

Prayer is the conduit through which God's power flows. Prayer is what God has set in place for us to be the bridge between the power available in the spiritual realm and the need on earth.

Prayer accesses the power of God for the purposes of God. As we pray for people, God's power begins to flow into their lives and circumstances. Through prayer, and the power it releases in a life, a person's will can be set free.

WE ARE AT WAR

Praying for those living without Jesus is an act of spiritual warfare. Through



aggressive prayer, we are engaging the enemy in hand-to-hand combat. We have been armed for the battle with an impenetrable armor—Jesus Christ Himself. The offensive weapon in our arsenal is the Word of God and the muscle power that wields it is prayer. (Ephesians 6:10-20)

THE UNBEATABLE COMBINATION: *PRAYING THE WORD*

'If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you' (John 15:7).

The more the Word of God gets inside us and dwells in us in all its richness (Colossians 3:16), the more it gives substance to our faith – a faith we then give away to others.

Here are 4 examples of bible verses, God's truth in them, and an example prayer based upon them.

1) Isaiah 55:10-11

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Truths about God's Word in Isaiah 55:10-11

1. God's Word, like the rain and the snow, causes the lives into which He sends it to bear fruit (bring forth and sprout).
2. The fruit of God's word is the Gospel for the believer (seed to the sower) and life for the seeker (bread for the eater).
3. God sends out His Word deliberately and purposefully, it has an assignment (it shall accomplish that which I purpose).
4. God's Word ALWAYS completes its assignment (shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it).

Example Prayer:

Father, would You send Your Word into the life of _____.

Cause _____ to come into contact with Your Word over and over. I know that Your word will have success.

2) Isaiah 50:4-5 & 30:21

He awakens my ear to listen as a disciple. The Lord God has opened my ear.

Your ears will hear a word behind you, "This is the way, walk in it," whenever you turn to the right or to the left.

Truths in Isaiah 50:4-5 & 30:21:

1. God is the one who awakens and opens spiritual ears.
2. God will speak His powerful Word to cause a person to change his course.

Example Prayer:

Father, give _____ ears to hear.

Awaken and unstop his/her spiritual ears. Let _____ hear Your voice directing him in the path of life.

3) Ephesians 1:18-19

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe.

Truths in Ephesians 1:18-19:

1. God can enlighten the eyes of the heart.
2. When the heart's eyes are enlightened, the person can know the hope, the riches, and the power.

Example Prayer:

Father, enlighten the eyes of _____'s heart.

Cause _____ to see and understand Your call, Your glory and Your power.

4) Jeremiah 24:7

I will give them a heart to know Me, for I am the Lord; and they will be My people, and I will be their God, for they will return to Me with their whole heart.

Truths in Jeremiah 24:7:

1. A heart that knows God comes from God.
2. His irresistible grace will draw people to Him with their whole heart.

Example Prayer:

Father, give _____ a heart to know You. Draw his/her whole heart to You.

As you spend time in God's Word, be open to the Spirit, allowing Him to awaken prayer in you. The Word of God becomes so strongly entrenched in your life that it creates an outgoing current called prayer. You don't have to be quoting specific Bible verses to be praying the Word. You will find that all of your prayers are formed in the Word.

Additional Example Prayers:

- Reveal to _____ the emptiness of everything he has set his affections on.
- Beset _____ behind and before and lay your hand upon her.
- Lead _____ in paths of righteousness for Your name's sake.
- Draw _____ to Jesus.
- Create the circumstances in _____'s life causing him to cast himself on You.
- Reveal to _____ that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.
- Bring _____ to the realization that only in You are true righteousness and strength.

ADDITIONAL PRAYER HELPS

Our friends at Harvest Prayer Ministries have put together a list of resources for prayer and praying for the lost – those living without Jesus. Here are three highly recommended articles:



1) 7 Focused Ways To Pray for Lost People



www.harvestprayer.com/7-focused-ways-to-pray-for-lost-people/

2) 7 Scriptural Prayers for the Lost



www.harvestprayer.com/7-scriptural-prayers-for-the-lost/

3) 9 Biblical Prayers for Lost Loved Ones



www.harvestprayer.com/9-biblical-prayers-for-lost-loved-ones/