

Answer Key

INTRODUCTION

- promotion

1. Pure, Proud

- Godliness
- Why
- Kinder

2. Practice

- Live
- Humility

3. People

- Action
- Involved
- Changes

The Good News

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, (Romans 5:1)

The Bad News

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, (Romans 3:23)

The Ugly News

For the wages of sin is death, ... (Romans 6:23a)

The Great News

... but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
(Romans 6:23a)

Guess What?

You can become a Christian right now and experience salvation and the gift of eternal life through God's Son the Lord Jesus Christ! Simply Pray this Prayer Right Now! **"God thank you for Jesus Christ who died on the cross for my sins. Thank you for receiving what Jesus did for me on the cross as payment for my sins. Please forgive me for my sins. Right now I accept Jesus into my heart and ask that he become my Savior and Lord! Amen!"**

If you declare with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you profess your faith and are saved. (Romans 10:9–10)

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Sermon Notes



Isaiah 58:1–7 (NLT)

¹“Shout with the voice of a trumpet blast. Shout aloud! Don’t be timid. Tell my people Israel of their sins! ²Yet they act so pious! They come to the Temple every day and seem delighted to learn all about me. They act like a righteous nation that would never abandon the laws of its God. They ask me to take action on their behalf, pretending they want to be near me. ³‘We have fasted before you!’ they say. ‘Why aren’t you impressed? We have been very hard on ourselves, and you don’t even notice it!’ ‘I will tell you why!’ I respond. ‘It’s because you are fasting to please yourselves. Even while you fast, you keep oppressing your workers.

⁴What good is fasting when you keep on fighting and quarreling? This kind of fasting will never get you anywhere with me. ⁵You humble yourselves by going through the motions of penance, bowing your heads like reeds bending in the wind. You dress in burlap and cover yourselves with ashes. Is this what you call fasting? Do you really think this will please the LORD?

⁶“No, this is the kind of fasting I want: Free those who are wrongly imprisoned; lighten the burden of those who work for you. Let the oppressed go free, and remove the chains that bind people. ⁷Share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not hide from relatives who need your help.

February 23, 2025

(Answer key located on back page)

INTRODUCTION:

Meet Sarah, who fasted for a _____, but missed God's true purpose for fasting.

What God Really Wants When We Fast:

1. _____ Hearts Over _____ Hearts (Isaiah 58:1-3)

- The Israelites had a form of _____ but denied its power.
- God cares more about _____ we fast than the fact that we're fasting.
- A pure heart leads to being _____ to others, even while fasting.

2. _____ Over Performance (Isaiah 58:4-5)

- Real fasting changes how we _____.
- God wants genuine _____, not just religious acts.

3. _____ Over Pretending (Isaiah 58:6-7)

God calls you to:

- Take _____: God uses active words like "free," "lighten," "share".
- Get Personally _____: Don't look away from needs.
- Make Real _____: Be part of the solution.

PERSONAL REFLECTION:

1. What is my true motivation for fasting?
2. How has my fasting affected my treatment of others?
3. What specific need in my community can I address?

COMMITMENT:

Today, I commit to fast God's way by:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

NEXT STEPS:

- ☐ Choose one specific way to show God's character daily.
- ☐ Identify one need and take action this week.
- ☐ Keep a simple record of what you did and how it changed things.

KEY VERSE TO REMEMBER:

"Share your food with the hungry, and give shelter to the homeless. Give clothes to those who need them, and do not hide from relatives who need your help." - Isaiah 58:7

