



CAPITAL CITY
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

21 Days of Prayer & Fasting 2024



Name:

21 Days of Prayer and Fasting:

Thank you for choosing to partner with us through our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting. We believe that prayer and fasting create space for us to intentionally engage with God and to focus our full attention on him. As we enter this new year, we want to come together through these spiritual practices to corporately seek God as we talk with him about how we, as a church, can take the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ beyond these walls to help those in our community have the opportunity to encounter Jesus, become like Jesus, and love like Jesus.

Prayer and fasting are ways that we wholistically open ourselves up to God. We'd like to remind you that we pray and fast as a form of worship and not out of duty, obligation, or to earn God's favor. We believe God's love is not based on what we do, but on what Jesus did for us through his life, death, and resurrection.

Although we have included prayer prompts in the 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting, we'd like to encourage you to personally pray throughout the 21 days. You have full access to God and he loves to hear from you. Corporate prayer is not intended to replace personal prayer but to supplement it.

Fasting (food fasts and non-food fasts) are about replacing something in our life with attention to God and time in prayer.

Fasting should "cost" us and should be a sacrifice because it reminds us of our own humanity and our dependence on God. In the space of longing for the thing that we are fasting from, we choose to turn our attention to God and pray. Fasting isn't about self deprecation, it is about creating opportunities to turn our attention to him in a more intentional way.

Please use wisdom and discernment in choosing how to fast. If you'd like some support or guidance, please reach out to the church staff. It is important to enter into this practice in a way that is healthy for both your body and soul.

We have built daily practices into the 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting to focus on the habits of contemplation of scripture, daily prayer, and personal reflection. We believe these are life giving rhythms and ones that Jesus practiced. Our hope is that they become regular practices in your life long

after the 21 days are over.

At Capital City, we believe that we all have a next step. Intentionally coming together as a church body through prayer and fasting is a step on our journey with Jesus that we can all take together. Let's come together, as a family, and intentionally seek God as we endeavor to take the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ beyond these walls in order to help those in our community have the opportunity to encounter Jesus, become like Jesus, and love like Jesus.

How To Begin:

The best way to begin is to spend some time talking with God. Consider how you might participate in the fasting portion of the 21 days. Ask God how you can worship him through fasting. Ask him what you might fast from and spend some time listening for his response. Then, make a commitment to God for the 21 days.

Whatever you chose to fast from, be sure to fast responsibly and in a way that is healthy and sustainable for the 21 days. Remember that the point of a fast is to create space for God, to turn our attention to him in our longing, to remind us of our humanity, and to humble ourselves as we acknowledge our dependence on God.

Fasting is not meant to be destructive, but life giving. Again, if you need guidance or support as you choose how to participate in the 21 Days of Prayer and fasting, please reach out to one of our church staff. We are more than happy to walk with you throughout this process.

Some possible fasts might include: a no sugar fast, fasting from one meal a day, fasting from coffee or soda, fasting from social media, fasting from screens, fasting from unnecessary spending, or fasting from complaining and negative words. The possibilities are endless. The important thing is to choose something that, when missing from your life, creates a longing when it's gone. Then to use that longing as a prompt to turn your attention toward God and allow him to fill that space and sustain you in that longing. Talk to God to determine what kind of fast is right for you.

If you have questions or need support throughout this journey, we'd love to partner with you. You can email us at nextsteps@capitalcitychristian.net.

Remember, you also have a church family participating along with you throughout the 21 days. Talk to your friends, people in your small group, or others in our community about their experience and encourage one another. This is a great opportunity for our church body to come together and be a help and support for one another.

Use the prompts for each day to engage in scripture contemplation, prayer, and personal reflection. You may consider keeping a journal throughout the 21 days to answer the reflection questions and to process through things God may be showing you. As you fast, use the longings you feel for whatever it is that you are fasting from to point you back to God. One simple way to do this is to pray.

You might find the following prayers helpful during those kinds of moments: “God, you are the source of my contentment.”, “God, you are enough for me.”, “God, you are my provider and sustainer.”, “God, my deepest longings are met in you.” You can also choose your own prayer to return to when you feel a desire for the thing you are fasting from.

One final thing to note, a fast is a commitment that you are choosing to make with God. If you decide to make this commitment, it is something you should take seriously. However, God is a God of abundant grace. If you break your fast just confess it to God, receive the grace he offers, and jump right back in.

Now, let’s all take this step together. Join us as we prayerfully unite over our mission to take the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ beyond these walls to help those in our community have the opportunity to encounter Jesus, become like Jesus, and love like Jesus.

How To Use This Booklet:

Each day of the 21 days is labeled and laid out for you in this booklet. Each day, you will read the scripture verse labeled God’s Word and spend a moment with God meditating on it. Then, you will read and pray the Prayer for each day. Finish your daily section by considering the question in the Think About It section.

Each Sunday, you will also find a place for taking notes during the Sunday church service. You will notice that 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting have been coordinated with each week of the sermon series. On Sunday, you will also

see the weekly Practices and Conversations laid out for you.

This booklet is meant to be a resource. It will also serve as a workbook to help you engage with the themes we will be talking through together during our Beyond These Walls series and during our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting.

Let's begin...

Week One: Corporate

We believe the church is not a building but is a family unified by God the Father, through Jesus the Son, and by the power of the Holy Spirit. In this life-giving community, believers intentionally encounter Jesus, become like Jesus, and love like Jesus. In doing so, they are built up, encouraged, and equipped to carry out their purpose as a vital part of God's plan to spread the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ beyond the walls of our church buildings and to be Jesus to all people.

Day 1- Monday, Jan. 1st :

God's Word: John 13:34-35 NIV "“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.””

Prayer: God, we thank you for Jesus and for his work on our behalf. Because of his great love for us, we've been forgiven of our sins and have a place in your family. We can't fully understand the magnitude of Jesus' love or the cost of his sacrifice, but we humbly accept this great gift. God, we also willingly accept the responsibilities that come with being a part of this family. We know we've been bought with a price and that we are no longer our own. We willingly turn over our lives to you and choose to live as followers of Jesus. We want to be your disciples, Jesus, learning to love as you do. Help us to love others with the same kind of selfless, sacrificial love that you have loved us with. Amen.

Think About It: What does it mean to make Jesus Lord of your life and to live as his disciple?

Day 2- Tuesday, Jan. 2nd :

God's Word: 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NIV "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres."

Prayer: God, we are only able to know love because you have shown it to us. You are love, God, and you call us to be people of love. Not only that, you ask us to show that we love you through the way that we love others. Every day we are presented with an opportunity to respond to the people and situations around us in ways that either gratify ourselves or in ways that glorify you. We want to choose your way, but it is so often countercultural and upside down. No matter how difficult the situation or how difficult the person, we recognize that you call us to love. God, we also know that what you call us to do, you will equip us to do. Help us to walk in the way of love. Amen.

Think About It: When presented with an opportunity to please ourselves or please God, why would we choose the way of love?

Day 3- Wednesday, Jan. 3rd :

God's Word: Ephesians 2:6-7 NIV "And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus."

Prayer: God, when we put our faith in Jesus everything changed for us. We became new people with new priorities. We were invited into a new family and we became citizens of a new kingdom under the leadership of a new king. All of this was because of Jesus' love and grace, and because of Jesus we are a part of God's plan of redemption here on this earth. God, you've been so kind to us! Thank you! You've also invited us to share your love with those around us so that they can experience what we've experienced. We thank you for this and we ask you to help us to live and love in a way that helps others come to know you. Amen.

Think About It: What does it look like to live as people of love in the Kingdom of God?

Day 4- Thursday, Jan. 4th :

God's Word: Philippians 1:9-11 NIV "And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God."

Prayer: God, you are love and you call us to be people of love. Help us to be people who choose to respond in love to those around us. Build in us the habit of intentionally loving others well through our words and our actions. We have the power and ability to do this because of Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. We want to be people who can stand before you pure and blameless, knowing that we used our time on earth to prioritize loving you and loving others well in your name. God, as we live and love like Jesus, may you be glorified by all we say and do. Amen.

Think About It: What are ways you can love others so that God gets glory?

Day 5- Friday, Jan. 5th :

God's Word: Colossians 1:17-20 NIV "He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross."

Prayer: God, you are Creator and Sustainer of all. You brought all things into being. You have appointed Jesus as the Sovereign Lord and King over all things. Not only is Jesus Lord and King, Jesus is the hope of the world and the only way to be reconciled into relationship with you. He is the only one capable of restoring what sin has damaged in this world and in its people. Jesus is also the head of your church, his body, here on earth. God, we recognize that as we come together as a community of believers, we do so in the name of and under the authority of Jesus Christ. We accept his invitation to join him in his kingdom mission, as his hands and feet. God, use us to share your love and the good news of the gospel. Amen.

Think About It: What does it mean that Jesus is the head of the church?

Day 6- Saturday, Jan. 6th :

God's Word: Acts 2:44-47 "All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

Prayer: God, as we come together as your church, we ask that you give us the grace to love and serve one another. Help us to live in such a way that people notice something different about us. God, as they see that difference in our church, may they see that it comes from our relationship with you. Allow your Church to be a witness and a testimony of your love. God, we ask that you help us to go beyond these walls to meet people where they are with the good news of the gospel and the love of Jesus. Amen.

Think About It: How can you pray that God will reach people with his love?

Day 7- Sunday, Jan. 7th :

God's Word: Colossians 1:27-29 NIV "To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. He is the one we proclaim, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone fully mature in Christ. To this end I strenuously contend with all the energy Christ so powerfully works in me."

Prayer: God, you have called together a people on this earth to make you known throughout all the earth. We are called to proclaim the name of Jesus and to show the world around us what it looks like to live as people of the Kingdom of God. Lord, grow us in wisdom and maturity. Work within us to make us more and more like Jesus. We believe you have called us to be a part of something bigger. Help us to grow as individuals and a church so that we can more fully align with your kingdom mission. We gladly join together with believers from all over this world who are committed to this mission. Set a fire in our hearts to point this world to you through the way we live and love. Amen.

Think About It: What does it mean to be a part of the bigger, universal church?

Beyond These Walls Sunday Worship Service- Week One

Date:_____

Worship Response:_____

Sermon Notes:_____

Bible Verses Shared:_____

Key Take Away:_____

How This Applies In My Life:_____

My Next Steps:_____

Beyond These Walls: Practices and Conversations:

Practices and Conversations: a resource to help you engage in a regular rhythm of spiritual practices and a tool to encourage conversation with God and others as you encounter Jesus, become like Jesus, and love like Jesus.

Part 1: Practice

Spiritual practices help us create space to open ourselves to God. In this week's practice, we are going to look back at 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 to see what love looks like in a very practical way. Use an index card and copy the verse onto the card. Tuck it in your back pocket and carry it with you this week. When you feel tempted to respond in an unloving way to something or someone, take a quiet minute and read the verse. Ask God to help you respond in love instead.

Part 2: Conversations between you and God

Spend some time this week with God considering the following questions:

1. Have you fully received the love of Jesus and accepted the gift of salvation, relationship with God, and a place in the family of God? If not, you might consider this life changing choice. If so, take a moment and thank God for this.
2. Does the love of Jesus fill you to overflowing? How might God be inviting you to be filled with his love so that it can spill out of you onto others?
3. God created his church as a way for his love and his gospel message to spread throughout the world. What does it mean to you to be a part of God's church?

Part 3: Conversations with others

1. If someone were to describe you, what characteristics would they say they see in you? Would they be characteristics that look like the love of Jesus?
2. Love is a choice, an action, and a habit. What does that mean? What does that look like in our everyday lives? How do we choose love, act in love, and practice the habit of love?
3. One of our core values at Capital City is People Matter Most. All people matter to God, so they also matter to us. How have you seen that lived out at Capital City? How might we live it out better? How can you join us in living out that value?

Week Two: Personal

We believe that God intentionally created each person uniquely in a way that expresses parts of his character and bares his image. We believe that we are individually given gifts, skills, and talents by God and that we are invited to use them as we join God's kingdom mission here on earth. We were created on purpose and for the purpose of uniquely impacting the world for Jesus. As we personally spend time in an ever deepening relationship with Jesus and as we submit to him as Lord of our lives, we grow to be more and more like him. We become people who live like he lived and love as he loves. We recognize that as a part of the family of God and as a part of the body of Christ we are surrounded by others who have also been given good gifts, skills, and talents as well. As we come together unified by the mission of Jesus, our gifts complement one another, build the church, and glorify God.

Day 8- Monday, Jan. 8th :

God's Word: Psalms 139:13-14 NIV "For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

Psalms 139:13-14 NIV

Prayer: God, you hand knit each one of us together. You created us in an intentional way, designing each of us to be a unique reflection of you. You orchestrated the trajectory of our lives, allowing us to move into the spaces and places you've prepared for us. In those places and spaces, you have allowed us to be in relationship with certain people who you've given us to engage with and love. God, we see your hand at work in every aspect of our lives. We know that in your great love, you have been working in us and through us for our good and your glory. Thank you for the way you've intentionally and purposefully designed us. Thank you for this life that you've given us. Help us to be people who are able to boldly live into all that you've created us to be and all that you've created us to do. God, also give us the humility to understand that it is you who makes all this possible. All that we are and all that we have comes from you. Help us to use every bit of it for your honor and glory. Amen.

Think About It: Can you see how God has been at work in you and through you for your good and his glory?

Day 9- Tuesday, Jan. 9th :

God's Word: 1 Corinthians 12:4-6 NIV "There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work."

Prayer: God, you have created us uniquely. You have placed different gifts inside of each one of us and you've created opportunities for us to use those gifts to show specific parts of who you are to the world around us. Lord, help us to see the good gifts you've placed inside us. Show us how we might use those good gifts. Allow us to see how those gifts are able to reflect who you are to the people that you've placed in our lives. Help us to feel confident in the way you created us and in the way you want to use those gifts to be a blessing to others. Empower us through the power of the Holy Spirit to be Jesus to all people as we walk in the fulness of who you've created us to be and what you've created us to do. Amen.

Think About It: What are some of the unique gifts God has given to you?

Day 10- Wednesday, Jan. 10th :

God's Word: 1 Peter 4:10-11 NIV "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."

Prayer: God, you didn't create us and gift us with these skills, talents, and abilities for our personal gain. You created us on purpose and for a purpose. You created us to have kingdom impact. You created us to worship you, to love and serve others, and to bring you glory with our lives. You have good work that you have specifically purposed for us to do. We are thankful for the opportunities we have in this life but help us to remember we are a part of something bigger. As we go through this life, keep our eyes trained on you and our hearts turned toward you. Remind us that our gifts are not meant to be hoarded but to be shared. They aren't meant for our glory but for yours. Work in us and work through us. Amen.

Think About It: How are you using your gifts to have kingdom impact?

Day 11- Thursday, Jan. 11th :

God's Word: Ephesians 2:10 NIV "For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Prayer: God, you have a good plan for each one of us. You know our specific situations and circumstances. You know the people we have influence with. You know the gifts, skills, and talents that we possess. You've been at work in our lives perfectly positioning us to make a difference in this world for eternity. We are your handiwork and there is good work that you have intentionally prepared us to do. We are humbled and honored that you allow us to be a part of the work that you are doing in the world to restore, redeem, and reconcile all things. God, help us to recognize opportunities to join in your work by loving people, serving people, and sharing the gospel with people through our words and actions. Amen.

Think About It: How have you been strategically prepared and placed by God to be a part of his good work here on earth?

Day 12- Friday, Jan. 12th :

God's Word: Romans 12:4-8 NIV "For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully."

Prayer: God, you've placed us within this church with others who are intentionally and wonderfully created. We each have abilities that contribute to the work that you've called us to do here. Every gift is of equal value. None is more important than the other. When we come together, we create a body that is equipped and empowered to do great things for the kingdom of God. Every person is designed and appointed by you. Every part has a function and every part is necessary. God, help us to be individuals who willingly use our gifts to honor you. Help us also to see how you've created us to be a part of something much bigger than ourselves. Amen.

Think About It: How might your gifts be used as a part of something bigger?

Day 13- Saturday, Jan. 13th :

God's Word: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 NIV "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many."

Prayer: God, you call us into a unified body made up of many different people. Each one is uniquely designed by you, placed by you, called by you, and empowered by you for a specific purpose. However, you call us to unite as one body to love and serve others. You fill us with the power of the Holy Spirit so that we can do this. We believe that you are still at work rescuing the lost, redeeming what sin has broken, and reconciling people back into right relationship with you. God, thank you for your invitation into your mission here on earth. Help us to unite as one to do your will and your work. Use us as your hands and feet here to demonstrate your love to all people. Amen.

Think About It: What does it mean to be a diverse people unified in Jesus?

Day 14- Sunday, Jan. 14th :

God's Word: 1 Peter 2:9-10 NIV "But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy."

Prayer: God, we thank you for our salvation and what it means for us. Not only did you save us from sin and give us eternity with you, you invite us into your mission on earth. God, you call us your chosen people and your royal priesthood. And as such, God, you call us to live our lives in a way that puts the needs of others above our own. People's greatest need is Jesus. That's why you call us to declare your praise to those around us. We want others to receive the gift we've received. We each have a personal story of what you've done for us. Lord, help us to be people who tell others who you are, how much you love them, and what you've done for them. Amen.

Think About It: How can you be more intentional about sharing what God has done for you?

Beyond These Walls Sunday Worship Service- Week Two

Date:_____

Worship Response:_____

Sermon Notes:_____

Bible Verses Shared:_____

Key Take Away:_____

How This Applies In My Life:_____

My Next Steps:_____

Beyond These Walls: Practices and Conversations:

Practices and Conversations: a resource to help you engage in a regular rhythm of spiritual practices and a tool to encourage conversation with God and others as you encounter Jesus, become like Jesus, and love like Jesus.

Part 1: Practice

Spiritual practices help us create space to open ourselves to God. In this week's practice, we are going to identify the spiritual gifts God has given each of us. Go to giftstest.com and take the spiritual gifts test.

Part 2: Conversations between you and God

Spend some time this week with God considering the following questions:

1. Read Psalm 139. Thank God for his loving intentionality. Thank him for the way he hand crafted you. Praise him for creating a good thing when he created you.
2. God created each individual uniquely to reflect parts of him to the world. What parts of God do you reflect to others?
3. The body is intended to be made of unique parts all working together for God's glory. Have you embraced the idea of being part of a whole or do you function as an independent individual? How might God be inviting you to be united with the body?

Part 3: Conversations with others

1. Do you know your spiritual gifts? What are they? How are you using them?
2. Where has God strategically placed you and who has he specifically put in your life that you can show and tell the good news of the gospel to? How might that look for you?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 NIV. How might God want to use your specific gifts at Capital City? How do you see him bringing together people with complementary gifts so that they can better serve God?

Week Three: Community

We believe that our local church has been strategically placed by God in this particular place at this particular time for the particular purpose of being a city set on a hill, sharing the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ with Jefferson City. We believe God is inviting us to join him in our community as we move beyond the walls of our church, into the spaces and places God has given us influence and impact. We choose to join him in this mission and commit to love those he has placed us nearby.

Day 15- Monday, Jan. 15th :

God's Word: Matthew 28:18-20 "Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.""

Prayer: God, you have a plan to redeem, reconcile, and restore the whole world and you have included us, your church, as an integral part of that plan. You call your followers to boldly go, in the name and in the authority of Jesus, to make disciples, to baptize, and to teach the world about our king and his kingdom. You promise that we don't do this alone and that you are with us as we go. Thank you for the joy and privilege it is to partner with you in bringing this good news to the world. Help us to be bold, winsome, and to speak the truth in love. May our words and our actions declare the gospel. Amen.

Think About It: How are you following Jesus' command to share the good news of the gospel?

Day 16- Tuesday, Jan. 16th :

God's Word: Matthew 5:14-16 NIV ““You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Prayer: God, you have strategically placed our church on this hill overlooking Jefferson City. You've placed us next to specific neighbors, neighborhoods, schools, and businesses. You have a purpose for us in this place. You've called us to be a light to our city, pointing others to you. Help us to be a good neighbor. Help us to care for and serve those who you have placed us nearby. Give us a heart for our community. Help us to love them as you love them. Amen.

Think About It: How can you partner with our church to love and serve our neighbors?

Day 17- Wednesday, Jan. 17th :

God's Word: Colossians 4:2-6 NIV “Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful. And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should. Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.”

Prayer: God, help us to be a church that prays for one another and for those that do not know you. Help us to be aware of opportunities to share your love with those around us. God, help us to be thankful for this body of believers that you have placed us in. As we come together as a local church, we ask that you open doors for us to proclaim the good news of the gospel of Jesus Christ with those in our city. Give us the words we need when we need them. Fill us with love and compassion for people. Help us to make the most of every opportunity by being people who live like you and love like you. Use us to share the good news of the gospel with this city. Amen.

Think About It: What could it look like to begin your day praying for opportunities to share the love of Jesus with those you are nearby?

Day 18- Thursday, Jan. 18th :

God's Word: Matthew 22:36-40 NIV “‘Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?’ Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.””

Prayer: God, Jesus tells us that the greatest commandment is to love you with our heart, soul, and mind. Help us to give our whole selves to you. Give us the grace to let our relationship with you change every aspect of our lives. Help it to infiltrate not just our thoughts, but our words and our actions. As we are changed by you, filled us with a love for the things you love and a desire to prioritize the things you prioritize. God, you love people so much that you say the second commandment, which is just as important as the first, is to love our neighbors. Help us to love and value others in that way. We know that the way we love people is a reflection of our love for you. Amen.

Think About It: How does the way you love people show your love for God? Why does that matter to him?

Day 19- Friday, Jan. 19th :

God's Word: 1 Peter 3:15 NIV “But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.”

Prayer: God, we love you. We thank you that you are not just our Savior and Friend, but also our King and Lord. God, you invite us to know you and to live as kingdom people here on earth. You've given us the ability to learn what that looks like through scripture. Give us a hunger for your word. We want to be a church that knows and can communicate who Jesus is and what he's done for the world. Stir up a desire in us to read our Bibles. Help us to pray and to communicate with you. Give us a desire to be active participants in this family and to be intentional about gathering together as a church weekly. Help us to grow in wisdom, grace, and love as individuals and as a body of believers. Amen.

Think About It: How do you prioritize Bible reading, prayer, and the weekly corporate gathering?

Day 20- Saturday, Jan. 20th :

God's Word: Ephesians 2:17-18 NIV "He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit."

Prayer: God, help us to remember that because of our sin we were once far from you. As we go into our community to love and serve, help us to do so with humility, compassion, and respect for those whom we encounter.

Remind us that every person is someone who bears your image and is someone you dearly love. Help us not to be judgmental or condemning, but to meet with people with the same love and grace that you meet us with. We want people to see you in us and to come to know you through us. Transform us into people who love like you. Amen.

Think About It: How does it change your perspective of those who are far from God when you remember that you were once far from God?

Day 21- Sunday, Jan. 21st :

God's Word: : 2 Corinthians 5:20 NIV "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ's behalf: Be reconciled to God."

Prayer: God, empower us and equip us to be your ambassadors here on this earth. We willingly submit ourselves to you and ask you to use us. Work in us and change us to be people who look more and more like Jesus every day. Give us both the desire and the ability to love people as you do. Give us hearts to sacrificially serve like you did. Fill us with the power of the Holy Spirit so that we are able to boldly go out into this world and represent you well. Help us to see needs and meet them. Help us to speak truth in a way that is kind and compassionate. Help us to live out the gospel in a way that compels people to seek you. Amen.

Think About It: What does it mean to be an ambassador for Jesus?

Beyond These Walls Sunday Worship Service- Week Three

Date:_____

Worship Response:_____

Sermon Notes:_____

Bible Verses Shared:_____

Key Take Away:_____

How This Applies In My Life:_____

My Next Steps:_____

Beyond These Walls: Practices and Conversations:

Practices and Conversations: a resource to help you engage in a regular rhythm of spiritual practices and a tool to encourage conversation with God and others as you encounter Jesus, become like Jesus, and love like Jesus.

Part 1: Practice

Spiritual practices help us create space to open ourselves to God. In this week's practice, we are going to ask God for the grace to see people. As you move through your days this week, pay attention to the people around you. Say hello. Offer a smile or a kind word. See how many people you can engage with that you might not normally notice.

Part 2: Conversations between you and God

Spend some time this week with God considering the following questions:

1. Who are people in your life that need to hear the good news of the gospel? How can you be intentional about praying for them to come to love and follow Jesus?
2. Who is one person that you can go to this week in order to serve and care for them? How could that look?
3. How might you partner with a ministry of our church to help Capital City love and serve people?

Part 3: Conversations with others

1. What could it look like for our church to be good neighbors to those God has placed us nearby?
2. How would you communicate the good news of the gospel? How would you tell someone your personal testimony? What are the key points people need to hear?
3. How does loving and serving others point people to Jesus? How might it create an opportunity for them to come to love and follow him?

Thank you!

Thank You For Joining With Us in Our 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting! We'd love to have you join us in celebration as we come together to worship God for what he has done in us individually and what he's done in us corporately during these 21 days. We will have a Night of Worship this evening as a church family to celebrate. Check the church center app for details!

Reflection on 21 Days of Prayer and Fasting:

This image shows a single page of white paper with horizontal black lines, resembling notebook paper. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.



