



FAITH IS THE VICTORY CHURCH

# Seek Week

PRAAYER & FASTING

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FAITH IS THE VICTORY CHURCH

# SEEK WEEK

## 2026

*Seven Days of Prayer, Fasting & Devotion  
Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday*

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*Cultivating Spirit-filled lives that sustain lifelong connection with Jesus and produce good works.*

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Nashville, Tennessee

## A Practical Guide to Fasting

From the church's earliest days, fasting has been recognized as an important way to draw near to God, deepen one's relationship with Him, and seek His help in times of special need. If you desire a deeper, more intimate, and fruitful relationship with God or need His help in a time of real need, fasting is an important means of grace to practice.

In the Old Testament, the main Hebrew word is *tsom*, which means "to abstain from food." In the New Testament, the Greek word *nesteuo* carries the same meaning. In both testaments, fasting is simply going without food in order to seek God for some special reason.

Fasting is God's appointed way for us to cry out to Him in situations of special need. If Jesus's exhortation to "ask, seek, and knock" in prayer (Matt. 7:7) is an ordered ascension, we might think of prayer with fasting as knocking loudly on the gates of heaven.

### Why Fast?

Fasting is a spiritual tool God uses to advance His kingdom, change the destiny of nations, spark revival, and bring victory in people's lives.

#### Jesus fasted.

**Matthew 4:1–2** *"Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry."*

**Luke 4:14** *"And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country."*

Jesus knew He was going to need spiritual strength to fulfill His purposes. Fasting makes us spiritually strong and prepares us to do God's work.

#### Fasting is an act of humility and consecration.

**Ezra 8:21** *"Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God, to seek from him a safe journey for ourselves, our children, and all our goods."*

As we humble ourselves through prayer and fasting, we receive God's grace and access His heart.

#### Fasting helps us become sensitive to the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 13:2** *"While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, 'Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.'"*

When we deny ourselves of natural cravings and worldly distractions, we become more sensitive to God's voice. Then, we are better able to focus on God and submit to His will.

## Fasting brings revival.

**2 Chronicles 7:14** *“If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.”*

Throughout history, God has brought revival and delivered nations from destruction in response to prayer and fasting. Fasting helps us prevail in prayer and intercession.

## Fasting is healthy.

Fasting cleanses your digestive system of toxins. Doctors consider fasting a cure for certain allergies and diseases. The discipline of fasting helps break unhealthy addictions in our lives.

## Planning Your Fast

**Joshua 3:5** *“Then Joshua said to the people, ‘Consecrate yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.’”*

**Pray** — Spend time reading the Bible before the fast. Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in your prayers.

**Commit** — Pray about the kind of fast you will undertake and commit to it ahead of time. Ask God for grace to help you follow through.

**Act** — Start eating smaller portions a few days before the fast. Avoid food high in sugar and fat. Plan to limit physical and social activities for the period of the fast.

*Note: Consult a physician, especially if you are pregnant, nursing, or taking medication. If your situation does not allow you to do a full fast, determine what will work best for you.*

## While Fasting

**Matthew 4:4** *“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”*

**Focus** — Set aside time to work through the devotionals. Be ready to respond to God’s Word and the leading of the Holy Spirit.

**Pray** — Join at least one prayer meeting at church. Intercede for your family, church, pastors, and nation throughout the week.

**Replenish** — During mealtime, read the Bible and pray. Drink plenty of water and rest as much as you can. Be ready for temporary bouts of physical weakness and mental annoyances like impatience and irritability.

## Breaking the Fast

**1 John 5:14–15** *“And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us. And if we know that he hears us in whatever we ask, we know that we have the requests that we have asked of him.”*

**Eat** — Reintroduce solid food gradually. Start with fruits, juices, and salad, then add more vegetables. Eat small portions throughout the day.

**Pray** — Don’t stop praying! Trust God’s faithfulness and timing. Carry your newfound passion for God throughout the year. Have faith for God to answer your prayers.

## Types of Fast to Consider

**Partial Fast** — Fasting certain meals or abstaining from certain foods (no meat or sweets, soup only, fruit and vegetables only). In Daniel 10:3, Daniel ate no pleasant bread.

**Juice Fast** — Fruit and vegetable juices only.

**Corporate Fast** — A church or group who feel God has called them to fast together for a certain period of time.

**Jewish Fasting Period** — The Jewish fast began at 6:00 PM and ended the next day at 6:00 PM. Others might fast from sunup to sundown.

**Fasting Plus Prayer** — Use the time you would normally be eating to pray. The combination of prayer and fasting is a powerful way to focus on seeking God for breakthroughs.

**Fasting and Abstinence** — During a fast one can also practice abstinence from other pleasures such as entertainment, TV, hobbies, and marital intimacy as spoken about in 1 Corinthians 7:1–5.

## Getting Your Family Involved

Parents, please consider getting your children involved with the fast. Our children are surrounded by a culture that idolizes independence, that tells them to look after number one, to find the strength they need within themselves. Talking to your children about fasting and teaching them to depend on God is important. With children, it’s about short and intentional opportunities.

## Practical Ideas for Kids

**Make different choices** — For a period of time, choose healthy foods for snacking. Instead of cookies, choose carrots. Instead of soda, choose water.

**Abstain from sweets** — Lead kids to not eat sugar-based foods (candy, cake, pastries) for a designated time.

**Abstain from media** — As a family, decide to abstain from technology. This could be as simple as limiting screen time or complete abstinence for the week.

### **Helping Teens Grow in Self-Control**

Self-control is a fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22–23) and a crucial part of living in light of the gospel (Titus 2:2, 5–6). For teenagers, self-control is especially challenging. As they develop physically and emotionally, we need to help them build the “muscle” of self-control. Fasting can play an important role because it trains our bodies to not get what they want.

# Practices for Seeking

## *A Prayer Guide for the Week*

Fasting creates space in your body. These practices create space in your soul. During Seek Week, you do not need to use all three. Pick one or two that draw you. The goal is not to add more activity to your schedule but to create room for God to speak.

### 1. Meditation: Filling Your Mind with Truth

*“But whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night. That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers.”*

— Psalm 1:2–3

Biblical meditation is not emptying your mind. It is filling your mind with God’s truth until your thinking is reshaped by it. The Hebrew word for meditate, *hagah*, means to murmur, to turn something over in your mouth, to chew on it. It is the opposite of skimming. It is sitting with one verse, one phrase, one word, until it sits with you.

During Seek Week, try this: rather than reading large portions of Scripture, take the single passage from each day’s devotional and stay there. Read it aloud. Read it slowly. Read it again. Ask the Spirit to show you what He wants you to see. Do not rush to application. Let the Word do its own work.

#### Questions to Sit With

- What am I meditating on most—God’s truth or my worries?
- Do I sit with Scripture or just skim it?
- How can I use this practice to form godly habits of thought?

### 2. ACTS: A Framework for Talking to God

Prayer is a tool we use to build intimacy with God. It is not a performance. It is not a wish list. It is a conversation with a Father who already knows what you need but still wants to hear from you. The ACTS framework gives you a simple structure so that your prayer life stays relational rather than random.

**Adoration** — Start by telling God who He is. Not because He needs reminding, but because you do. Adoration reorients your heart before you bring your needs. It puts you in the right posture, as a child approaching a Father. Begin with His character: His faithfulness, His power, His mercy, His holiness.

**Confession** — Confession reminds you of who you are, not to shame you, but to be honest with you. You are a loved child of God who still misses the mark. Confession clears the air between you and God. It is not groveling. It is the freedom of being fully known and fully accepted. Bring what is real, not what sounds spiritual.

**Thanksgiving** — Thanksgiving reminds you of what He has done. It shifts your eyes from what you lack to what you have already received. Be specific. General gratitude is fine, but naming the exact moments, the provision last Tuesday, the peace you felt driving home, the conversation He clearly arranged. This builds the kind of memory that sustains faith in hard seasons.

**Supplication** — Now ask. Be specific about what you want God to do. Supplication is not selfish; it is honest. Jesus told us to ask, seek, and knock. He did not say hint, hope, and wait. Bring your needs, bring others' needs, and bring them with the confidence of a child who knows their Father hears.

Notice the order. Adoration and confession come first because they build intimacy before you bring requests. Confession and thanksgiving are where the deepest intimacy forms, confession because it requires vulnerability, and thanksgiving because it requires attention. If your prayer life has felt mechanical, try slowing down in those two middle movements. That is where the conversation becomes real.

During Seek Week, use this framework when the daily prayer prompt feels like a starting point rather than a finish line. Let ACTS carry you further.

### 3. Evening Review: Five Questions to Close Your Day

One of the oldest prayer practices in the Christian tradition is a simple evening review, a prayerful way to look back over your day and notice where God was present. It takes ten to fifteen minutes and can become one of the most honest conversations you have with God all day. At the end of each day during Seek Week, find a quiet place and walk through these five movements:

**Gratitude** — Where did I see God's goodness today? Start here. Even on hard days, there is something. Name it.

**Awareness** — Where did I feel most alive, most connected to God or to others? What was happening in that moment?

**Struggle** — Where did I feel distant, disoriented, or disconnected? Do not judge yourself. Just notice.

**Confession** — Where did I resist grace or fall short today? Bring it to God honestly. He already knows.

**Renewal** — What invitation is God extending for tomorrow? Listen. He often speaks most clearly when we are willing to look back before looking ahead.

This practice is especially powerful during Holy Week. As you walk with Jesus toward the cross each day, reviewing your own day through these five lenses connects the ancient story to your present reality.

#### 4. Slow Reading: Four Movements Through Scripture

The ancient church had a way of reading Scripture that was less about information and more about formation. They called it sacred reading. It is not a study method; it is a way of letting God's Word read you. During Seek Week, use this approach with each day's Scripture passage:

**Read** — Read the passage slowly. Do not try to figure it out. Just listen. What word or phrase stands out to you? That is where the Spirit is drawing your attention.

**Reflect** — Sit with what stood out. What is God showing you through that word or phrase? Let it open something in you. Do not rush past this step.

**Respond** — What is God inviting you to do, shift, or surrender today? This is not about pressure. It is about alignment, bringing your life into agreement with what God has said.

**Rest** — Sit in God's presence. No agenda. No performance. Just be with Him. You are not here to prove anything. You are here to be formed.

If you use this approach with each day's devotional Scripture, the passage will move from something you read to something that shapes you. That is the difference between consuming the Word and being consumed by it.

#### Putting It Together

Here is one way to weave these practices into your day during Seek Week:

**Morning** — Use the slow reading practice (Read, Reflect, Respond, Rest) with the day's Scripture passage. Then read the devotional and sit with the reflection question. When you move into the daily prayer, let the ACTS framework carry you beyond the written prompt—adore Him, confess what is real, thank Him for what He has done, and ask for what you need.

**Throughout the day** — Return to the word or phrase that stood out during your morning reading. Let it become the meditation you carry with you. Chew on it. Murmur it. Let it reshape your thinking.

**Evening** — Close your day with the five-question evening review (Gratitude, Awareness, Struggle, Confession, Renewal). Let God show you where He was present in the hours you just lived.

You do not need to do all of this perfectly. You do not need to do all of it at all. The Spirit is not grading your prayer life. He is inviting you into it. Pick what draws you and start there. The point of Seek Week is not more religious activity. It is more of God.

# My Plan

*Use this page to record your fasting commitment for each day of Seek Week.*

## DAY 1

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Fasting Option:

- Water only
- Liquid only
- One meal only
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Meeting(s) to Attend: \_\_\_\_\_

## DAY 2

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Fasting Option:

- Water only
- Liquid only
- One meal only
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Meeting(s) to Attend: \_\_\_\_\_

## DAY 3

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Fasting Option:

- Water only
- Liquid only
- One meal only
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Meeting(s) to Attend: \_\_\_\_\_

## DAY 4

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Fasting Option:

- Water only
- Liquid only
- One meal only
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Meeting(s) to Attend: \_\_\_\_\_

## DAY 5

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Fasting Option:

- Water only
- Liquid only
- One meal only
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Meeting(s) to Attend: \_\_\_\_\_

## DAY 6

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Fasting Option:

- Water only
- Liquid only
- One meal only
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Meeting(s) to Attend: \_\_\_\_\_

## DAY 7

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Fasting Option:

- Water only
- Liquid only
- One meal only
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer Meeting(s) to Attend: \_\_\_\_\_

# I Am Believing God For...

## **Personal Faith Goals**

*Spiritual Revival • Physical Healing • Prosperity and Abundance • Rich Generosity...*

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## **My Family**

*Restoration of Relationships • Household Salvation...*

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## **My Education / Career**

*Excellence • Promotion...*

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## **My Sphere of Influence**

*Salvation of Colleagues and Classmates...*

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# I Am Committing to Pray For...

## **My Church**

*Church Leadership • Provision...*

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## **My Community**

*Campuses and Educational Institutions • Local Government • Outreach Opportunities...*

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## **My Nation**

*Government Officials • Spiritual Revival • Economic Prosperity • Peace and Order...*

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## Welcome to Seek Week 2026

This week is an invitation to slow down, lean in, and seek God with fresh intentionality. Over the next seven days, from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday, we will walk through the vision and mission God has given Faith is the Victory Church. But we will not walk alone. We walk alongside Jesus through the most consequential week in human history.

There is no accident in this timing. The week that stretches from the triumphant entry to the empty tomb is the week in which everything our vision describes was perfectly lived out by one Person. Jesus cultivated a life completely filled with and led by the Spirit. He sustained His connection with the Father through unimaginable pressure. He taught faith. He was transformed and transforming. He touched broken humanity at ultimate cost. He produced the ultimate good work. And He commissioned a community for a specific place and time.

Our vision as a church is clear:

***Cultivating Spirit-filled lives that sustain lifelong connection with Jesus and produce good works.***

And we pursue that vision through three commitments—our mission:

**Teach** our people faith—faith pleases God.

**Transform** through the Spirit—He is the agent of radical change.

**Touch** our community—making disciples and meeting needs.

Each day includes a key Scripture passage, a short reading, a reflection question, and a focused prayer prompt. As you move through this week, let the Passion of Christ give weight to every word of our vision. If you are fasting, let the hunger remind you that there is a deeper hunger and a deeper feast waiting on the other side of surrender.

### How to Use This Devotional

Begin each day by reading the Scripture passage slowly, more than once if possible. Then read the devotional reflection. Sit with the reflection question before moving to prayer. Each day's reading is anchored in both our church's vision and in the events of Holy Week. Let them speak to each other. The story of the Passion is not background music; it is the ground your faith stands on.

This is your week to seek. He promises that those who seek will find.

# Day 1: Cultivating Spirit-Filled Lives

Palm Sunday • Vision Focus: “Cultivating Spirit-filled lives...”

## SCRIPTURE

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*“When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: ‘Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!’... As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, ‘If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.’”*

— Luke 19:37–42

*“Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.”*

— John 15:4–5

*“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”*

— Galatians 5:22–25

## DEVOTIONAL READING

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Our vision begins with an agricultural word: cultivating. That is deliberate. A farmer does not stand over a seed and will it to grow. He prepares the soil. He waters. He waits. He tends. Growth belongs to God, but the conditions for growth are the farmer’s responsibility.

Palm Sunday reminds us how easily we confuse enthusiasm for cultivation. The crowd that lined the road into Jerusalem was loud, passionate, and sincere; at least in the moment. They waved branches. They shouted praise. They recognized Jesus as king. And within days, many of those same voices would fall silent or turn hostile. Their worship was real, but it was not rooted. It was excitement without cultivation.

Jesus saw this. Luke tells us that in the middle of the celebration, He wept. Not because the crowd was insincere, but because they did not know what would bring them peace. They had proximity to the King without a cultivated life that could sustain it. They had a Palm Sunday experience without a vine-and-branches relationship.

This is the danger for those of us who have walked with God for years. We know how to show up on the right day, say the right things, and feel the right emotions. But cultivation is different from attendance. Jesus told His disciples plainly: apart from me you can do nothing. Not “you can do less.” Nothing. The fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience—is not produced by showing up. It is produced by abiding.

As we begin Seek Week on Palm Sunday, the question is honest: are you cultivating, or are you coasting on the energy of the crowd? A farmer in his thirtieth year of farming still tends his fields. This week, you are tending the soil of your heart. You are positioning yourself to receive what only the Spirit can produce. That is the life our church is called to cultivate—not one of seasonal excitement, but one that is genuinely filled with and led by the Spirit of God.

#### REFLECT

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- The Palm Sunday crowd had real emotion but shallow roots. Where in your spiritual life has genuine feeling substituted for genuine cultivation? What would it look like to move from enthusiasm to abiding this week?

#### PRAYER

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*Lord, I do not want to be a Palm Sunday worshiper, loud today and silent by Friday. I want roots, not just branches. This week, as I seek You, prepare the soil of my heart. Show me where I have confused attendance with abiding, where excitement has substituted for cultivation. Holy Spirit, produce in me the fruit that only comes from remaining in Christ. I cannot do this on my own, and I am not trying to. I am positioning myself before You. Do what only You can do. In Jesus' name, amen.*

## Day 2: Sustaining Lifelong Connection

Monday of Holy Week • Vision Focus: “...that sustain lifelong connection with Jesus...”

### SCRIPTURE

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*“The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. Then he said to it, ‘May no one ever eat fruit from you again.’... In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. Peter remembered and said to Jesus, ‘Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!’”*

— Mark 11:12–14, 20–21

*“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.”*

— Hebrews 12:1–3

*“You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole body longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water. I have seen you in the sanctuary and beheld your power and your glory. Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you.”*

— Psalm 63:1–3

### DEVOTIONAL READING

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The fig tree looked healthy from a distance. It had leaves, the outward signs of life. But when Jesus came close enough to reach for its fruit, there was nothing. All appearance, no substance. And Jesus cursed it—not out of frustration with a tree, but as a living parable for everything He saw around Him. The temple had activity but no true worship. The religious leaders had robes but no righteousness. Israel had the form of faith but had not sustained the substance of it.

Our vision says sustain. That word is not decorative. It is the difference between the fig tree and the vine. The fig tree had leaves in season but no fruit when it mattered. Sustaining a lifelong connection with Jesus means bearing fruit not just when conditions are favorable, but when someone reaches for what your life is supposed to produce.

The writer of Hebrews understood this challenge. He wrote to people who had been believers long enough to grow weary. His prescription was not a new program or a fresh technique. It was a redirected gaze: fix your eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. Not the starter of faith, the perfecter of it. He finishes what He begins. Your job is to keep looking at Him.

David wrote Psalm 63 in the wilderness, a dry and parched land. This was not a new believer’s prayer. This was a man who had tasted God’s presence in the sanctuary and now found himself in a season where that felt distant. His response was not to question God’s faithfulness. It was to seek Him again, earnestly. What you behold, you become. That phrase captures a biblical truth

rooted in 2 Corinthians 3:18, as we behold the Lord's glory, we are being transformed into His image.

This Monday of Holy Week, Jesus is walking toward the cross. He has not wavered. He has not adjusted His mission for comfort. His connection with the Father is sustaining Him through what no human enthusiasm could survive. And He is looking at a tree, and at us, asking: when I reach for fruit, will I find it?

#### REFLECT

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- If Jesus reached into your life today looking for fruit, what would He find, leaves or substance? Where has the appearance of spiritual health substituted for the reality of it? What would earnest seeking look like for you this week?

#### PRAYER

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*Father, I do not want to be a fig tree, impressive from a distance but empty up close. I do not want a faith that starts strong and fades. I want the kind that endures, that sustains, that produces fruit when it matters. I confess there are areas where I have settled for leaves. Forgive me. Reawaken desire in me. Like David, I say: You are my God, and I seek You earnestly. Help me fix my eyes on Jesus this week, not on my weariness, not on my routine, but on Him. Revive what has grown barren. In Jesus' name, amen.*

## Day 3: Teach — Faith That Pleases God

Tuesday of Holy Week • Mission Focus: “Teach our people faith—faith pleases God.”

### SCRIPTURE

*“Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. ‘By what authority are you doing these things?’ they asked... Jesus replied, ‘I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?’... So they answered Jesus, ‘We don’t know.’ Then he said, ‘Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.’”*

— Matthew 21:23–27

*“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.”*

— Hebrews 11:6

*“He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Christ Jesus, so that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit.”*

— Galatians 3:14

### DEVOTIONAL READING

On Tuesday of Holy Week, Jesus was in the temple teaching. The religious leaders challenged Him, not because they lacked information, but because they lacked faith. They knew the Scriptures better than anyone in the room. They could quote Moses and parse the prophets. But when God stood in front of them in the flesh, they could not recognize Him. Their knowledge had become a wall instead of a window.

This is the subtle danger for mature believers, and it is why our first mission commitment is to teach faith, not information about faith, but faith itself. There is a difference. You can know everything about the doctrine of justification by faith and still live as though your standing with God depends on your performance. The chief priests proved it. Theological expertise without personal trust produces exactly the kind of religion that crucifies Jesus.

Paul confronted the same pattern: the righteous will live by faith. From first to last. Faith is not a starting point you graduate from. It is the air you breathe for the rest of your life. Hebrews 11:6 does not say “without knowledge it is impossible to please God.” It says without faith. The kind that believes He exists, not just intellectually, but functionally, and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him.

Notice what Paul says in Galatians 3:14: the purpose of Christ’s redemption was that by faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit. Faith is not merely the entry point to salvation. It is the ongoing means by which we experience the Spirit’s active presence. This is where our

spirit-filled conviction meets our daily practice. The Spirit's work in your life right now, His gifts, His guidance, His comfort, His power, is accessed by faith.

The religious leaders in the temple that Tuesday had decades of theological education. Jesus had twelve men who had left everything to follow Him. The difference was not information. It was faith. As we sit in the middle of this week, the question is the same one that hung in the temple air two thousand years ago: do you trust Him, or do you just know about Him?

### REFLECT

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- The religious leaders had extensive knowledge but no living faith. Where in your life has familiarity with God's Word substituted for active dependence on God Himself? What would fresh, costly faith look like in your current circumstances?

### PRAYER

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*Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief. I confess that there are areas of my life where I operate on experience rather than faith, on familiarity rather than trust. I do not want to be like the leaders in the temple, near to Your Word but far from Your heart. Teach me faith again, not as a concept, but as a way of living. I want to please You, and Your Word says that faith pleases You. By faith, I receive the promise of Your Spirit today. Show me where You are asking me to trust You in ways that stretch me. I am willing. In Jesus' name, amen.*

## Day 4: Transform — The Spirit as Agent of Change

Thursday of Holy Week • Mission Focus: “Transform through the Spirit—He is the agent of radical change.”

### SCRIPTURE

*“Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under his power, and that he had come from God and was returning to God; so he got up from the meal, took off his outer clothing, and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples’ feet... When he had finished washing their feet... he said to them, ‘Do you understand what I have done for you? You call me ‘Teacher’ and ‘Lord,’ and rightly so, for that is what I am. Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you.”*

— John 13:3–5, 12–17

*“Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.”*

— 2 Corinthians 3:17–18

*“Because you are his sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, the Spirit who calls out, ‘Abba, Father.’ So you are no longer a slave, but God’s child; and since you are his child, God has made you also an heir.”*

— Galatians 4:6–7

### DEVOTIONAL READING

On Thursday evening, Jesus did something none of His disciples expected. He, the Teacher, the Lord, the one with all authority, took a towel, knelt, and washed their feet. John tells us something crucial about why: Jesus knew that the Father had put all things under His power, and that He had come from God and was returning to God. His identity was so secure that He could serve without losing anything. He did not wash feet because He was weak. He washed feet because He knew exactly who He was.

That is what genuine transformation looks like. It is not self-improvement. It is not trying harder to be humble. It is knowing who you are so deeply that you are free to serve without keeping score. Paul describes this process in 2 Corinthians 3:18: we contemplate the Lord’s glory and are being transformed into His image. The verb is passive. You are being transformed. You do not transform yourself. The Spirit does the work as you behold the Lord. This is why “what you behold, you become” is not a motivational phrase; it is a theological reality.

But the Spirit does not only change your behavior. He changes your identity. Paul’s great argument in Galatians 4 is that God sent His Son to redeem you and then sent His Spirit to assure you. The Son secured your status as a child of God. The Spirit gives you the experience of

it. You are no longer a slave, not to sin, not to fear, not to religious performance. You are an heir. And heirs who know their position can pick up a towel without feeling diminished.

On this Thursday night, Jesus also promised the disciples that the Spirit would come, another Advocate who would be with them forever. The same Spirit who empowered Jesus to wash feet, to face the cross, to trust the Father in the garden, would be sent to live inside them. And inside you. The question for mature believers is not whether the Spirit can transform. It is whether we are cooperating with His work or resisting it. Where are you still striving in your own strength when the Spirit is offering to do what only He can do?

#### REFLECT

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- Jesus' security in His identity freed Him to serve. Where are you still performing for approval rather than serving from security? What would it look like to let the Spirit's witness, "You are God's child," settle the question so you can pick up the towel?

#### PRAYER

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*Holy Spirit, I acknowledge that You are the agent of change in my life, not my willpower, not my discipline, not my effort. On this night when Jesus washed feet because He knew who He was, I ask You to settle my identity. I receive Your witness that I am not a slave but a child of God, an heir. Where I have been living in fear or performing for approval, set me free. Transform me as I behold Jesus, the Lord who serves, the King who kneels. I cooperate with Your work. Have full access to every area of my life. In Jesus' name, amen.*

## Day 5: Touch — From Changed to Changing Others

Good Friday • Mission Focus: “Touch our community—making disciples and meeting needs.”

### SCRIPTURE

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*“Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.”*

— Isaiah 53:4–5

*“When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Jesus said, ‘Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.’... Then he said, ‘Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.’ Jesus answered him, ‘Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.’”*

— Luke 23:33–34, 42–43

*“Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well.”*

— 1 Thessalonians 2:8

### DEVOTIONAL READING

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Today the cross stands at the center of everything. And the cross is the ultimate act of touch. Transformation that does not touch anyone is incomplete. We say that as a church, and it is true. But before it was our principle, it was His practice. The cross is what happens when God refuses to love at a distance. Isaiah said it seven hundred years before it happened: He took up our pain. He bore our suffering. He was pierced for our transgressions. Every verb is embodied. Every verb is proximate. Every verb costs something.

Touch requires proximity, getting close enough to feel what others feel. Jesus did not observe human suffering from heaven and issue a decree. He entered it. He was born into it, lived inside it, and on this Friday, He was crushed by it. Touch requires embodiment, showing up with your actual presence, your actual body. The cross is not a metaphor. It is wood and nails and blood. And touch is bidirectional; when Jesus touched broken humanity, something flowed back. The criminal on the cross next to Him asked to be remembered, and Jesus gave him reassurance. Even as He was dying, He was still touching lives.

This is the pattern our mission calls us to follow, not at the same scale, but with the same posture. Paul told the Thessalonians he shared not only the gospel but his life. That is the model: a life laid alongside another life. Not charity from a distance. Not prayers without presence. The hands of Jesus reaching through your hands into the pain of your city.

James says faith without action toward those in need is dead. Not weak. Dead. On Good Friday, we see what living faith looks like. It looks like a cross. It looks like someone willing to enter

another's condition at ultimate cost. We will never be asked to do what Jesus did. But we are asked to follow the same direction, toward the need, not away from it.

#### REFLECT

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- The cross is what happens when love refuses to stay at a comfortable distance. Who has God placed near you that needs your presence, not just your prayers? What would it cost you to move toward them the way Jesus moved toward you?

#### PRAYER

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*Father, today I stand before the cross. I see what touch costs. I see what happens when transformation overflows into the world, it looks like sacrifice. It looks like a King on a cross, forgiving the people who put Him there and saving a thief with His last breaths. I confess that it is easier to stay comfortable than to get proximate to someone's pain. But Your Son did not love me from a distance. He entered my condition. Give me the courage to do the same. Show me one person I can move toward. Let the transformation You are working in me overflow, even when it costs something. In Jesus' name, amen.*

## Day 6: Producing Good Works

Holy Saturday • Vision Focus: “...and produce good works.”

### SCRIPTURE

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*“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”*

— Ephesians 2:8–10

*“The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.”*

— Lamentations 3:25–26

*“For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. It teaches us to say ‘No’ to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.”*

— Titus 2:11–14

### DEVOTIONAL READING

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Saturday is the day nobody preaches about. Friday has the cross. Sunday has the resurrection. Saturday has silence.

The disciples did not know Sunday was coming. They had watched Jesus die. They had seen His body wrapped in linen and placed in a borrowed tomb. And now nothing. No voice from heaven. No angel with instructions. No next step. Just waiting in a room with the door locked, holding a grief they could not make sense of.

Holy Saturday is the day that teaches us something essential about good works: sometimes the most faithful thing you can do is wait. Not because you are passive or complacent, but because the work is not yours to force. Paul’s language in Ephesians 2 is carefully balanced. Salvation is by grace through faith, not by works. But in the very next breath he says we are God’s handiwork, created to do good works that He prepared in advance. The works do not earn anything. They express everything. And sometimes the work God has prepared in advance is the discipline of waiting for His timing.

This is where mature believers face two equal and opposite dangers. The first is burnout, producing works from obligation, guilt, or sheer momentum until you run dry. Saturday speaks to the burned out: you are allowed to stop. The tomb is sealed. God is working in the silence even when you cannot see it. The second danger is complacency, knowing the theology of grace so well that it becomes an excuse for passivity. Titus addresses this: grace produces a people

eager to do what is good. Not exhausted by it. Not indifferent to it. Eager, but eager on God's schedule, not your own.

The good works our vision calls us to are not religious performance. They are fruit. And fruit has seasons. Sometimes the season is action: planting, tending, harvesting. Sometimes the season is Saturday: waiting, trusting, holding still while God does something underground that you cannot yet see. If the fruit is not appearing, the answer is not always to try harder. Sometimes the answer is to trust that Sunday is coming.

#### REFLECT

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- Are you in a season of action or a season of waiting? If you feel burned out, what would it mean to let God work in the silence? If you feel complacent, what has numbed your eagerness? What is God doing underground in your life that you cannot yet see?

#### PRAYER

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*Lord, today is Saturday. The cross is behind me and the resurrection is ahead of me, but right now I am in the silence. Teach me to wait without losing hope. I do not want to manufacture fruit through frantic effort, and I do not want to excuse passivity as patience. Show me the good works You prepared in advance for me, and give me the wisdom to know when to act and when to trust Your timing. Where I am burned out, restore me in the quiet. Where I am complacent, awaken me for what is coming. I trust that You are working even in the silence. In Jesus' name, amen.*

## Day 7: Together for the Kingdom in Nashville

Easter Sunday • Vision Focus: *The full vision lived out—here, now, together.*

### SCRIPTURE

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*“On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you!’ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, ‘Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.’ And with that he breathed on them and said, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”*

— John 20:19–22

*“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and miraculous signs done by the apostles... All the believers were together and had everything in common... 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.”*

— Acts 2:42–47

*“Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”*

— Jeremiah 29:7

### DEVOTIONAL READING

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He is risen. And the first thing the risen Jesus did was walk into a locked room full of frightened people and give them a mission.

Notice the sequence in John 20. Jesus showed them His hands and His side, proof that the crucified one and the risen one are the same person. Friday’s wounds are still visible on Sunday’s body. Then He said it twice: Peace be with you. Not once. Because they needed to hear it more than once. And then, without a strategic planning session or a leadership retreat, He commissioned them: As the Father has sent me, I am sending you. And He breathed on them: Receive the Holy Spirit.

Everything we have walked through this week is in that room. Cultivation, He had invested three years in these twelve lives. Sustaining, they had failed, denied, and scattered, yet He came back to them. Teaching faith: He showed them His wounds so they would believe. Transformation: He breathed the Spirit into them, the agent of radical change. Touching others: He sent them out. And producing good works, the book of Acts is the fruit of that sending.

The early church in Acts gives us a picture of what it looks like when this vision becomes reality. They were devoted to teaching. There is our first T. They experienced the Spirit’s power through signs and wonders; there is our second T. They shared their lives and met each other’s needs;

there is our third T. Teach. Transform. Touch. It was not a program. It was a way of life. And the Lord added to their number daily.

You are not here by accident. God determined the exact times and boundaries of where people would live, and He did it so they would seek Him. You are in Nashville, in this church, at this moment in history, by divine assignment. Jeremiah told the exiles to seek the peace and prosperity of their city. Faith is the Victory Church did not randomly land in Nashville. We are here because God placed us here.

As we close Seek Week on Easter Sunday, the question is not “Do we have a good vision?” We do. The question is the same one that echoed in that locked room two thousand years ago: will you receive the Spirit and go? Not generically, but specifically, in Nashville, in 2026, together. The risen Jesus is still showing His hands. He is still saying peace. He is still breathing the Spirit. And He is still sending.

#### REFLECT

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- Jesus walked into a room of fear and failure and gave a commission. What fear or failure has kept you locked in a room this past season? What would it mean to receive His peace, receive His Spirit, and accept His sending today, in this city, in this church?

#### PRAYER

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*Father, He is risen. And because He is risen, everything changes. I receive the peace Jesus spoke over His disciples: "Peace be with me." I receive the Spirit He breathed into them, the same Spirit who empowers me today. And I accept the sending: as the Father sent Jesus, Jesus sends me. I do not want to miss my assignment. Show me clearly what my role is in living out our vision together in Nashville in 2026. Make Faith is the Victory Church a people who are genuinely taught, genuinely transformed, and genuinely touching lives. Let the watching world see something real in us and be drawn to You. We seek the peace and prosperity of this city because You placed us here. We are Yours. Send us. In Jesus' name, amen.*

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*Cultivating Spirit-filled lives that sustain lifelong connection with Jesus and produce good works.*

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**Teach. Transform. Touch.**

*He is risen.*