



LENT
abide & go

Restoration Church Family,

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 18, and we want to invite you into something intentional, prayerful, and formative for our church family.

For centuries, Lent has been a season of returning: a time to realign our hearts with Christ as we walk toward the cross and anticipate the joy of resurrection. It is not about religious performance. It is about renewed affection. It is about making space for God to search us, shape us, and send us.

This year, we are stepping into a 40-day journey we're calling "Abide & Go."

Why this focus?

Because we believe real renewal always begins with abiding. Before we move outward in mission, we return inward in surrender. Before we invite others, we allow Christ to re-center us. Before we ask God to move in our city, we ask Him to move in us.

Throughout these 40 days, we will pray intentionally for:

- Alignment of our heart, mind, soul, and strength with Jesus
- Unity in divisive times
- Courage to invite and love boldly
- Receptive hearts in our community
- Our Easter season gatherings: Eggstravaganza, Good Friday, and Resurrection Sunday
- Our next generation ministries: Little Blessings, RC Kids, AWANA, and Treehouse
- And the future direction of Restoration: where God is leading us next

Each day includes a simple prayer focus and a tangible action step. We don't want this to be a season of ideas alone, but of embodied faith, small acts of obedience, quiet courage, gentle invitations, and hidden service.

Our hope is not merely that we would "do Lent," but that Lent would do something in us.

We are praying that:

- Our church would be marked by deeper love and greater unity.
- Our people would grow in courage and compassion.
- Our children and students would be rooted in Christ.
- Our Easter gatherings would be filled with life and new beginnings.
- And that together we would discern where God is leading Restoration in this next chapter.

Lent invites us to slow down. To listen. To repent. To hope again. And ultimately, to walk with Jesus toward resurrection.

Let's enter this season together, abiding in Christ and living out His love for the good of all. Would you consider beginning each day with an intentional moment to reflect? I encourage you to keep each prayer prompt before you throughout the day and do your best to put the prompt into action. There is an appendix of simple, inexpensive ideas at the end to help spur your prayers into actions.

With hope,

Ross

WEEK 1

RETURNING TO CHRIST

Day 1 – Ash Wednesday (Wednesday, February 18)

Focus: Repentance & Realignment

Pray: Lord, search me. Where am I misaligned with Your heart? Reorder my loves.

Act: Fast from one comfort today. Let the hunger remind you to pray.

Day 2 (Thursday, February 19)

Focus: Loving God with All Your Heart

Pray: Jesus, soften my heart toward You.

Act: Write a short note of gratitude to God and place it somewhere visible.

Day 3 (Friday, February 20)

Focus: Loving God with All Your Mind

Pray: Renew my thinking. Guard me from lies.

Act: Replace 10 minutes of scrolling with Scripture reading.

Day 4 (Saturday, February 21)

Focus: Loving God with All Your Soul

Pray: Awaken my inner life with You.

Act: Sit in silence for 5 minutes.

Day 5 (Sunday, February 22)

Focus: Loving God with All Your Strength

Pray: Use my energy for what matters most.

Act: Sit somewhere new at church and meet someone new.

Day 6 (Monday, February 23)

Focus: Whole-Life Surrender

Pray: Everything I am is Yours.

Act: Open your hands physically and pray a prayer of surrender.

Day 7 (Tuesday, February 24)

Focus: Joy in Christ

Pray: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation.

Act: Share one testimony of God's faithfulness.

WEEK 2

UNITY IN DIVISIVE TIMES

Day 8 (Wednesday, February 25)

Focus: Humility

Pray: Free me from the need to be right.

Act: Let someone else have the last word.

Day 9 (Thursday, February 26)

Focus: Loving Those Who Disagree

Pray: Teach me to love beyond opinion.

Act: Pray specifically for someone you disagree with.

Day 10 (Friday, February 27)

Focus: Guarding Our Words

Pray: Set a guard over my mouth, Lord.

Act: Refuse to speak negatively about anyone today.

Day 11 (Saturday, February 28)

Focus: Peacemaking

Pray: Make me an instrument of Your peace.

Act: Initiate reconciliation where needed.

Day 12 (Sunday, March 1)

Focus: Unity in the Church

Pray: Make us one, as You are one.

Act: Introduce yourself to someone you don't know well at church.

Day 13 (Monday, March 2)

Focus: Listening Well

Pray: Give me ears to hear.

Act: Ask a thoughtful question and truly listen.

Day 14 (Tuesday, March 3)

Focus: Communion & Unity

Pray: Thank God for the diversity of His body.

Act: Do one hidden act of service or a random blessing for someone.

WEEK 3

COURAGE & INVITATION

Day 15 (Wednesday, March 4)

Focus: Boldness

Pray: Make me courageous in love.

Act: Text one person you could invite to Easter.

Day 16 (Thursday, March 5)

Focus: Compassion for the Lost

Pray: Break my heart for what breaks Yours.

Act: Pray by name for three people far from Christ.

Day 17 (Friday, March 6)

Focus: Sensitivity to the Spirit

Pray: Interrupt my day with divine appointments.

Act: Slow down in one public space and ask God who to notice.

Day 18 (Saturday, March 7)

Focus: Invitation as Hospitality

Pray: Help me open my life, not just an event.

Act: Invite someone to coffee or a meal.

Day 19 (Sunday, March 8)

Focus: Freedom from Fear

Pray: Deliver me from fear of rejection.

Act: Share why church matters to you with someone you've been praying for.

Day 20 (Monday, March 9)

Focus: Trusting God with Results

Pray: You bring the growth.

Act: Leave a church invite card somewhere intentional.

Day 21 (Tuesday, March 10)

Focus: Celebration

Pray: Thank God for every "yes" and every "not yet."

Act: Pray over those you're thinking about inviting to Easter.

WEEK 4

OUR COMMUNITY & EASTER

Day 22 (Wednesday, March 11)

Focus: Receptive Hearts in Our City

Pray: Prepare hearts before we arrive.

Act: Pray while driving through your neighborhood.

Day 23 (Thursday, March 12)

Focus: Eggstravaganza

Pray: Use simple fun for eternal impact.

Act: Hand out chocolate or candy to three strangers with a smile.

Day 24 (Friday, March 13)

Focus: The Greater Treasure

Pray: Help us point to Jesus.

Act: Tell someone about the Golden Egg Hunt.

Day 25 (Saturday, March 14)

Focus: The Cross

Pray: Keep us centered on the cross.

Act: Write down one sin Jesus carried for you and thank Him.

Day 26 (Sunday, March 15)

Focus: Easter Morning

Pray: Let resurrection life break in.

Act: Invite someone (preferably with kids) to the Easter Eggstravaganza.

Day 27 (Monday, March 16)

Focus: Hospitality

Pray: Let every guest feel seen.

Act: Do a random act of kindness for someone.

Day 28 (Tuesday, March 17)

Focus: Salvations & Baptisms

Pray: Pray boldly for people to come to Christ.

Act: Share your baptism story.

WEEK 5

OUR NEXT GENERATION

Day 29 (Wednesday, March 18)

Focus: Little Blessings Preschool

Pray: Help us finish strong.

Act: Write a note of encouragement to a teacher.

Day 30 (Thursday, March 19)

Focus: Enrollment for Next Year

Pray: Bring the families You desire.

Act: Share preschool information with one family.

Day 31 (Friday, March 20)

Focus: RC Kids

Pray: Root our children deeply in Christ.

Act: Pray over a child by name.

Day 32 (Saturday, March 21)

Focus: AWANA

Pray: Raise up young disciples grounded in Your Word.

Act: Memorize one verse today.

Day 33 (Sunday, March 22)

Focus: Treehouse Students

Pray: Call students to bold faith.

Act: Send a student an encouraging message.

Day 34 (Monday, March 23)

Focus: Parents

Pray: Strengthen parents to disciple at home.

Act: Pray with your child or for a parent you know.

Day 35 (Tuesday, March 24)

Focus: Generational Faithfulness

Pray: Let faith echo through generations.

Act: Share a faith story with someone younger.

WEEK 6

DISCERNING OUR FUTURE

Day 36 (Wednesday, March 25)

Focus: Discernment

Pray: Lead us where You are leading.

Act: Pray for God's leading regarding Restoration's future.

Day 37 (Thursday, March 26)

Focus: Space & Provision

Pray: Provide what we need for the mission.

Act: Pray for God's provision over what's next for Restoration.

Day 38 (Friday, March 27)

Focus: Missional Clarity

Pray: Keep us aligned with abiding in and living out Your love.

Act: Pray for how our physical spaces can be used for kingdom purposes.

Day 39 (Saturday, March 28)

Focus: Consecration

Pray: Prepare our hearts for Holy Week.

Act: Live out the kingdom ethic of love in a simple act of kindness to a stranger.

HOLY WEEK

Day 40 – Palm Sunday (Sunday, March 29)

Focus: Welcoming the King

Pray: Teach us to receive You rightly.

Act: Begin praying daily for those you will invite next week.

Day 41 (Monday, March 30)

Focus: Cleansing the Temple

Pray: Purify my heart.

Act: Intentionally remove one distraction from your week.

Day 42 (Tuesday, March 31)

Focus: Faithfulness

Pray: Keep me faithful in small things.

Act: Complete one task you've been putting off.

Day 43 (Wednesday, April 1)

Focus: Surrender

Pray: Not my will, but Yours be done.

Act: Pray this sentence at three different moments today.

Day 44 – Maundy Thursday (Thursday, April 2)

Focus: Servant Love

Pray: Teach me to love as You have loved.

Act: Perform one intentional act of humble service for a family member.

Day 45 – Good Friday (Friday, April 3)

Focus: The Cross

Pray: Spend time in quiet gratitude for Jesus' sacrifice.

Act: Fast one meal and use that time to pray.

Day 46 – Holy Saturday (Saturday, April 4)

Focus: Waiting in Hope

Pray: Help me trust You in silence.

Act: Sit in prayerful silence for 10 minutes.

Day 47 – Easter Sunday (Sunday, April 5)

Focus: Resurrection & Renewal

Pray: Make all things new — in me, in us, and in our city.

Act: Celebrate loudly. Invite someone to lunch. Tell someone, "He is risen!"

Restoration Church Mission

Restoration Church exists to make disciples who together are learning to abide in and live out the love of Christ for the good of all.

APPENDIX A: Acts of kindness ideas

Simple & Anonymous

- \$5 coffee gift card tucked under a windshield with a note: *"You are seen. Have a great day."*
- Dollar store chocolate bar with a handwritten encouragement note.
- Quarters taped to a laundromat machine with: *"First load's on me."*
- Prepaid car wash code left at the pay station.
- Leave exact change at a parking meter with a sticky note: *"Grace for your day."*
- Venmo/CashApp \$5 to a friend unexpectedly with: *"Thought of you today."*

Words That Lift

- Handwritten encouragement cards mailed to 3 people.
- Sticky notes in library books that say, *"You matter."*
- Thank-you note to a teacher, coach, or childcare worker.
- Leave an encouraging note for your server with the tip.
- Write a note to your mail carrier or garbage collector.

Public Kindness

- Pay for the person behind you in a drive-thru.
- Bring donuts to a local fire station or police department.
- Drop off cookies at a hospital nurse station.
- Hand out bottled water on a warm day.
- Give flowers (single stems are cheap!) to 3 strangers.

For Kids & Families

- Tape a dollar to a small toy at the dollar store with: *"Pick me!"*
- Hide small treat bags at a playground with a note about joy.
- Deliver sidewalk chalk to a neighbor family.
- Buy a children's book and donate it to a waiting room.

Service-Oriented

- Offer to babysit for free for a tired parent.
- Mow or shovel for a neighbor anonymously.
- Take someone's trash cans up without being asked.

- Bring coffee to a coworker unexpectedly.
- Text: “*How can I pray for you today?*” — and actually follow up.

Gospel-Connected (Subtle but Meaningful)

- Attach a Scripture card to a small treat.
- Leave a note that says: “*Jesus loves you — and so do we.*”
- Include an Easter invite with a small chocolate cross.