WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

PRAYER & FASTING INITIATIVE

WEEK 1
FOCUS – PRAYER | JANUARY 1 – 7
PRAYER, LEAD MINISTRY

Practice patterning your daily prayers after the Model Prayer (Matthew 6:5-15).

Scriptures: Psalm 66:18-19, Mark 11:22-24, 1 John 3:21-22, John 16:24, Luke 18:1 and Hebrews 4:16

- Pray for the unity of the universal church and Westside specifically.
- Pray for Pastor and Lady Atchison and their family.
- Pray for the Deacon Council, Ministers, Servant Leaders, and their spouses.
- Pray that the Westside family/congregation will love one another.
- List today's blessings and pray a prayer of thanksgiving for each.
- Do something to Serve God, Share Christ, or Love People that takes you outside of your comfort zone and requires risk.

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

PRAYER & FASTING INITIATIVE

We are consecrating ourselves through prayer and fasting from **January 1 – 31**. Matthew 28:10–20, guiding scripture through this 31-Day Journey of Faith.

Consecration separates persons or things to God for His purpose(s). Leviticus 19:2 says, "You shall be holy, for the Lord your God is holy."

BEFORE PRAYING, PAUSE FOR PERSONAL INSPECTION

- Unconfessed sin is a hindrance to answered prayer.
  - Consider Psalm 66:18 and 1 John 1:9.
- Is my greatest affection spiritual?
- Is my life a testimony to Jesus?
- Am I inconsistent in my –
  - Quiet time with God?
  - Giving my tithes and offerings
- Am I surrendered to Him?
- Are my actions helping reach the lost/unchurched?
- Do I have a proper attitude toward my fellow church members?
- Do I engage in conversations that do not honor God?

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

PRAYER & FASTING INITIATIVE

Prayer & Fasting Guidelines

Fasting

- Is voluntary, abstaining from food or activities for spiritual purposes.
- Radically against the flesh and mainstream culture.
- Is purifying and draws us closer to Jesus Christ by surrendering our will for His.
- Should be a regular part of a Christian's life and only unto God (Matthew 6:16-18).
- Read Isaiah Chapter 58, Ezra 8, and Nehemiah 1 before starting your fast.

Fasting Tips

- Pray for strength and focus, significantly if your flesh weakens. A "fast partner" is good.
- Be specific when praying.
- If possible, fast from 5:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Do not jeopardize your health.
    - o Substitute a desired activity (i.e., internet, social media, golf, T.V., video games, shopping, etc.).
- Establish a regular quiet time and location to pray.
- Each Wednesday of this fast, we abstain from food and consume only water or liquid (juice, milk, water, broth, malts, etc.).

Observe the following during the 31 Days of Prayer and Fasting:

- Daily, dedicate 15 minutes to reading God's Word and prayer.
- Attend Sweet Hour of Prayer (S.H.O.P.) 7 – 8 p.m. every Monday.
- Attend either Wednesday Bible Study (12 or 7 p.m.).
- Attend a Sunday Morning Bible Study in-person or hybrid and then attend Sunday Morning Worship at 9:45 a.m.

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

PRAYER & FASTING INITIATIVE

Corporate Prayer – S.H.O.P.

(Sweet Hour of Prayer)

Mondays – 7:00 p.m. (Central Time)

In-Person – Rooms 1136/1137

Conference Call – 346-248-7799,
Meeting ID: 859 0021 9107, Passcode: 312664)
Zoom (http://bit.ly/WBCSHOP)