



21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING

DEVOTIONAL

WEEK 1



SCRIPTURES ABOUT PRAYER

The Bible is full of scriptures about the importance and practice of prayer and fasting. Jesus, though He was God in the flesh, modeled a lifestyle of prayer and intimacy with the Father. As you begin this time of prayer and fasting know that you are not only doing what Jesus did but you are also being obedient to what Christ taught about the power of prayer and fasting. Jesus also made it clear that God rewards openly what is done in private.

May this time draw you closer to the Lord than ever before.

Mark 1:35 (NKJV)

35 Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed.

Matthew 6:6 (NKJV)

6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Matthew 6:17–18 (NKJV)

17 But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18 so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

A GENTLE REMINDER ABOUT FASTING

Fasting is not about earning God's favor, but about drawing closer to Him. God doesn't love us more if we fast and less if we don't, however fasting is a largely untapped source of power and freedom in the life of the believer. Each person should fast prayerfully, wisely, and according to their health and life circumstances. If you have any questions or concerns about fasting please be sure to consult your physician.

4 TYPES OF FASTING

1. Complete Fast - This fast involves abstaining from all food for a set period of time. This type of fast should be done carefully and for a short period of time. We strongly encourage you to stay hydrated by continuing to drink water.

2. Partial Fast - This fast focuses on refraining from food during specific hours of the day, such as skipping one meal or fasting from sunrise to sunset. The time normally used for eating is instead devoted to prayer, Scripture reading, and reflection.

4. Daniel Fast - The Daniel Fast emphasizes eating simple, plant-based foods while avoiding meat, sweets, and rich foods. It is often practiced over a longer period and is paired with intentional prayer and humility before God.

5. Media or Activity Fast - Rather than fasting from food, this fast involves stepping away from distractions such as social media, television, or entertainment. The goal is to create space for listening to God and focusing on spiritual growth.

“Fasting reduces the power of self so that the Holy Spirit can do a more intense work within us.”

-Bill Bright

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DAY 1

A YEAR OF DIVINE OPPORTUNITY

Victor Massey

We have declared 2026 a year of divine opportunity.

What is a divine opportunity? A divine opportunity refers to an event, circumstance, or situation that is orchestrated and arranged by God. These are not random occurrences but are moments intentionally set by God to fulfill a greater purpose in our lives. Divine opportunities often serve as pathways for salvation, deliverance, healing, elevation, and promotion. Through these moments, God provides us with numerous chances to serve Him, contribute positively to humanity, make a meaningful difference, receive blessings, and become a source of blessing to others.

Although divine opportunities may sometimes appear as mere coincidences, they are, in fact, manifestations of God's hand at work within the events and situations of our lives. The purpose behind these orchestrated moments is to bring about God's divine plan and purpose.

One clear example of a divine opportunity is seen in the story of Joseph. It was not a coincidence that Joseph was placed in prison at the very time Pharaoh's chief cupbearer was also imprisoned. This meeting was essential for God's plan for Joseph's life. Later, it became evident that Joseph's encounter with the chief cupbearer was the key that led him to the position God had prepared for him (Genesis 40).

I believe that 2026 will be a year when God acts on our behalf, creating opportunities that further His plans and purposes for our lives in extraordinary ways. Are you prepared?

Prayer: "Lord, open my eyes to recognize divine opportunities and open doors of favor, breakthrough, and divine appointments in Jesus' name".

DAY 2

OPPOSITION TO OPPORTUNITY

Jamie Massey

There is a real opportunity here for great and worthwhile work, even though there are many opponents. **(1 Corinthians 16:9 GNT)**

The Apostle Paul's eagerness to minister in Ephesus was fueled by the tremendous fruit he had already seen there—lives transformed, churches planted, and minds opened to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Yet, Ephesus was notorious for its deep-rooted idolatry; the Temple of Artemis, one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World, dominated both its skyline and its religious life. For Paul, preaching the gospel meant confronting powerful societal norms and entrenched spiritual darkness. The fierce opposition he faced wasn't just casual resistance—it was a coordinated battle against a spiritual stronghold.

In our own lives, as we enter this year stepping boldly into Divine Opportunities, it's crucial to recognize that opposition is not an anomaly but an integral part of opportunity. Like Paul we should embrace resistance as an indicator that we are on the right path.

Seasons marked by divine expansion and unmistakable open doors are frequently accompanied by intense spiritual warfare and testing. The adversary knows that when God's people rise in influence and impact, he must escalate his attacks. This reality was confirmed to me in a powerful statement I recently heard: "Problems are prophetic." This concept shifted my perspective dramatically. Many of the most difficult problems I've faced were not mere frustrations, but prophetic signals revealing God's imminent intervention.

Moving into 2026, let us intentionally confront every opposition with steadfast courage and contagious joy, anchoring ourselves in the truth that the Lord Himself is declaring prophetic opportunities.

Prayer: "Heavenly Father, I embrace the journey into every Divine Opportunity in 2026. No matter what the enemy may throw my way this year, I know I will be victorious in your great name. Amen"

DAY 3

LESSONS FROM DANIEL

Kevin Adkins

Throughout Scripture, God positions His people for divine opportunities—moments that shift destinies, influence nations, and reveal His glory. Daniel's life is a powerful example.

Taken from Jerusalem and placed in Babylon, Daniel didn't arrive in comfort or privilege. Yet even in captivity, God opened doors. Daniel chose faithfulness over compromise, refusing the king's rich foods so he could honor God. His obedience positioned him—he found favor, wisdom, and excellence that distinguished him above all others. Later, when Nebuchadnezzar demanded the interpretation of a dream, Daniel sought God in prayer. God revealed the mystery, and Daniel boldly declared, "There is a God in heaven who reveals secrets." His humility elevated him—he was promoted, protected, and continually used by God.

Divine opportunities often come disguised as challenges, uncomfortable environments, or impossible situations. Daniel's story shows us that our role is to remain faithful, prayerful, and courageous. God's role is to open the doors no man can shut.

I remember when Tracey and I made the decision to move to Huntsville from Texas. We knew it was a divine opportunity. We knew we had heard from God.

But this divine opportunity came after lots of waiting. We volunteered in our church in Texas as Children's Pastors for 16 years knowing we were called to full time ministry. We learned a lot in our waiting and God took that season to prepare us for this season.

Today, you may feel overlooked or out of place. But like Daniel, God may have positioned you in your workplace, community, or crisis for influence and impact. Stay faithful. Pray boldly. Speak truth. Your moment will come.

Prayer: Lord help me to be sensitive and discerning to the opportunity that you place before me. Help me to be faithful in the season I am in.

DAY 4

TRUST IN THE LORD

Cliff Alger

7 “Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, And whose hope is the LORD.
(Jeremiah 17:7 (NKJV))

This verse is contrasted with the previous verse, which says, “5 Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart departs from the LORD.”

Throughout the Word of God, we are encouraged time and again to trust in God and not in ourselves or even in other people. It’s not that we can’t lean on or depend on other people from time to time, or that we shouldn’t have any confidence whatsoever in ourselves and our own abilities; it’s that we should be careful not to trust in ourselves or in man more than we trust in the Lord.

See, man’s strength, man’s ability, and man’s resources will only get us so far.

Man’s strength has limitations, but God’s strength is limitless. Again and again, we see in Scripture where God brought His people to the absolute end of their own abilities, where they had no choice but to trust Him or perish.

I think of the children of Israel standing before the Red Sea with Pharaoh and the Egyptians in hot pursuit (Exodus 14). It was an impossible situation indeed. I also think of the three Hebrew boys who were thrown into the burning fiery furnace (Daniel 3). Without God’s help, they were no match for the flames of that furnace.

There will come times in our lives when we reach the end of our own strength and ability to move forward, but that’s where God does His best work. As we move into 2026 and face the divine opportunities that will stand before each one of us, may we look to God and trust Him to give us the strength, power, and resources we need.

Prayer: Lord, help me trust You as never before and ultimately look to You to meet my every need this year. I want You to get all the glory. Amen.

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DAY 5

MAKE THE MOST OF THE MOMENT

David Humphrey

“Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.”

(Ephesians 5:15–16 (NIV))

Paul reminds us to live with spiritual awareness, recognizing that every moment surrendered to God becomes sacred. As a worship pastor, I see this each Sunday. What seems like “just another service” is actually a divine opportunity—a moment where Heaven meets Earth. God never wastes worship.

Through every song, prayer, and quiet moment, He draws hearts closer to Him.

Divine opportunities often come quietly; a lyric that stirs your spirit, a prayer that feels personal, or simply sensing God’s nearness. Each time we gather, we step into a moment God has already prepared. Worship isn’t something we watch; it’s something we enter.

Every Sunday, God invites us: “Will you meet with Me today?” We may not know what He plans to do, but we can be ready.

1. Come Expectant.

2. Be Present.

3. Stay Open.

Every moment in His presence can change a life.

Prayer: Father, thank You for every opportunity to meet with You. Open my eyes to see Your work and help me respond with faith.

In Jesus’ name, Amen.

DAY 6

WHEN LOSS BECOMES OPPORTUNITY

Chandler Sims

23 And Elijah took the child and brought him down from the upper room into the house, and gave him to his mother. And Elijah said, “See, your son lives!”
(1 Kings 17:23 - NKJV)

Divine opportunities often arrive disguised as loss. In 1 Kings 17, the widow of Zarephath faced what seemed like her final moment of defeat. A drought had left her with only a handful of flour and a little oil just enough for one last meal before everything ran out.

When Elijah asked her to give to him first, it must have felt like losing what little she had left. Yet she chose obedience over fear. What looked like loss became a divine opportunity. Scripture tells us her jar of flour did not run out, and her jug of oil did not fail. God turned surrender into abundance.

If you know me, you know I relate everything to sports. This reminds me of my favorite sports moment of all time. In 2008, Tim Tebow and the Florida Gators suffered a shocking loss to Ole Miss. Championship hopes felt shattered. Instead of letting defeat define them, Tebow stepped to the microphone and delivered his famous speech, “The Promise.” That moment reframed the loss as an opportunity to refocus and recommit. The Gators didn’t lose again and went on to win the national championship.

God often works this way. What feels like a setback may be the very platform He uses to bring breakthrough. In 2026, let’s remember this when losses come and reframe them as God’s divine opportunity.

Prayer: Dear God, help me to not lose heart when all all hope seems lost, I know that nothing is too hard for you. You always have the final word.

DAY 7

ESTHER: GOD'S PLAN Kevin and Tami Winkelman

“God ... has ... called us with a holy calling ... according to His own purpose”
(1 Timothy 1:8-9)

In the book of Esther we see that Haman had an evil plan to annihilate God's people Israel. God had a greater plan to save them: Esther.

God made Esther beautiful, confident, wise, and faith-filled for a reason: to fulfill His plan for His people. Beauty got her in the palace; but it was her faith that led her to call a fast and pray; confidence took her before King Ahasuerus; wisdom gave her words to say to him.

Esther was in a position to save Israel. She aligned herself with the purposes of God and did just that.

God created each of us with characteristics and talents to fulfill His purposes for His kingdom. Just like Esther, we must align ourselves to His purposes, using what He has given us to win the lost and fulfill His plans for His people.

Prayer: Our Father, I am in awe of Your creativity, power, and wisdom. Thank You for making me as You have, for having purposes for me. Use me to win the lost, build Your church, and fulfill all You have for me to do. Give me opportunities, words, actions, and boldness. In Jesus' name I pray.

