

DAYS OF

PRAYER & FASTING

NOVEMBER 19 - 21



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What's Happening? (Schedule)

Wednesday, November 19

**** Corporate Fast & Guide Begins ****

Prayer Walk at Heartland | 6:30 pm

Thursday, November 20

Prayer Walk at Ardrossan Site | 6:30 pm

South West corner of Yellowhead and RR 222

Friday, November 21

Night of Worship | 6:30 pm | West Auditorium

Join us as we break the fast together after the Night of Worship on Friday – we'll enjoy soup and sandwiches. Prayer and Fasting is not just a personal journey, but a communal one, and we look forward to sharing this experience with you.

How Do I Fast?

I want you to know some key things about this week. Why do we fast and pray?

1. Jesus told us to do it.

Fasting and praying go well together because Jesus modeled them for us, the apostles did it, and it's a way of expressing our faith and taking promises of Scripture seriously.

2. It shows we want more of God in our lives.

Fasting and praying are ways to tell God that we are desperate for more of Him in our lives.

3. It's good for us.

Fasting is a profound spiritual practice that enriches our spirit, mind, emotions, and body. It's not just about abstaining from food; it's a cleansing and purifying process that reveals our true priorities and brings us closer to God.

4. It can bring us closer together.

Consider fasting with a friend or small group. Fasting and prayer can be challenging, but when done together, it fosters a sense of unity and togetherness. You can even break the fast together at the Night of Worship, strengthening your bond as a community.

Some examples of fasting:

- Three-day solid food fast
We are inviting everyone to this type of fast if they can
- One meal per day for 1-5 days
- 16-24 hour fast
- Alternative fasts of media or caffeine or sugar – anything that is common in your life

If necessary, check with your physician. Be smart and engage how you can. We want to encourage a healthy relationship with Jesus, yourself, and each other.

You may want a separate journal, or journalling app – somewhere with more space to process your interactions with Jesus.

How to Plan This Week

Prepare for this special week by setting up your schedule in advance. This will help you make the most of the spiritual journey.

1. Focus on God. Fasting is ultimately about Him and not us. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you and lead you. What is He trying to say and show you, and to us as a church?
2. Find your “why.” What do you want to talk to Jesus about during this time?
3. Find a fasting buddy – seriously, who will you fast and pray with?
4. Set some goals of a time, place, and what you are going to fast from.

For example, starting Wednesday, I will fast for three full days and pray with others during lunch.

Ask Jesus to do more than you can ask or imagine!

Here’s some space for you to write in your plan for this week:

1. I am fasting this week because _____

2. I want to talk to Jesus about _____

3. My fasting buddy is _____

4. I am going to fast during this time _____

5. I am going to fast in these places _____

6. I am going to fast from _____

7. I am going to be part of these activities _____

Introduction: Even When We're Distant, God's Love Comes Near

He was at home, but he was utterly lost. King David paced the palace roof with all the power, influence, wealth, and comfort anyone could ever ask for, but he was lost. He was in the wrong place, even though it seemed like the right place. It was a good place, but not the best or the right one. Why? God had given all these things to David. David should be out fighting God's battles, in the middle of God's mission, outside of the comforts of the palace. The mission wasn't over, yet David's heart kept him off mission and away from God's best. David dulled his heart and mind and then blinded his eyes to goodness.

We're looking at Psalm 51 during these days of prayer and fasting. We want to ponder and pray over the greatness of God's steadfast love. To grasp this love is to be gripped by the tragic failings of David and to realize how easily we can be just like him. In David's lostness, he didn't lose his salvation, but he lost his focus, purpose, and purity of love for God and God's Kingdom. In his lostness, David makes choices that are dull to God's guidance. In David's distance from God, even though he's home, he chooses selfishness, comfort, lust, sexual immorality, lying, deceit, betrayal, and even death of an innocent man. You see, a lot can go wrong when we appear to be in a good place, but our hearts are far from the Lord.

Interestingly, God's steadfast love for David was never distant. David was lost, but the Lord saw him, loved him, and came close to him. God's love, mercy, and grace are steadfast and active. Even though David dulled himself and distanced himself from God's guidance and love, God's heart was still close to him. God guides the prophet Nathan to David. Why?

God does this to expose the secrets of David's heart and his twisted motives, desires, and actions. God doesn't do this to condemn David but to express His steadfast love to him. How does he respond to this? God exposes and confronts David because He loves him with a deep, loyal love. This love shows us what God is like! How does David respond? Well, that's what Psalm 51 is. It's David's response to the loyal love that is steadfast forever and seeks out people like David. God's love is steadfast. It's all over the pages of the Bible. We're going to dive into the steadfast love of God, inviting Him to minister to us, to come closer to us. Not only come closer to us as individuals, but also closer to our families, our small groups, our friends, our co-workers, our

community folks, and even strangers around the world. We're going to pray that God's steadfast love will be our roots, our transforming power, and our mission to the very ends of the world. Prayer and fasting are not just acts of humility, but powerful tools that can transform us, bringing us closer to God and His love. It's us humbly coming to Him for more of Him and less of us. It's us inviting Him to expose us, confront us, change us, and love us with His loyal, steadfast love.

The ultimate expression of this steadfast love is the Lord Jesus Christ. We pray and fast, and we look to Psalm 51 to invite the Lord Jesus to come even closer. Read through Psalm 51. Read through it many times. The prayer guide will focus on a section of this Psalm for reflection and prayer. There will be prayer prompts in the prayer guide. There will be questions for you to consider. We want you to come nearer to Jesus. We want you to pray for Heartland. We want Jesus to come nearer to us. Amazingly, God's steadfast love can accomplish this and so much more. The Almighty God of the universe has come near, does not give up on us, and wants to bring His steadfast love closer to everyone.

Let's lean into God's steadfast love together this week and enjoy Him together!

Psalm 51 (NLT)

For the choir director: A psalm of David, regarding the time Nathan the prophet came to him after David had committed adultery with Bathsheba.

¹ Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love. Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins.

² Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin.

³ For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night.

⁴ Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just.

⁵ For I was born a sinner—yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.

⁶ But you desire honesty from the womb, teaching me wisdom even there.

⁷ Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

⁸ Oh, give me back my joy again; you have broken me—now let me rejoice.

⁹ Don't keep looking at my sins. Remove the stain of my guilt.

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me.

¹¹ Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.

¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you.

¹³ Then I will teach your ways to rebels, and they will return to you.

¹⁴ Forgive me for shedding blood, O God who saves; then I will joyfully sing of your forgiveness.

¹⁵ Unseal my lips, O Lord, that my mouth may praise you.

¹⁶ You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one. You do not want a burnt offering.

¹⁷ The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

¹⁸ Look with favor on Zion and help her; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

¹⁹ Then you will be pleased with sacrifices offered in the right spirit—with burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings. Then bulls will again be sacrificed on your altar.

Day 1: Mercy on the Move

Prayer of Invitation: Find a good place to spend time with Jesus. Make sure you can focus and cut out as many distractions as possible. Bring yourself fully into God's presence now. Take some slow breaths, in and out. Invite the Lord Jesus to come close to you and to guide you right now.

Scripture Reflection: Psalm 51:1-4

- ¹ Have mercy on me, O God, because of your unfailing love.
Because of your great compassion, blot out the stain of my sins.
- ² Wash me clean from my guilt. Purify me from my sin.
- ³ For I recognize my rebellion; it haunts me day and night.
- ⁴ Against you, and you alone, have I sinned; I have done what is evil in your sight. You will be proved right in what you say, and your judgment against me is just.

God caught, confronted, and exposed David. God sent the prophet Nathan to David with secret knowledge. David tried to cover up his twisted actions. God saw absolutely everything. God sent the prophet Nathan to David with this hidden knowledge to confront, expose, and reveal his rebellion. God did this in love. This wakeup call awakened David to his evil heart, motives, and actions, but more than that, it awakened him to the vast, unmeasured, boundless ocean of God's steadfast love. David knew this love and grew distant and dull toward it — to the Lord. Like David, we can grow dull to the Lord. It can happen with a big blow-up or in slow, subtle ways. We know, or experience God's love, or maybe it's just intellectual. The mercy of God's steadfast love is moving towards you right now. It's here now. It's available to you today. What is mercy? Mercy is compassion or forgiveness shown toward someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm. God's mercy pours out to David. Friends, God has mercy for all of us.

It is within His power to punish or harm all of us; however, mercy is His action and motivation. Wow! No matter where you are, or what you've done, or who you are.

God Almighty moves closer to you, to us, in mercy. When we're like David in our rebellions, God's mercy comes close to us. Even when our motives and actions haunt us, even when other people judge, condemn, hate, walk away,

ignore, cut us out, or demand justice, God moves near in mercy, in love, in presence, and in grace. Our messes don't deserve mercy, but God gives it. This story points to the greater story of Jesus Christ. You see, the best way that God moves near to people is through the merciful gift of His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. He doesn't treat us as our sins deserve, BUT He treats His perfect Son as OUR sins deserve. He doesn't sweep sin under the carpet. He confronts, exposes, and deals with it through Jesus. David's prayers in Psalm 51:1-5 point to Jesus. How do we see God's love in Jesus? Jesus moves from heaven to humble humanity for rescue. How do we see God's mercy in Jesus? Jesus takes on the punishment and harm that we deserve. The Word of God is mercy. The Bible is full of stories of God's movement of mercy. Friends, the gift of the Holy Spirit is the mercy of God. We are not alone. Harm, punishment, and separation should be our lot; however, Christ has come, lived, died, risen, and given His very Holy Spirit.

God's mercy — the best expression of mercy ever. Jesus is coming again soon. Jesus will change time as we know it. History will come to an end, and Jesus has changed — and will continue to change—the world's story. Jesus is coming again and everything that we know will be radically changed forever. The mercy of God's steadfast love will come down out of Heaven and make all things new — forever! The return of Jesus Christ is mercy.

Prayer Exercises

How does this passage confront you today?

Are there any places of distance, rebellion, or secrets in your life? Will you share those with Jesus today? Confession is important, repentance is a turning away from these things and then we can ask God for forgiveness — which He is happy to give to you now.

How does this passage expose you today?

Where has God's knowledge of your life exposed lies you believe about yourself or others? Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal lies so that you can renounce those lies and believe the truth that God's steadfast love is for you right now.

How are you experiencing God's mercy moving near to you today?

Even when we want to run away or be defensive, or whatever our fight-or-flight response may be, God keeps moving near in His vast mercy and love.

Personal Response and Prayer

Read through today's Scripture passage again and pay attention to the Holy Spirit prompting a response in your heart. Pray and respond to Him now, with full assurance that He is near you and loves you.

How can we pray this passage for Heartland?

Ask the Holy Spirit how you could pray over Heartland with this Scripture passage. Take the time you need to do that now.

How can we pray this passage for every generation and the nations?

Heartland has a variety of ministries for adults. Spend time praying for the adults of Heartland and the ministries for them. You can pray for women's ministry, men's ministry, small groups, Connex groups, people's hearts to serve, give, share, be open, and follow the Lord's leadership. Pray for the adults in Strathcona County to experience the mercy of God.

Pray for Bezulu and the mercy ministries they provide to the people of Eswatini.

Pray for SAM Ministries and their Steps to Stop Hunger program. Pray that the mercy of God would come to them and through them in powerful ways in Mozambique and Brazil.

[illegible]

Day 2: The God of Fresh Starts

Prayer of Invitation: Find a good time and a good place to spend time with the Lord. Try to cut out all distractions so you can focus on this time with God. He is excited to be with you!

Take some deep breaths in and out. Slow yourself down and invite the fullness of God to be with you right now.

Scripture Reflection: Psalm 51:5-11

⁵ For I was born a sinner—yes, from the moment my mother conceived me.

⁶ But you desire honesty from the womb, teaching me wisdom even there.

⁷ Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

⁸ Oh, give me back my joy again; you have broken me—now let me rejoice.

⁹ Don't keep looking at my sins. Remove the stain of my guilt.

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me.

¹¹ Do not banish me from your presence, and don't take your Holy Spirit from me.

David is confronted and exposed, and it's really a grace to him. One of the things it exposes is who he really is—a recognition of the limits and brokenness of his own humanity. David sees himself correctly. He thought he was so high and mighty, but God's loving confrontation and exposure have opened David's eyes to the fact that he was born a sinner. It's also opening his eyes to the stains of his guilt. Broken-hearted David gets hope from God. God won't leave him alone. Yes, David has been lost and distant; however, God won't give up on him. God won't give up on you. Praise His great heart and love! We talk about sin, and it's good to grasp what it is. It's not just bad stuff we do. Sin is missing the goal. God creates humanity in His image. To be made in God's image is to be like Him in everything — how we handle everything about who we are and why we're here.

Our goal is to be like the One who made us. David missed that goal. This story shows us how badly he missed that goal. He misses the goal, and then the

corruption of his heart cracks open, unleashing devastating consequences. The twisting of relationships with God, himself, and others happens because of his choices. Lies, murder, deceit, and death are just some of the distortions that result from David missing the goal. Praise the Lord that this is not the end of the story. You see, God is a God of fresh starts. Psalm 51 points to these fresh starts. How amazing is that!

Fresh starts and new creation is available, offered, and constant — like waves upon waves of a mighty ocean, the relentless waves of God's steadfast love and heart are available for newness. God's Word tells us that God's mercies are new every morning. We can have confidence in God's character. We can have confidence that Jesus Christ has come and that He is the fresh start humanity needs. Jesus Christ is Lord, and His fresh vitality never diminishes; it never fails; it never gives up; it's constantly there.

Hope is here right now in Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit, in the Father's steadfast love!

God doesn't treat us as our sins deserve. God's steadfast love makes fresh starts available to you, right here, right now. He purifies. He washes us clean. He gives joy back. He removes the stains of our guilt. He creates new hearts. He provides a loyal spirit because He is profoundly loyal. He happily stays close to us and remains and abides with us, through His very Holy Spirit.

Prayer Exercises

How does this passage confront you today?

Ask the Holy Spirit to show you any areas of unbelief in your life. Offer those to Him now.

How does this passage expose you today?

How is hopelessness impacting you today? Ask the Holy Spirit to show you any ways it's impacting you and then ask the Holy Spirit for hope. Ask the Holy Spirit to wash over you and any areas of hopelessness today.

How are you experiencing God's fresh starts for you today?

¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me. Ask the Lord for fresh starts in any areas that you sense a need for newness.

Personal Response and Prayer

Read through today's Scripture passage again and pay attention to the Holy Spirit prompting a response in your heart. Pray and respond to Him now, with full assurance that He can make all things new and that Jesus Christ is with you.

How can we pray this passage for Heartland?

Slowly read over today's Scripture passage again and ask the Holy Spirit to prompt you to see how you can pray this passage over the people of Heartland. Take time to do that now.

How can we pray this passage for every generation and the nations?

Pray for Alpha.

Pray for our 55+ adults that their hearts for God would grow, their hearts for prayer would ignite, and that they would be active in using their wisdom to bless younger generations.

Pray for New Beginnings mission in Puerto Vallarta. Pray that the leadership team would grow, that their influence would increase, and that Jesus' hope would pour out through their service and their messages.

Pray for the Papavero's in Spain as they work with the Spanish people for fresh starts through Jesus Christ.

Ask the Holy Spirit if there are any other ways that you can pray today — take the time to do that now.

[illegible]

Day 3: Compassionate Communication

Prayer of Invitation: Welcome back! God is delighted to spend time with you. Invite the fullness of God's love and presence to embrace you now. He is with you. Invite His guidance and grace to lead you now.

Scripture Reflection: Psalm 51:12-19

¹² Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you.

¹³ Then I will teach your ways to rebels, and they will return to you.

¹⁴ Forgive me for shedding blood, O God who saves; then I will joyfully sing of your forgiveness.

¹⁵ Unseal my lips, O Lord, that my mouth may praise you.

¹⁶ You do not desire a sacrifice, or I would offer one. You do not want a burnt offering.

¹⁷ The sacrifice you desire is a broken spirit. You will not reject a broken and repentant heart, O God.

¹⁸ Look with favor on Zion and help her; rebuild the walls of Jerusalem.

¹⁹ Then you will be pleased with sacrifices offered in the right spirit— with burnt offerings and whole burnt offerings. Then bulls will again be sacrificed on your altar.

Do you see the movement? The movement of this whole Psalm goes from God's steadfast love for David, into the depths of David's soul, and then back out to God's love, His action, and His Kingdom for other people. God wants to confront us, expose us, help us, and create newness internally. Then He wants to keep the movement going — to keep the mission going. His steadfast love won't stop with us.

David was distant and off mission, BUT this propelled him back outwards into God's mission! He was lost, and now he's been found by God — refreshed and empowered to express the greatness of God's steadfast love outwardly! What about you?

Will you praise God for His steadfast love for you? Will you proclaim the goodness of God to other people? Sometimes praising God and talking about His goodness can be hard.

If we depend on our own feelings, emotions, or strength, our hearts will turn back towards ourselves. We so often default to where we find David at the beginning of this story. We get tunnel vision about our little kingdom rather than the Kingdom of God and the mission of God. God came near to David through His mercy and the fresh start that He offered him. The Holy Spirit comes close to us to express His compassionate communication and love in action. Love is emotion, and it is action. We see this most clearly in Jesus Christ. Jesus is mercy, fresh starts, and the compassionate communication of God Almighty. Jesus came, lived, died, and rose again!

Death couldn't defeat Him — God's action broke the bonds of death, and He rose! Jesus left the grave in resurrection power, inaugurating a new humanity. Mercy moves us, and this is the ultimate fresh start. It allows us to become radically new — new creatures, in fact. We can have new hearts, new love, new compassion. It's not ours; it's alien to the human heart unless Jesus makes us new. This love and compassion are for us and then for the world that is rebellious, like David. The selfish qualities we see in David are in us and in the people around us. God rescues us and transforms us so that we can love this rebellious, chaotic, distant-from-God world. He gives us a posture of love and compassion. He wants us to be His compassionate communication to the people everywhere around us. It's not a human love, it's a divine love, a Holy love from the very heart of Heaven. Will you be God's compassionate communication to the desperately lost world around you?

Prayer Exercises

How does this passage confront you today?

Have you been trying to love strangers and other people with your own love? Will you ask the Holy Spirit to fill you with His steadfast love for the people and world around you?

How does this passage expose you today?

David started by being off mission and preoccupied with himself. Where have you been off mission and preoccupied with yourself and your stuff? Admit that to God today and ask for a new sense of God's mission for you and your life.

How are you experiencing God's love for people around you today?

Is it cold, hard, disinterested, passionate, curious, excited, or compassionate? Take the pulse of your heart towards other people today and talk to Jesus about it.

Personal Response and Prayer

Read through the Scripture passage again now. Respond in prayer to the things that the Holy Spirit prompts you with.

How can we pray this passage for Heartland?

Read over today's Scripture passage again and pay attention to what the Holy Spirit highlights for you. Take note of these highlights and pray them for Heartland today.

How can we pray this passage for every generation and the nations?

Pray for Encounter Sports and Encounter Homeschool as they reach people around our community.

Pray for Shelter Canada and for the teams from Heartland going to El Salvador.

Pray for our ministries to children through Heartland Kids.

Pray for our ministries to youth through Refuge.

Pray for our ministries to young adults here at Heartland and beyond.

Pray for a mighty awakening in our community, especially at Christmas time.

Pray that people in our community would be sick of their own selfishness and search for answers in Jesus Christ.

[illegible]

What's Next?

Some final thoughts, this prayer guide just scratched the surface of all that God has for you in this Psalm. Keep engaging God in Scripture; use the SMORP tool, in appendix 1, to take time with this Psalm, then with other Psalms and other parts of Scripture. You could engage God by using the SMORP tool in Colossians. We've put the praying Colossians guide in here as well. Praying over Scripture and praying Scripture is so powerful. It changes us and draws us closer to God. It shapes our hearts and our minds to the will, ways, and thoughts of God Himself. It welcomes the Holy Spirit into our inner worlds so that He rules there, and then He emboldens us to love and act like the Lord Jesus! Remarkable stuff!!

Keep leaning into God's steadfast love! He is coming near now for you, for us, for our community, and for the world!

One more thing: please join us at the Night of Worship on Friday, November 21 — let's celebrate God's steadfast love together, take communion together, and break the fast together.

Appendix 1 — Praying with Scripture Tool

S.M.O.R.P.

S.M.O.R.P. is a simple acronym to help us focus on a passage and learn more about God and what He has for us in His Word.

Scripture — reflection, memorization, reading, observation; something learned about God and His ways.

Message — correction, direction, encouragement, promise, wisdom.

Obedience — what God wants you to do about a correction or direction.

Repentance — not just confession, but a turn of direction.

Prayer — praise, gratitude, worship, intercession.

Appendix 2 — Gratitude and Prayer Guide

Thank God and pray using Colossians 1:9–14. Pray it over Heartland, yourself, your family, friends, and relationships. Personalize each section with names or specific needs. Keep on praying these prayers over Heartland and all the various ministries and relationships that God has given to us as a church.

Prayer

Pray for Spiritual Insight (v. 9)

“... that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will ...”

Prayer: “Lord, fill us/me with the knowledge of Your will. Give us/me spiritual wisdom and understanding through Your Holy Spirit.”

Pray for a God-Pleasing Life (v. 10)

“... that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please Him in every way ...”

Prayer: “Help us/me walk in a way that honours You. Let our/my actions, thoughts, and choices bring You joy.”

Pray for Fruitfulness and Growth (v. 10)

“... bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God ...”

Prayer: “May Heartland/my life bear fruit through good works. Help Heartland/me grow deeper in knowing You.”

Pray for Strength and Endurance (v. 11)

“... being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might ...”

Prayer: “Strengthen us/me with Your power. Give us/me endurance and patience, filled with joy.”

Pray with Gratitude (v. 12)

“... giving joyful thanks to the Father ...”

Prayer: “Thank You, Father, for making us/me worthy to share in the inheritance of Your people.”

Declare Deliverance and Redemption (vs. 13–14)

“... He has rescued us from the dominion of darkness ...”

Prayer: “Thank You for rescuing us/me from darkness and bringing us/me into the Kingdom of Your Son. We/I praise You for the forgiveness and redemption we/I have through Jesus.”

Appendix 3 — Praying for Heartland

Elders, Staff, & Interns

Church Finances

Marriages

Heartland Kids (Nursery to Grade 6)

Junior High & High School

Young Adults 18-25

Single Adults 25-40 & 40+

Adults 55+

Worship

Community Impact

Life Groups and Connex Groups

Women

Men

Guest Services

Appendix 4 — Praying for Healing

If you would like prayer for healing at the Night of Worship, please prepare yourself by working through the following questions:

- For what specifically are you seeking healing? Is the root of the issue spiritual, physical, emotional, or psychological in nature?
- How has this situation affected your relationship with God? How have you seen Him at work in this?
- Are there lifestyle or relational changes that God wants you to make that could enhance or improve your health? Unconfessed sin, living in continual disobedience, and unforgiveness could hinder your healing. Please meditate on the following scriptures for guidance and clarity:

Romans 12:1-2

1 Corinthians 7:3-4

2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1

Matthew 5:21-24

James 5:14-16

Colossians 3:1-11

1 Peter 3:7

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Ask God to reveal any areas of sin or unforgiveness that you need to address.

Are you willing to deal with these things? Take time to confess, repent, and forgive accordingly.

Consider your willingness to surrender to God's plan for your life in this situation. How will you honour, praise, and pursue Him if you are healed? How will you honour, praise, and pursue Him if you are not?

Appendix 5 — Praying the Armour of God

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms (Ephesians 6:12).

Scripture tells us that Satan's purposes are to steal, kill, and destroy (John 10:10). The moment we handed our life over to the Lord Jesus Christ we joined the army of God. We are engaged in a battle, the greatest battle ever fought. Fortunately, we know who has the victory — Jesus Christ — and His followers are victors in Him. Daily, the enemy prowls around looking for those he can snatch, blind, and deceive. Until the Lord returns, the battle will go on, and it is our responsibility to take up our weapon of warfare — PRAYER. It is on our knees that we fight the greatest battle.

As you engage in spiritual warfare, pray:

- To put on the full armour of God (Ephesians 6:10-18):
 - The belt of truth
 - The breastplate of righteousness
 - Your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace
 - The shield of faith
 - The helmet of salvation
 - The sword of the Spirit, the Word of God
- That the strongholds of the enemy in your own life would be destroyed by the power of Jesus Christ.
- For protection from all the schemes that the enemy may have to destroy you and your ministry.
- To take your stand against the enemy and stand firm declaring the victory you have in Jesus Christ.
- Against any plans for destruction that Satan may have for the ministry of Heartland.

