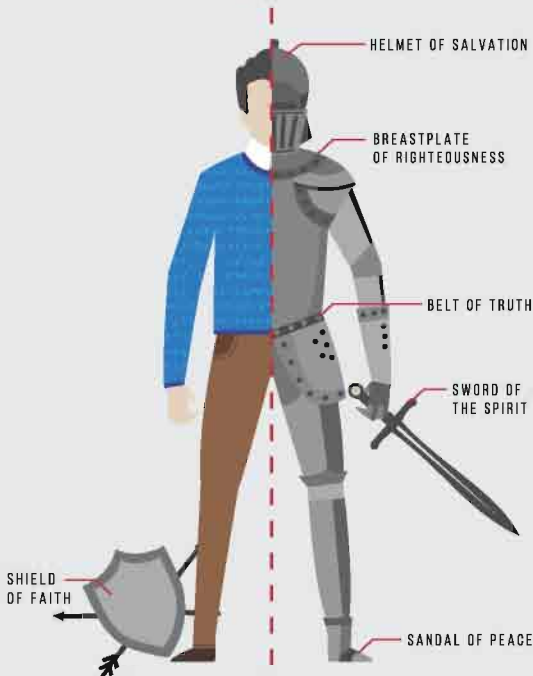


21 DAYS TOGETHER STRONGER

DANIEL FASTING & PRAYING

JANUARY 19 - FEBRUARY 08, 2015



Shalom,

Give thanks for His faithfulness in our life throughout 2014. As we enter 2015, we would like to encourage everyone to have expectations and hope in God by dedicating 21 days Daniel Praying and Fasting from 19 January to 8 February 2015.

During the next 21 days, Daniel Fasting and Praying Guide Book will guide us in learning about twenty-one different bible characters. This book will give us understanding about the strengths of twenty-one mighty men and women of God in the bible. When we wholeheartedly praying, fasting and applying the strengths of these characters in our life, we will be together stronger as a body of Christ. Together, we will experience breakthrough and movement in our personal life, work life, family, church, community, and our nation.

Our prayer and hope are for IFGF congregations around the world to have a personal encounter with God and to experience stronger, healthy spiritual and physical life in 2015. With the spirit of Together Stronger, let us experience a stronger walk with God through Daniel Praying and Fasting 21 Days.

Together stronger,
Pdt. Hanna Kristanto, M.Th
Vice President – Equipping

Greetings, beloved brothers and sisters!

It's good to enter this new year of 2015 together with you. I believe that each of us is full of joy and hope for this year of 'Together Stronger'.

In this beginning of the year, it is a perfect moment for us to take time focusing ourselves to seek the Lord, receive His heart for us and surrender our will to Him. When we dedicate our life and all our plans into His hands, I believe that He will give us strength and wisdom to walk our path in a new journey with Christ together.

The IFGF Pray Department has provided us a guide for the 21 Days Daniel Prayer & Fasting which will start on January 19 to February 8, 2015. We can learn from 21 individuals from the Bible how God strengthened them that their lives became impactful to others.

I hope that all of you, IFGF worldwide congregation, can experience a deeper personal encounter with God through this praying and fasting season and that you will be refreshed to live strong in His grace.

Together Stronger,
Rev. Daniel Runtuwene, MSc
General Secretary



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What is Daniel Fasting?

Daniel 10:2-3

"In those days I, Daniel, was mourning for three weeks. I ate no delicacies, no meat or wine entered my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, for the full three weeks."

Daniel fast is a type of fast that is done in a very specific way. During this fasting, we avoid unwholesome foods and decide to choose healthy and simple foods instead. Daniel avoided foods enjoyed by the king, and ate only vegetables and drank only water.

The Purpose of 21-Day of Daniel Prayer and Fasting:

1. The purpose of every prayer and fasting is to grow stronger and obtain intimacy with God.
2. To obtain knowledge, understanding, and wisdom, along with new dreams and visions, to live the year ahead (Daniel 1:17)
3. To dedicate the year 2015 to God and allow Him to lead every aspect of our lives.

What Should We Do During Daniel Fasting?

As we focus our time and attention to God, we could:

- Reduce the time we spend on TV, Internet, or cell phones so we have more time to meditate on God's words.
- Join prayer towers or corporate prayer events and intercede for others.
- Set aside a specific time to do daily devotion every day.
- Pray together with our family.
- Set aside time to share the good news of salvation to the people around us.
- Pray when we are on the way to office, driving, shopping, doing house chores, etc.

Recommended foods during Daniel fasting period include seeds, potato, nuts, fruits, vegetables, whole wheat products, and mineral water for drink.

Foods to be avoided during Daniel fasting period include meat, fish, poultry, eggs, fats, processed foods, fried foods, flour, sweetener, snacks, cookies, white bread, soda, coffee, tea, and alcoholic drinks.

HAGAR: THE FORGOTTEN ONE

GENESIS 16:1-16

Hagar had it difficult. Sold as a maidservant to Sarai, Hagar was expected to be completely obedient to her master. She had no option but to accept when Sarai told Abraham to sleep with her so they could have a baby. However, Sarai mistreated Hagar as soon as Hagar was with child. In her frustration, Hagar ran away and embarked on an aimless journey until God met her and taught her to know His name, El Roi, The God who sees.

Hagar was obedient to God, and she returned to Sarai's house and remained there. Sixteen years passed and Sarai (whose name in the meantime was changed to Sarah) finally received God's promise for Isaac. But things were still not well for Hagar as the fire of jealousy between Isaac and Ishmael went into full blaze. The tension finally drove Sarah to send Hagar and Ishmael away for good.

Used, abused and tossed away, Hagar lost all hope. After wandering around in the desert without water supply, Hagar was ready to let Ishmael die. As she placed Ishmael under a tree, they cried and God heard their cries.

"What is the matter, Hagar?" God's angel said. "Do not be afraid; God has heard the boy crying as he lies there. Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation."

"Then God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water" (Gen 21:19) Sixteen years passed and Hagar had forgotten her first encounter with El Roi. But God certainly hadn't. He saw Hagar, noticed her and remembered the covenant He made with her.

At times when things are too overwhelming we tend to forget His promises and plans for our life. Today, remember who God is. He is El Roi: The God who sees. He will do what He says He will do. Put on this belt of truth firmly buckled around our waist every day.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray so that we'd be able to see God's truth in our everyday life.
2. Pray for the welfare and leaders of Indonesia

LEAH: THE UNWANTED WIFE

GENESIS 29, 30

Leah, Laban's "not-as-pretty-as-her-sister" daughter, the weak-eyed Leah, the unloved wife, rejected, seconded, ... forgotten. Leah lived her marriage life as the second choice of her husband. Jacob never wanted, chosen, or loved Leah in the first place. She was forced to enter Jacob's life by her father's deceitful scheme. During her marriage life, Leah remained faithful to Jacob and tried hard to win Jacob's love by giving Jacob many children. However, Jacob's love for Rachel was always greater than Jacob's love for Leah.

God saw that Leah was not loved. God heard her cries, listened, and answered Leah's prayer. The Almighty and loving God had a special plan for Leah. God used Leah to usher in the birth line of Jesus Christ. Jesus came from the tribe of Judah, Leah's fourth son (Matthew 1).

Maybe in life we are rejected by our own family, society, or even loved ones. Often times we try our best to please others but our efforts never seem good enough for them. Maybe our family sees our presence as a mistake or a hindrance. But remember, when we receive Christ as our personal savior and Lord, our status is changed from nobody to become His children and heir. As His children, our identity, rights, and purpose in life are determined by God alone and not by other people's approval or the circumstances surrounding our life.

As in Leah's life, our circumstances and past do not determine our future. Even though we are faced with rejection, failure, or pain, we have been chosen by the creator of the heaven and the earth to be His children and to be His extension in fulfilling His plan on earth. Regardless of our circumstances, embrace His love, let our identity rest secure in Him, and allow God to use us for His good works.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for a secure and rooted identity in Christ.
2. Pray for the repentance, salvation, and well-being of North America.

JOSEPH: A MAN OF OUTSTANDING CHARACTER GENESIS 37

In his young age, Joseph had a lot of things in life going his way. He was good looking, the first-born son of Rachel and his father's favorite son. He was intelligent and educated because Jacob kept him to his study most of the time. On top of that, he was obedient to Jacob and to a large extent managed to maintain an excellent behavior.

Then one day his entire life changed. Driven by jealousy, his brothers sold him as a slave to the Ishmaelites, and he had to leave his old comfortable life into the unknown. Joseph had all the reasons to be angry and lose hope towards God, but he chose to remain faithful and maintain his integrity. In many different situations that life threw at him, Joseph had consistently proven that he was courageous (Gen 37:9), likeable (Gen 39:4), capable (Gen 39:5), reliable (Gen 39:6), loyal, and most importantly, steadfast in maintaining his integrity (Gen 39:10). At a later stage of his life Joseph became a ruler of Egypt and had ample chance to take revenge on his brothers. But he chose to forgive and extend compassion to them instead.

Joseph kept his eyes focused on God, and as a result, God led and blessed Joseph with His strong right hand. In the midst of all the injustice that he suffered, humanly speaking Joseph did not have any good reason for to persevere in maintaining a godly character, but he did anyway, and that was the reason why God lifted him up. As sure as Joseph maintained his righteousness, God honored him and made him ruler of all Egypt.

What about us? What kind of attitude and character are we maintaining in our daily life?

Prayer Points:

1. Pray so that God will constantly refine our character to be pure as gold.
2. Pray for the salvation and repentance of Asia.

RUTH: RIGHTEOUS FAITH

RUTH 1-4

What was so special about the fact that Ruth left Moab to follow Naomi? After all, wasn't she simply fulfilling the duty of a daughter-in-law? Her famous statement, "Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God" (1:16b) has never ceased to create wonder in our mind. What could have a simple Moabite girl experienced in Naomi's household that empowered her to cling to Naomi in such a way?

Naomi had nothing to offer Ruth – she had no more sons that Ruth could marry to preserve her family line with. To follow Naomi and relocate her whole life to Bethlehem without her husband and family was not an easy decision for Ruth; it was basically choosing to live a life without a future. Yet it did not hinder Ruth from clinging to her. Her love for her mother-in-law was pure and genuine. Ruth must have gone through a personal revelation of who the God of Israel truly was that she was willing to forgo her ancient roots and her life.

Here is a story of love and devotion – an unconditional love given by a once pagan daughter-in-law to her desolate mother-in-law. What could Ruth's bitter mother-in-law possibly offer her? Naomi was disappointed even with the One who gave her life (1:20-21). Yet God shone His unconditional love through Ruth, who despite her broken heart, continued to love – thus earning the right to become part of David's ancestor, through whom the Savior would be born.

Have negative situations turned us into a bitter woman like Naomi? Or have we been like Ruth, to whom life had dealt an extremely bad set of cards but did not let her heart turn bitter? Ruth met with the God of Israel, and she was not about to let Him go, even if it meant giving up her whole life in Moab. When we have personally experienced God's unconditional love, we in turn will also be able to love unconditionally.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for God's unconditional love and devotion to enter our hearts so that we in turn will be able to love and forgive others unconditionally.

TIMOTHY: YOUNG BUT LEADING WITH EXAMPLES

1 TIMOTHY 1

When Paul was in prison, he wrote a letter to Timothy expressing how well pleased he was with Timothy. Paul looked at Timothy as his own son in faith (1 Timothy 1:2) and remembered him day and night while he was in prison. He even gave Timothy an important task to rebuke fallen teachers that were spreading false teachings within the body of the early church. Paul believed that Timothy would be able to set an example for others even though Timothy was still young at age. What made Timothy such an outstanding young man loved dearly by Paul?

Paul mentioned that Timothy had a sincere faith that was passed on to him by his grandmother and mother (2 Timothy 1:5); a faith that was so dependent on God, a faith that put his confidence solely in God, a faith that believed God was working together with him in every situation. This sincere faith caused Timothy's work and ministry to be anointed and fruitful, thus enabling Timothy to become a role model for many.

Why is it important for us to have sincere faith? Faith is the beginning of all things. When we have faith, we will have peace with God through Jesus Christ. This peace is the foundation that will empower us to endure anything that comes in our life, and turn hardships into perseverance, characters, and hope (Romans 5:1-5).

Like Timothy, let's have a sincere faith in Christ Jesus. When we can rest in our Maker and put our confidence in Him, we can be strong and never lose hope in His promises.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for a sincere faith to be activated in our daily life.
2. Pray for the nations of Africa. Pray for the Ebola virus to stop spreading in the name of Jesus.

JOB: A MAN WITH INTEGRITY
JOB 1:22, JOB 2:3, JOB 10, JOB 27:1-6

"Integrity is the unwavering determination in the heart to do the right thing no matter what."

- S. M. Davis

Job, reckoned by God as a blameless and upright man, one who reverently feared God and abstained from evil; God declared that no one on earth was like him. And yet Job had to go through extreme suffering in life. Without warning, all his possessions were taken away: his thousands of animals, his servants, and even his ten children. Yet through all these, Job still worshiped and blessed the Lord. He did not sin or blame God even when he suffered painful sores from the crown of his head to the soles of his feet. Job maintained his integrity and put his faith in God all the way.

When Job was barely hanging on to life, he fell down on the ground and worshiped God. He humbly came to God and still praised God because he understood that all the abundance that he had belonged to God. In his heart, Job understood that God had the power to give and has the right to take all away. And yet Job's misfortunes continued as he found mostly judgment and criticisms from his three friends, while God Himself seemed very distant and quiet through all those days of tremendous suffering.

Even though God denied him justice and embittered his soul greatly, Job continued to do what was right. When he let out his frustration to God, he kept his lips from saying evil and his tongue from uttering lies, holding fast to his righteousness and integrity till his last breath.

We do not know what is going to take place in our lives. Live one day at a time, and let us not worry about tomorrow. We should give our best in the day that we are given even when it is full of hardships and frustration. Just like Job, may we always remember to seek Him first, to worship, praise and bless Him regardless of our situation. Accept His will and hold fast to our integrity till our last breath.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for a heart filled with integrity and thanksgiving.
2. Pray for salvation and the work of God in Australia and New Zealand.

PAUL: 180 DEGREES TURN
ACTS 9: 1-19

One of the most important events in the history of Christianity was the conversion of Saul of Tarsus. He was a man driven by a burning desire to persecute the followers of Jesus and stop the growth of Christianity. Saul destroyed churches, dragged off and killed Christian men and women, and did everything he could to extinguish off any last glimmer of hope from the hearts of every Christian.

But a trip to Damascus changed his life forever. Along the road one mid day, he experienced a divine encounter: a light from heaven flashed around him, and he heard a voice saying, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" Saul fell to the ground, blinded, overwhelmed and forever changed.

Could Saul have brushed off that incident and walked off unchanged? He certainly could, but thankfully he didn't. After that personal encounter with God, he was fully transformed. Saul of Tarsus became Paul the Apostle, a prominent figure in the spread of the gospel of Christ in the first century world. He founded several churches in Asia Minor and Europe. In fact his writings make up the majority of the New Testament Bible. Imagine what it would be like if he had chosen to stay the same Saul?

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for a heart that is willing to be changed and used by God.
2. Pray so that our churches can be the light and salt for our communities.

ABRAHAM: FAITH THAT TOUCHES THE HEART OF GOD
HEBREW 11: 1-40

Even though Abraham and Sarah were old and physically impossible to have a child, Abraham did not doubt God's promise to him. When God changed his name to Abraham – meaning the father of many (Gen.17), he was already ninety nine years old, twenty four years after he first received God's calling and promise (Gen 12). Many things had happened during those 24 years; Abraham left Ur of the Chaldeans and traveled to the land of Canaan, acquired sheep, cattle, donkeys, menservants, maidservants, camels (Gen 12:16), and his wealth increased tremendously along the way. He witnessed the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah and managed to create a drama in his own household with the birth of Ishmael. Truly it was a walk of faith that tested and tried him in so many ways. "Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God, but was strengthened in his faith and gave glory to God, being fully persuaded that God had power to do what he had promised." (Romans 4:20-21).

To have faith in God simply means to trust God, believing Him at His Word no matter what the situation is. Abraham's faith moved God's heart. The heroes of the Bible were commended for their faith.

When was the last time you received God's promise? Has it been fulfilled yet? Are you beginning to doubt His promise? Time and situations would often cloud our view on God's promises. It is so easy to get fired up when we feel we just received His promise, when all the memory and the impression of the "moment" was so strong. Yet as time goes by and the promise seems to take its own time, reality begins to "set in" and our faith begins to falter. Rom 10:17 reminds us that the more we hear the Word of God, the more our faith in God grows. God appeared to Abraham four times in the course of 24 years to reaffirm His promises, but we now have the luxury of reading His Word as often as we want. This faith in God's Word will protect our hearts from the lies of the enemy and help us stand firm on His promises.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray so that the faith we have in Jesus will never run out.
2. Pray for the congregations to love and live in God's Word

CANAANITE WOMAN: CRUMBS OF FAITH MATTHEW 15: 21-28

How would it feel to be this Canaanite woman? She was poor and her daughter was sick. All she desired was for her daughter to be healed. Healing seemed unattainable no matter how hard she tried. Imagine how crushed her spirit must have been and how dampened her heart. Yet surprisingly, she still maintained a flicker of courage in the midst of her struggle.

Being a Canaanite gentile, she probably had never seen a single miracle all her life. However, the news of the miraculous healings done by Jesus pushed this desperate woman to look for Jesus and entreat His favor with a persistence and "impudence" that was rare even among the Jews.

The truth is, the Canaanite woman was willing to risk it all to obtain the healing for her child. She knew she might get rejected, thrown out and ultimately be disappointed once again. She had plenty of reasons not to try but her desperation had driven her to the edge. Sure to her doubt, Jesus rejected her. He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs." (Matthew 15:26)

But the Canaanite woman just wouldn't take no for an answer. She insisted that all she needed was just the crumbs of what the children had, and it would have been enough to heal her daughter. And even dogs were entitled to have the crumbs falling from the children's table! This faith and indeed her humility finally brought healing to her daughter.

Have you ever come to a point where no matter how hard you try, your situation seems to stay the same? Or are you at a point where you are ready to lose all hope? Take a lesson from the Canaanite woman; her crumbs of faith is seen as a great faith in Jesus' eye and her faith allows her to experience miracle. Be of good courage!

Prayer Points:

1. Pray so that the congregation may experience more faith in their lives.
2. Pray for friends, families and members of the congregations who are waiting for children and healing

THE WOMAN WITH THE ISSUE OF BLOOD: DESPERATE FAITH

LUKE 8: 40-56

This woman was well acquainted with rejection. Her blood condition denied her access to any kind of religious ceremony (Lev. 15:25-27); everything she touched must be declared unclean, and the initially sympathetic families and friends one by one returned to care for their own business and let her be. Her self-esteem probably went from ten to zero. No longer was she free to roam the street, go about her daily chores and live normally – she was officially an outcast.

However, when she heard that Jesus was passing through, her condition did not stop her from taking the step of faith – her last hope of recovery. She did not approach Him directly due to the crowd, but quietly approached him from behind. She thought that everybody's attention must have been on Jesus, so no one would pay attention to her. She assumed that since He had power to heal, surely His garment was also anointed, so she tried to quietly touched Jesus' robe. Yet Jesus was not about to let that kind of faith go unnoticed. He literally stopped on His track, looked for her and purposely called everybody's attention to her faith as He healed her.

Didn't Jesus know that an unclean person had touched Him? Instead of being made unclean after being touched by the woman, Jesus' holiness and purity made her instantly whole. In front of the Jewish priests she was declared unclean; but by the Great High Priest she was declared clean.

Have your conditions maimed you in any way? A bad report from the doctor, a broken heart, a dysfunctional home, an unanswered prayer, a gnawing insecurity – just one touch from the King would make you whole. It sometimes takes a desperate faith like the woman's to keep believing, keep pushing, keep persevering, even when no one would believe in you.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray that even in the midst of desperate situations, the people of God will have strength to persevere in their prayers.
2. Pray for our friends and family members so that they may have breakthroughs in work, relationship, and ministry.

RAHAB: THE WOMAN GOD TOOK FROM THE DUNGHILL
JOSHUA 2

What do we know about Rahab? Rahab was an idolatrous woman from a gentile tribe of Canaan. She was also a prostitute who happened to be living by the wall of Jericho. But she would play an important role in the fall of Jericho.

The city of Jericho had received news about Israel's miraculous escape from Egypt and about the nations and kings subdued by Israel during their journey in the desert. However, Rahab was the only person in Jericho who chose to embrace and side with the God of Israel. When the two spies sent by Joshua were in dire situation, Rahab moved without haste to hide them under the drying flax on her rooftop. Indeed, Rahab risked her life to protect "the enemy's" spies.

Rahab's faith was commendable. She threw her life and the lives of her family into the hand of the God of Israel, the God that she had only heard about. She needed no evidence to trust that this God was able to fulfill His promise to bring his chosen people of Israel into the Promised Land. Her 'blind' faith gave her an everlasting life through salvation.

Rahab eventually married Salmon, one of the two spies she sheltered. In turn, she became the mother of Boaz, who married Ruth, the great grandmother of David, through whose line Jesus was born. Rahab was a disreputable woman, but through God's salvation and grace, she is now included in our Lord's genealogy and shares the royal line from which Jesus sprang.

Do you know that the same salvation that Rahab received has also been given freely to you? Grace had saved Rahab and gave her a future. She did not gain it through good works, neither was she righteous enough to earn it. Salvation is given through grace regardless of who you are and what you've done. God longs for us to embrace this salvation, which is God's greatest gift of all.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for the salvation of our friends and family who do not yet believe in God.
2. Pray for the protection of the African mission trip team, and so that many would be saved through their ministry.

DAVID: MAN AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART PSALM 51

David, the uncrowned son of Jesse whom God chose as king of Israel and called a man after His own heart. What kind of life did David lead to earn this? The truth is, David had led a life far from perfection. David committed adultery with a married woman and murdered her husband afterwards to cover his guilt. David had numerous wives and his children's lives were tainted with sin, envy, jealousy, and hatred from within. Saul the king of Israel before David also hated David and would do anything to have him killed.

Yet David is called a man after God's own heart. What makes David different and dear to God's heart? David's relationship with God was indescribable. David put his security upon the salvation and the promises of God. After the prophet Nathan rebuked David for his adultery with Bathsheba, David repented and ran fast to God. He asked God to cleanse, purify and never take His Spirit from him. After he sinned, David never turned away from God but always came closer to Him. David held fast the salvation that was given by God.

Throughout our journey in life, we will make mistakes, disobey, or do things that do not please God. After making mistakes or committing sins, we often times feel guilty and consciously or not, put a distance between us and God. God desires us to always draw near to Him regardless of our situations. Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ. We have been saved by grace through faith and not by works (Ephesians 2:8). No matter what happens in our life, let's focus our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we will be able to change our characters and behavior to be like Christ. Let His words fill our thoughts and let our souls rest secure in the salvation that He has given us.

Prayer Points:

1. Give thanks for the gift of salvation that has been given to us.
2. Pray for congregation members, friends, and families who have been far from God so that they will return to God's love.

JOSHUA: THE POWER OF THE WORD

JOSHUA 1: 1-18

Joshua's faith did not grow overnight. He had been Moses' aide as he led the Israelites through the desert. Joshua saw many things happened, and remained faithful to God and steadfast by Moses' side since youth (Num 11:28). Yet when the baton was passed to him to bring the people of Israel into the Promised Land, he needed more than a mere assurance from Moses. Joshua needed assurance from God Himself that He would always be with him, and he needed His Word to accomplish his goal. God personally instructed Joshua to meditate day and night the Word that He gave through Moses.

The significance of putting on the helmet when in combat or riding a motorcycle is to protect our head from potentially fatal injuries. The head contains the brain that controls our physical actions, our thoughts, and our emotions. One injury to the brain would cause our whole being to react and be affected. Negative thoughts shot by the evil one towards our mind would trigger negative emotions that in turn affect our whole body and the way we live. It is crucial, therefore, to have the Word of God to fight against the evil one. God's Word is the sword of the Spirit with which we can fight against the enemy's lies.

How do we use God's Word to fight against the enemy? Have we experienced personally what God's Word does in our daily living? Fill our mind with His Word, memorize and speak the Word. It is our most lethal weapon against the lies of the enemy.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for the congregations so that they may diligently read and meditate upon God's Word.
2. Pray so that congregations will not be easily swayed by false doctrines that promote fear and doubts.

JEREMIAH: OBEYING LIFE CALLING THROUGH HIS WORD

JEREMIAH 1: 1-19

There is no coincidence that we are where we are right now. As God's children, He is in control of our lives. God always has His best interest for us, but the problem is we often do not see that. The only way to understand His very purpose and will is through reading, hearing, and understanding His words through the Bible, which is a revelation of His own heart.

Jeremiah received God's call to be a prophet for the nation when he was still young at age and had no experience to speak of. God had handpicked him to fulfill His will. His words came to Jeremiah to assure him that he had been appointed, set apart, and consecrated for the calling even before he was formed in the womb. God is very specific and He never make mistake. Even though Jeremiah responded to God with doubt, God encouraged Jeremiah to have the courage to carry out his calling without fear.

As He called and sent Jeremiah out to speak to the nation, God put His words on Jeremiah's mouth, armoring Jeremiah to speak His will and words over the nation and kingdom. God knew Jeremiah needed to be equipped and He provided everything that Jeremiah needed to fulfill His calling in his life. God did not fail to reveal His plan to Jeremiah as he listened and focused on Him.

Being God's chosen prophet, Jeremiah also received God's promise to always be with him. God gave Jeremiah divine strength so no hostile power could overcome him and God's word strengthened Jeremiah's faith even more.

Every one of us is called to do something beyond our comfort zone. Never lose heart! Know and remember that God has prepared us to take the stand. His words will encourage, strengthen, and equip us. He will always be with us to hold and strengthen our faith so that we could finish the course He has chosen for us.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for the revelation of our specific life calling and for the boldness to pursue it.
2. Pray for the young generation to live a Christ-centered life.

DANIEL: PRIORITIZING PRAYER IN EVERYDAY LIFE**DANIEL 2: 17-23; 6: 10; 9: 3-4; 20-23**

In a time of crisis and danger, when Daniel and all the wise men of Babylon were sought to be killed by King Nebuchadnezzar because of his dream, Daniel asked the king for a time extension so he could pray to God. He went back home and asked his three friends to pray with him to seek God's mercy, so that God would reveal the secret of Nebuchadnezzar's dream and save the wise men from the death sentence ordered by the King. God revealed the secret of the king's dream to Daniel while Daniel was seeking God.

Daniel was a knowledgeable and intelligent man. However, Daniel did not present his own understanding before the king. Regardless of the seeming urgency of the situation, Daniel chose to seek God first and as a result God's name was glorified.

Three times a day Daniel would kneel down and pray to God and give thanks. He continued to do so even though the law prohibited the people to pray to any other god or man except the king himself. The law did not stop Daniel from seeking God even at the penalty of death. God protected and delivered Daniel from being harmed by the lion because he continued to stay faithful in his prayer.

Daniel did not only pray for himself but he prioritized prayer for God's people. When Daniel learned that Jerusalem must lie desolate for seventy years, he spent countless hours and days interceding. He prayed and confessed to God all the unrighteousness, disobedience, and transgressions committed by the people of Israel, and prayed for forgiveness. Daniel's supplication did not stop until he received understanding of the matter.

Like Daniel, let us put God first above everything regardless of our situations. Let us always pray earnestly to God, bringing our supplication to Him because prayer is a powerful weapon. Learn to wait upon Him and stay faithful, as He is always faithful to deliver us and be with us at all times.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray that we may always put God first, seek His face, His wisdom and guidance in our everyday life.
2. Pray for the spirit of intercession to be poured out in the congregations' lives.

ESTHER: PRAYER THAT CHANGED A NATION

ESTHER 4

Haman the Agagite was enraged over Mordecai's refusal to bow to him. He was so infuriated that he devised a plan that would extirpate all Jewish people from throughout the Persian Empire. All he needed was the king's approval. Upon careful scheming, Haman gained the king's trust in return for ten thousand silver talents, and with the king's authority, Haman put his devious plan to motion.

The news broke Mordecai's heart for he knew there was no way around it. The only hope the Jewish people had was for Queen Esther to personally persuade the king to annul it. The thing was, the law would put to death those who came to the king uncalled. Despite some initial resistance, in the end Queen Esther obeyed Mordecai to come to the king, even though she risked losing her life doing it. Yet she commanded all Jews to fast and pray for 3 days and 3 nights to entreat God's favor before she entered the king's chamber.

What was so striking about Queen Esther's prayers? Firstly, Queen Esther's prayers came from her nothingness; she recognized that she needed God's help. It was in her weakness that God lifted her up. Queen Esther came from a place of obedience and humbleness. She was willing to challenge the decree that put her people at risk even at the risk of her life. Secondly, it was Queen Esther's attitude of "if I perish, I perish" in prayer and fasting. Queen Esther was in full desperation and trust that if God didn't save her, then she was as good as dead. What is our attitude in prayer today?

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for God's congregations to have an exciting and active prayer life.
2. Pray for the spirit of prayer to be active in the body of Christ.

DAVID: INTIMACY IN PRAYER

PSALM 63

Unpleasant occasions tend to lead us to pray in restlessness. When we are anxious, our prayers are filled with tiredness, complain, and sometimes even anger towards God. It is amazing to see how intimate David was with God. An unpleasant, tough situation did not lead him to find help from men, and it certainly did not drive him to seek God's presence with the wrong attitude. Intimacy, a heart that clings close to God, needs to be the goal of our prayer life.

The wilderness drove David to seek God even more earnestly. David did not come to God only to find solution or help but David always acknowledged God's power and glory in the midst of his plea and cry. In tough times, David chose to praise God for His loving kindness and complain not. How can David, while being hunted around like an animal in the wilderness, maintain his heart right before God? David's intimacy with God enables him to trust God with all his heart. Even though David had tremendous power and authority as a king, he did not rely on his own strength. David continued to seek, bless, praise and meditate on God's word. Intimacy led David to trust and surrender to God completely. David knew that only in God's presence would all his being be satisfied. Intimacy with God liberated David from all fears.

We may have been a Christian for as long as we can remember, but how intimate are we with God? Just like David, an intimate relationship with God will change how we pray. When we have intimacy in our prayer life, we will develop complete trust in God. We will be confident in our prayer because we trust He listens, understands, and will answer our prayers. An intimate prayer also changes how we respond to situations in our life. We will respond with an attitude of faith, victory, and trust that He will work in everything to bring good for us. Intimate prayer liberates us from all fears and intimidations. Clinging closely to the Lord and building prayers with the right attitude will keep us aligned with Him and strong in our everyday life.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for the Holy Spirit to help us build an intimate prayer life.
2. Pray for every family to prioritize time to pray together as a family.

PAUL: LIFE FOCUSED TO ITS PURPOSE
PHILLIPIANS 1: 12-30

Being imprisoned did not discourage Paul nor shift his focus from Christ to spread the gospel. Paul remained strong even in very uncomfortable situations, because Paul understood his calling and purpose in life. It enabled him to see the bigger picture of all the persecutions that he suffered.

Paul could have just seen all that happened to him - being imprisoned because of the good news of Jesus - as something bad and unfair. He could have been mad to God and complained about his situation. But instead he rejoiced! He rejoiced because his imprisonment had given confidence to other believers to spread the good news boldly and without fear. He rejoiced because Christ continued to be preached even though some preachers' motivation was to cause Paul trouble while he was in chains. Paul set his focus on Christ and not to other things that could bring his spirit down.

"If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me." Being imprisoned did not stop Paul from producing a fruitful labor. Paul wrote these letters to the Philippians as a living testimony that no matter how rough the path he needed to go through, his focus remained the same, i.e. to fulfill his calling as Christ's ambassador, to preach the Good News. The letter was also written to encourage believers to stand firm and to keep striving to spread the Gospel even when they had to suffer persecutions doing it.

We, like Paul, are Christ's ambassadors, chosen to answer and follow His call. The path we need to go through might not always be smooth. However, when we have our focus right on Him, we will see hardships and challenges as something God uses to build us up. We will never lose heart and be shaken. Instead, we will continue to stand strong and produce fruitful labor for His glory.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for every believer to have the right focus in Christ.
2. Pray for those who are persecuted because of Christ to be strong in faith.

JOHN THE BAPTIST: THE GREATEST OF THEM ALL MATTHEW 11

John the Baptist - the one whose birth was foretold, the one who was destined to baptize and prepare the way for the Messiah, the one who was spoken about in Isaiah, and the one who was called the greatest of them all by Jesus Himself.

John the Baptist lived to prepare the way for Jesus' ministry on earth. Had life been easy on him? No, definitely not. John the Baptist was put in prison for rebuking King Herod for his marriage with his brother Phillip's wife, Herodias (Matthew 14). What kept John the Baptist strong in the prison? No other than knowing what he was called to do.

While John the Baptist was at prison, he heard about the great many miracles that Jesus has done. John the Baptist then sent one of his disciples to ask Jesus one question. The question was, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else? " (Matthew 11:3)

John the Baptist did not ask Jesus to perform a miracle and free him from prison. He did not ask Jesus to struck Herod to death so he could be free from death penalty. John the Baptist only wanted to know if Jesus was the one he had been called to prepare the way for. John the Baptist knew he was born to be the ambassador of the Messiah. He was born for this very purpose and had completed it well. Knowing his life purpose kept him strong until the end.

During our challenging moments in life, what is our attitude towards life? Do we only look for His miracles to get us through the storm or do we focus on the calling and the giver of life itself? As God's children, we have been called for a greater purpose, to display His glory, and to be His living ambassador. The Holy Spirit will strengthen us and enable us to be Christ's ambassador.

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for the right attitude towards God and life during our tough times.
2. Pray for a strong and secure spirit to follow Christ.

MOSES: TOGETHER STRONGER IN INTERCESSION
EXODUS 17: 8-16

As Israel's leader, Moses understood the power of unity. When the Amalekites threatened the infant nation of Israel in the desert, Moses instructed Joshua to choose some men and lead the battle against the Amalekites. As their leader, Moses did not stand still. He went up the hill with Hur and Aaron interceding for Israel. Moses lifted up his hands to stand in the gap between God and the people. When Moses hands grew tired, Aaron and Hur gathered their strength to hold Moses' hands. The unity between Joshua, Moses, Aaron, Hur and Joshua's men brought victory over the Amalekites.

If Joshua and his men had fought without the intercessions of Moses, Aaron, and Hur, the story would have ended differently. If Aaron and Hur had not helped Moses lift his hands until sunset, the Amalekites would have won the battle. This story is an exemplary model of God's children united in action and intercession to bring a lasting and great impact for a nation.

Amalekites challenge our life everyday in the form of work issues, relationship, struggles, and family problems. However, when we intercede together as a family, as a body of Christ, as a company, and as a nation, victory is at hand. With God one would defeat one thousand and two would defeat ten thousands (Deuteronomy 32:30). Action combined with unity in intercessions will result in victory. There is amazing power in unity.

Together Stronger!

Prayer Points:

1. Pray for unity in your family, church, and workplace.
2. Pray for growth in numbers and quality in your local prayer tower.

**TWELVE DISCIPLES: TOGETHER STRONGER SHARING THE
GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST
ACTS 6**

The number of disciples that needed ministry was increasing. Therefore Jesus' twelve disciples decided to choose seven men full of faith and the Holy Spirit to do table ministry, i.e. Stephen, Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas. As a result of delegating the tasks to these strong individuals, the number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly and many priests' lives were changed, becoming obedient to the faith.

God has created each and every one of us with unique talents, abilities, and gifts. Some are called to be teachers, some evangelists, other prophets, pastors, or apostles (Ephesians 4:11-13), all to equip the people of God for the works of service.

When we step out of our comfort zone and begin to exercise our faith with what we have, we can win souls and change lives. By doing this together, we will be able to reach a multitude of people, even nations. Twelve disciples and seven god-fearing men brought great impact to the people of Jerusalem and beyond. A family, a workplace, a church, a community, and even a nation can bring multitudes of souls to Christ.

Together Stronger spreading the good news of Jesus Christ!

Prayer Points:

- 1. Pray for the love and boldness to show and speak the word of God.**
- 2. Pray for multitudes to come to Christ.**



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Entering the year 2015, we would like to encourage everyone to start and finish this year strong. Ephesians 6:10-19 (NIV) says, "Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so you can take your stand against the devil scheme "A warrior going to war will need his/her full armor on and go through a rigorous training regiment before they are deemed ready to enter the battle. A soldier needs to be strong inside and out to be able to focus on the battle before him. Like a warrior, an athlete entering a competition will also need proper training, healthy nutrition, and proper attire to be able to finish strong.

The Daniel fasting devotion book will guide us on how we can put on the full armor of God and live strong in the year of 2015. The Bible tells of many remarkable characters that exemplify how strong living in Christ looks like. Together, we will finish the race strong and well. We pray that God may transform us from the inside out to be faithful disciples of Jesus during these 21 days of prayer and fasting. Together we will create an impact for our nations. Together stronger!

Blessings,
Yenny Tjipto & Lina Hasmy

IFGF

Jl. Gunung Rinjani no.6, Taman Himalaya
Lippo Village - Tangerang
Phone: 021 542 02 388
Fax: 021 542 02 387
pray@ifgf.org