



I SPEAK JESUS

'Tell everyone about the amazing things he does.'
(Psalm 96:3B)

Prayer and Fasting

When the disciples said, 'Lord, teach us how to pray', it was a genuine, heart-felt cry. It's a cry that needs to echo daily in our own lives as believers. We must cultivate a heart for prayer if we are going to create the lifestyle of a praying believer.

I. What is fasting?

Fasting is simply defined as going without food for a period of time, either entirely or partially. It is a spiritual discipline that has many benefits.

Please note: If you have any health issues contact your GP or health professional for advice before committing to any fast, including the Daniel, partial or liquid fasts.

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2. Why would anyone starve themselves?

Fasting is a spiritual discipline that has been out of vogue in many churches in the Western world for over a century. So why do we take the time to fast?

We are a church that seeks to not just live a Christian lifestyle, but see our lives, our family, friends, neighbours and co-workers affected by the life and power of Jesus.

We want to become the kind of church God has in mind, the kind of church we read about in the New Testament where times of fasting resulted in a channel of God's power. Fasting disciplines a person's spiritual appetite, aligns their soul with the will of God and opens a channel of God's life and power that perhaps no other activity can.

We want to build momentum, we want to see the Lord move not just in each one of our lives, but the lives of every person that we have the opportunity to influence.

THROUGHOUT THE OLD TESTAMENT WE SEE PEOPLE FASTING:

- For mourning (Nehemiah 1:4; 1 Samuel 31:13)
 - For repentance (1 Samuel 6; Nehemiah 9:1; Jonah 3:5)
 - To hear from God (Ezra 8:21)
 - To provoke God to move on their behalf (2 Chronicles 20:3; Esther 4:16; Daniel 9:3)
 - To petition God (Acts 10:30)
 - To seek the mind of God (Acts 13:2)
 - To prepare for ministry (Matthew 4:2; Acts 13:3)
 - For spiritual power (Matthew 17:21)
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3. What are the benefits of fasting?

Fasting has many benefits but it's not a way to earn God's blessing, or 'get' God to answer our prayers. We need to be obedient, humble and surrender to God's will and purposes in every situation.

- Fasting brings direction from God (Acts 10:30; Acts 13:2-3; Judges 20:26)
- Fasting brings the power of the Spirit (Luke 4:14)
- Fasting brings answers to prayer (Esther 4:16; Nehemiah 1:4)
- Fasting brings action from God (2 Chronicles 20:20-21)
- Fasting brings a spiritual breakthrough (Matthew 17:21)
- Fasting deepens humility (Ezra 8:21, 1 Peter 5:6)

As you begin your fast, focus on the souls of those close to you who need salvation. Do not be discouraged but persistent. Keep praying!

Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

HEBREWS 12:3

WEEK I: Following Jesus

I. Following Him in My Life

WRITTEN BY SARAH KAWALSINGH

THOUGHTS

Advertisers spend a fortune on getting their messages across. In 2020 in the UK alone, £23 billion was spent on advertising (statista.com). That's a staggering amount of money to be used to feed us so much information! When we gave our lives to Christ, we became part of a different advertising campaign. Not to promote ourselves, but to be a shining light to those around us; to spread the good news of what Jesus has done in our lives.

In 1 Corinthians 2:1–5, the Apostle Paul explains that he didn't come with 'excellence of speech or of wisdom' as he proclaimed the testimony about God—anything but! Instead, Paul mentions words like 'weakness', 'fear' and 'much trembling.' He recognised that his life was not his own, and neither is ours. We are ambassadors of the Lord Jesus Christ, so we live not according to the pattern of this world but as examples of His Kingdom.

Paul didn't preach 'with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power'. In order for our lives to be that example we rely on the Holy Spirit. None of us are perfect, so we lean on Him to provide the answers for a world that needs to know His saving grace. And the simplest way that we advertise Christ? To live the way He intended us to live.

KEY SCRIPTURES

And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

[1 CORINTHIANS 2:1–5 \(NKJV\)](#)

For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

[1 CORINTHIANS 6:20 \(NKJV\)](#)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

1 Corinthians 6:12–20; Philippians 1:12–20; Matthew 5:13–16

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*, John Foxe

2. Following Him in My Family

WRITTEN BY TRACEY MANN

THOUGHTS

From the very beginning, God has shown us he has a plan for families (Genesis 1:27-28, 2:21-24). As is the case in all areas of our lives, when we follow His blueprint we find His blessing. The Bible shows us many examples of families—both good and not so good—so we see that family life can be the best thing in our lives, but it can have its challenges. We know however that God has placed us in a family for a purpose.

When we place Jesus in the centre of our families we can grow, flourish and speak Jesus to our wider community. Joshua 24:15 says, 'But as for me and my family we will serve the Lord.' This gives us a great example of determination to serve God as a family, regardless of the culture of the time.

As we begin this New Year, let's renew our resolve to honour God in our families and give Him the highest place. Know today that regardless of what has gone before, God still has fresh blessings to come as we follow Him in our families.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Dear friends, I warn you as "temporary residents and foreigners" to keep away from worldly desires that wage war against your very souls. Be careful to live properly among your unbelieving neighbours. Then even if they accuse you of doing wrong, they will see your honorable behavior, and they will give honor to God when he judges the world.

1 PETER 2:11-12 (NLT)

As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. So again I say, each man must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

EPHESIANS 5:31-3 (NLT)

Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.

ECCLESIASTES 4:9-11 (NLT)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Exodus 20:12; Psalm 78:4, 127:3-5, 133; Colossians 3:12-21; Ephesians 5:21-33; 1 Corinthians 13

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- The Church Family (**sermon**), Chip Kawalsingh
- Why Should I Raise My Kids in Church? (**sermon**), Paul Goffin

3. Following Him in My Community

WRITTEN BY IAN MANN

THOUGHTS

We are all part of a local community. Some of our neighbours we know well, others less so. As believers in Christ we are called to love our neighbours, something that should be demonstrated in the way we lead our lives. Loving your neighbour isn't always easy, but it is something we can do.

Firstly, we can make sure that we nurture our own relationship with God so that we are an example of Christ to our neighbours.

Then, we can be an active member in our community. We can look out for our neighbours. Keeping an eye on the elderly, making sure that they are safe and well. We can also help practically—maybe you could do some odd jobs or cook a nice meal? Most importantly, we can speak to and get to know them!

Finally, we can pray for them.

It would be great to see our communities transformed by the power of God. Let's take up the challenge of playing our part.

KEY SCRIPTURES

For the commandments say, "You must not commit adultery. You must not murder. You must not steal. You must not covet." These—and other such commandments—are summed up in this one commandment: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to others, so love fulfills the requirements of God's law.

ROMANS 13:9-10 (NLT),

It is a sin to despise one's neighbor, but blessed is the one who is kind to the needy.

PROVERBS 14:21 (NIV),

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Proverbs 3:29; Matthew 19:17-20

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- *The Local Church Today*, Bill Scheidler
- *Everybody's Normal Till You Get To Know Them*, John Ortberg

4. Following Him in My Work or Studies

WRITTEN BY NIPUN EKANAYAKE

THOUGHTS

We spend most of our time in either work or studies. Both bring about emotive memories of stress, joy, hurt, success, and a raft of other feelings. We often fall into the trap of thinking our work defines us. However, we must understand that we are here to serve God. Our identity is in Jesus, not in our work or educational successes.

We should be the example of Jesus in our day-to-day conduct. Colossians 3:23 says, 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters.' Our conduct will be all that many will ever see of the Bible, so let your example be the best advertisement of Christ.

We see Jesus in His early years was sitting among the teachers in the temple and everyone who heard Him was amazed at His understanding (Luke 2: 47-48). Age is not a barrier to entry to study the Word. It was Scripture that took Jesus through the desert it is Scripture that will encourage you in your walk with the Lord.

KEY SCRIPTURES

I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

PHILIPPIANS 4:11-13 (NIV)

In everything set them an example by doing what is good. In your teaching show integrity, seriousness and soundness of speech that cannot be condemned, so that those who oppose you may be ashamed because they have nothing bad to say about us.

TITUS 2:7-8 (NIV)

How much better to get wisdom than gold, to get insight rather than silver!

PROVERBS 16:16 (NIV)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

1 Timothy 6:1; Titus 2:9-15; Proverbs 6:10-12

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- *Awaken the Dawn! The Joy of Early Morning Prayer*, Ernest Gentile
- *Devoted To God's Church*, Sinclair B. Ferguson
- ***God, A Mocha & Me***, Chip Kawalsingh
- ***Battle for the Mind***, Chip Kawalsingh

5. Following Him in My City

WRITTEN BY IAN MANN

THOUGHTS

The church is called to be a lamp that shines brightly in the darkness (Matthew 5:14-15). In Acts 2, the church is seen to be a vibrant part of Jerusalem, enjoying both God's blessing and the favour of the local population. This is the model for the church today. We are all a part of this city—it is where we live, where we study, where we work and where we socialise. We can be that shining lamp by being committed to our local church, by getting involved with the outreach activities and by living Godly lives that show those we mix with the difference that Christ makes.

Let's pray for our mayor and councillors, for wisdom and effectiveness. Let's pray for the local government workers who provide our essential services. Let's pray for the doctors, nurses, firefighters and police officers that look after our community. Let's pray that our city's businesses prosper and grow. And finally, let's pray that our church will be a beacon for Christ in our city!

KEY SCRIPTURES

They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

ACTS 2:46-47 (NLT),

But the believers who were scattered preached the Good News about Jesus wherever they went. Philip, for example, went to the city of Samaria and told the people there about the Messiah. Crowds listened intently to Philip because they were eager to hear his message and see the miraculous signs he did.

ACTS 8:4-6 (NLT),

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Matthew 9:35-36; 1 Peter 2:13-14; Hebrews 12:14

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- **Partnership Guide** (Session 16: City Harvesters), Chip Kawalsingh
- Blessed Are the Peacemakers (**sermon**), Chip Kawalsingh

6. Following Him in Faith

WRITTEN BY TAMARA EKANAYAKE

THOUGHTS

Faith is key in a believer's life. Without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). Through faith, our trust, confidence and hope are evident. Through the actions that result from the words we confess, do we truly display whether we are living a God-led life? Is the will of God the driving force in your life?

For this to be true we need to know the heart of God, and this can only be found in His Word. By spending time in His Word and in prayer we can deepen our relationship with God and know Him more intimately. Faith is not a one-time check box we tick, it is a daily and continual exercise.

As we seek God, it increases and strengthens our faith to be sufficient for that day. We trust those we know. As we actively place our trust in God, we move beyond only hearing about God from others, to having our own personal encounters of His goodness, faithfulness, mercy, peace, provision and breakthrough.

KEY SCRIPTURES

So, faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ.

ROMANS 10:17 (NLT),

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.

HEBREWS 11:1 (NIV),

I did this so you would trust not in human wisdom but in the power of God

1 CORINTHIANS 2:5 (NLT),

For we live by faith, not by sight.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:7 (NLT),

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Matthew 21:21-22; Mark 11:22-24; Ephesians 2:8-9, 6:16; Hebrews 11; 1 Corinthians 16:13; Romans 1:17

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- *Faith That Prevails*, Smith Wigglesworth

7. Following Him in Tough Times

WRITTEN BY LEE VENNING

THOUGHTS

Following the feeding of the 5,000, Jesus dispersed the crowd and commanded His disciples to sail to the other side. Jesus himself went up on the mountain to pray.

If we follow Jesus, then life is not smoother for us here and now. A mature Christian understands that life is designed by Him to bring Him glory, not for our comfort. Obedience to God is key and we should not be distracted by our circumstances.

When the storm arose later on the lake the disciples were dismayed. Jesus could have immediately calmed the storm, but instead He let the wind and waves run wild until Peter, in faith, walked on the water to Him. At some point Peter looked at the waves, and when he focused on the situation—instead of Jesus—Peter became fearful. His faith weakened and he started to sink.

We are similar to Peter. The specific circumstances are irrelevant. When we keep our eyes on Jesus, we can be secure in spite of whatever troubles may afflict us.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Immediately after this, Jesus insisted that his disciples get back into the boat and cross to the other side of the lake, while he sent the people home. After sending them home, he went up into the hills by himself to pray. Night fell while he was there alone. Meanwhile, the disciples were in trouble far away from land, for a strong wind had risen, and they were fighting heavy waves. About three o'clock in the morning Jesus came toward them, walking on the water. When the disciples saw him walking on the water, they were terrified. In their fear, they cried out, "It's a ghost!" But Jesus spoke to them at once. "Don't be afraid," he said. "Take courage. I am here!" Then Peter called to him, "Lord, if it's really you, tell me to come to you, walking on the water." "Yes, come," Jesus said. So Peter went over the side of the boat and walked on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw the strong wind and the waves, he was terrified and began to sink. "Save me, Lord!" he shouted. Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him. "You have so little faith," Jesus said. "Why did you doubt me?" When they climbed back into the boat, the wind stopped. Then the disciples worshiped him. "You really are the Son of God!" they exclaimed.

MATTHEW 14:22-33 (NLT)

This is what the Lord says—Israel's King and Redeemer, the Lord of Heaven's Armies: "I am the First and the Last; there is no other God. Who is like me? Let him step forward and prove to you his power. Let him do as I have done since ancient times when I established a people and explained its future. Do not tremble; do not be afraid. Did I not proclaim my purposes for you long ago? You are my witnesses—is there any other God? No! There is no other Rock—not one!"

ISAIAH 44:6-8 (NLT)

ISAIAH 44:6-8 (NLT)

You see, we don't go around preaching about ourselves. We preach that Jesus Christ is Lord, and we ourselves are your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let there be light in the darkness," has made this light shine in our hearts so we could know the glory of God that is seen in the face of Jesus Christ. We now have this light shining in our hearts, but we ourselves are like fragile clay jars containing this great treasure. This makes it clear that our great power is from God, not from ourselves. We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed. Through suffering, our bodies continue to share in the death of Jesus so that the life of Jesus may also be seen in our bodies. Yes, we live under constant danger of death because we serve Jesus, so that the life of Jesus will be evident in our dying bodies. So we live in the face of death, but this has resulted in eternal life for you. But we continue to preach because we have the same kind of faith the psalmist had when he said, "I believed in God, so I spoke." We know that God, who raised the Lord Jesus, will also raise us with Jesus and present us to himself together with you. All of this is for your benefit. And as God's grace reaches more and more people, there will be great thanksgiving, and God will receive more and more glory. That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever! So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5-18 (NLT)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Micah 4:1-8; Amos 4:13; Psalm 96

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- ***Giants Will Fall***, Chip Kawalsingh
- *Walking With God Through Pain and Suffering*, Timothy Keller

WEEK 2: Living For Jesus

I. Living For Him Through Prayer

WRITTEN BY WENDY KANDI

THOUGHTS

We all know that communication is very important. You only need to type 'communication' in the search engine of your choice and numerous results will bombard you with information on how and why you should do it. Prayer is simply that: communication between a believer and their saviour. Not only is it absolutely essential, the Bible insists that it must be constant. So constant, in fact, that it should never, ever stop (1 Thessalonians 5:17). Yet many believers find it hard or simply do not do it.

As believers, we cannot live for Him without prayer, just as you cannot build natural relationships without communication. Prayer achieves many great things; from giving glory to God, to bringing peace into our lives, and even change and miracles. But we must never forget that the most important reason we pray is to build a relationship and get closer to Jesus, and only then can we live through Him and for Him. 'Draw near to God and He will draw near to you...' (James 4:8).

KEY SCRIPTURES

Now it came to pass, as He was praying in a certain place, when He ceased, that one of His disciples said to Him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples." So He said to them, "When you pray, say: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us day by day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, For we also forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one.

LUKE 11:1-4 (NKJV)

And when you pray, you shall not be like the hypocrites. For they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the corners of the streets, that they may be seen by men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. 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. And when you pray, do not use vain repetitions as the heathen do. For they think that they will be heard for their many words. "Therefore do not be like them. For your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him. In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive our debtors. And do not lead us into temptation, But deliver us from the evil one. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen. "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

MATTHEW 6:5-15 (NKJV)

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6-7 (NKJV)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

2 Chronicles 20:1-30; Matthew 7:7-12; Luke 6:12; 1 Chronicles 29:10-20; Psalm 63:1-8

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- Living on a Prayer (**sermon**), Chip Kawalsingh
- *Frequently Asked Questions*, Kevin J. Conner
- *Secrets To Answered Prayer*, Jerry A. Chadwick

2. Living For Him Through Worship

WRITTEN BY JENNIFER GOFFIN

THOUGHTS

It is tempting to confine our worship of God to a Sunday morning, but as Christians, worship should be our lifestyle. He should be at the centre of our lives as we offer ourselves to Him on a daily basis, a natural response to our understanding of who God is. He is so worthy of worship! When we sing, we are joining with a heavenly chorus who have been praising God through eternity.

Corporate gathering to praise God is a vital part of our Christian life, but our worship should extend far beyond that into an awareness of His presence in our daily lives. Worship will always involve sacrifice, of our time, our emotions and our own desires, but as we fix our eyes on Him we are transformed and our minds renewed. He draws near to us as we draw near to Him.

KEY SCRIPTURES

And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him. Don't copy the behaviour and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

ROMANS 12:1-2 (NLT)

Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

JAMES 4:8 (NLT)

Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts. And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

COLOSSIANS 3:16-17 (NLT)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

John 4:23-24; Psalms 29:1-2, 100, 103:1-5, 105:1-5

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- *Whatever Happened to Worship?*, AW Tozer

3. Living For Him Through the Word

WRITTEN BY LEE VENNING

THOUGHTS

Everyone lives for something. Parents may live for their children. Spouses may live for each other. And business owners may live for success. Living for Jesus means that pleasing Him is our highest aim. Those filled with the Spirit of Christ are motivated primarily by His goals and His plans for their lives. When those plans collide with lesser goals, those who are living for Jesus follow His way and not their own.

We can live for Jesus in many ways, but a key one is through His Word. 2 Timothy 2:15 says, 'Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.' Correctly handling God's Word is vital for one who wants to avoid deception and live as salt and light in this world. Unless we know the heart of God, we will violate His standards and lead others to do the same. We discover His heart when we pursue the whole counsel of God and apply it regularly to our lives.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.

PROVERBS 3:5-6 (NLT)

Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth.

2 TIMOTHY 2:15 (NLT)

"You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."

MATTHEW 5:13-16 (NLT)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Colossians 1:9-14; Acts 20:27-30

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- Read your Bible!

4. Living For Him Through Giving

WRITTEN BY TANYA GOFFIN

THOUGHTS

When our children were young, we would give them money so that they could buy birthday and Christmas presents for us. In a similar way, as God's children, we do not own anything—all our money and material possessions belong to Him. If we truly love God with everything we have, we will be eager to obey Him in this area of our lives.

The passages below (and many others) show how important generosity is to God. It mirrors His huge generosity in sending Jesus to die on the cross to save us. It's not about the total amount of money that we give but how much sacrifice it involves as we learn to trust God to meet our needs.

The motive for our giving should never involve compulsion or manipulation but should be from the heart, with real joy, knowing that we can never outgive God. We are truly blessed so that God can use us to be a blessing to our church and to other people in need.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully." And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. As the Scriptures say, "They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever." For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you.

2 CORINTHIANS 9.6-8 (NLT)

Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins. Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on."

MARK 12:41-44 (NLT)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Mark 10:17-25; Matthew 6:19-20; James 5:1-6; Hebrews 13:5; 1 Timothy 6:10; Luke 16:13; Proverbs 11:24-25

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- *Devoted To God's Church*, Sinclair B. Ferguson
- *Partnership Guide*, Chip Kawalsingh

5. Living For Him Through Fellowship

WRITTEN BY TATE KANDI

THOUGHTS

Fellowship is as important to a believer's life as prayer and the Word of God. From the very beginning, God showed us a blueprint of how we are meant to live in communion with others (Genesis 1:27). God exists in perfect unity and fellowship within the Godhead. Isolation is never part of God's plan for us because when we are isolated, we are more vulnerable to the enemy's attacks.

When we fellowship with others, we get to experience the fullness of God and the protection that comes from being in God's plan for us. We can live for Him by remaining in fellowship with other believers, especially in the church God has planted us in. It is within that fellowship that we will experience the blessings, security and spiritual growth God intended for us. God's glory and power are displayed to the world when we fellowship with one another.

KEY SCRIPTURES

I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. "I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me."

[JOHN 17:21-23 \(NLT\)](#)

Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labour: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

[ECCLESIASTES 4:9-12 \(NIV\)](#)

As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend.

[PROVERBS 27:17 \(NLT\)](#)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Hebrews 10:24-25; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; 1 John 1:7; Matthew 18:20; Acts 2:44-47

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- My Imperfect, Perfect Family (**sermon**), Chip Kawalsingh
- *Devoted To God's Church*, Sinclair B. Ferguson

6. Living For Him Through Serving

WRITTEN BY EUSTACE & PAT MCKINNON

THOUGHTS

If Christ has died for me, ungodly as I am, without strength as I am, then I cannot live in sin any longer, but must arouse myself to love and serve Him who has redeemed me. (Charles Spurgeon)

Serving in Church is about seeing needs and helping to fulfil them, using our God-given gifts and glorifying Him through the process.

Jesus is our greatest example of a servant. Throughout His life he served people: healing them, feeding them, teaching them, praying for them and loving them. Imagine, Jesus the Messiah, the Creator, took on the humble attitude of a servant and knelt down before his disciples and washed their feet!

His ultimate act of servitude was to die on the cross for humanity so our sins could be forgiven. As Christians, we too are called to serve God and one another in the church God has planted us in.

By serving, we are not only meeting needs, but expressing thanks to God and leading others to praise Him—we are helping to extend God's church. Not only are we discipling the people who regularly attend, but people come to Christ by those who are serving in church. Choosing to serve is actually a step towards being a better disciple of Christ.

Serving allows us to experience God's presence in new ways. Encouragement and healing, go hand-in-hand. As we encourage others, they find healing and we're encouraged too.

KEY SCRIPTURES

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many.

[MARK 10:45 \(ESV\)](#),

For you have been called to live in freedom, my brothers and sisters. But don't use your freedom to satisfy your sinful nature. Instead, use your freedom to serve one another in love.

[GALATIANS 5:13 \(NLT\)](#),

Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing.

[PSALM 100:2 \(KJV\)](#),

Work with enthusiasm, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people.

[EPHESIANS 6:7 \(NLT\)](#),

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.

[1 PETER 4:10 \(NLT\)](#),

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Hebrews 6:10-11; Acts 9:36-43; Mark 15:40-41; Luke 8:1-3; 2 Corinthians 4:5; John 12:26; Ephesians 3:7, 4:12

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- **Partnership Guide**, Chip Kawalsingh
- **Serving The Lord Wholeheartedly (blog)**, Nsovo Mabasa

7. Living For Him Through Fasting

WRITTEN BY HELEN VENNING

THOUGHTS

At times, life can be extremely hard. Fasting is God's appointed way for us to cry out to Him.

Fasting is not just going without food for a period of time—that's dieting!—but instead refraining from food for a spiritual purpose. It is first and foremost about our relationship with God. Fasting brings many benefits but it is not a bargaining tool with God. Fasting should make us hungrier for what really matters.

As we fast we renew our relationship with the Lord which can bring clarity of thought, direction, humility, grace, and release from oppression, to name but a few. Love for the Lord and others will increase when you make fasting a regular part of your life. Your sensitivity to the Holy Spirit also increases, saving us from heading down wrong paths. The newness of life that occurs on the inside radiates out, and people can watch you stand firm through the most difficult of times.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'" Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, showed Him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said to Him, "All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours." And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the LORD your God, and Him only you shall serve.'" Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. For it is written: 'He shall give His angels charge over you, To keep you, 'and, 'In their hands they shall bear you up, Lest you dash your foot against a stone.'" And Jesus answered and said to him, "It has been said, 'You shall not tempt the LORD your God.'" Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him until an opportune time.

LUKE 4:1-13 (NKJV)

If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me.

JEREMIAH 29:13 (NLT)

Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God [set aside self-righteous pride], so that He may exalt you [to a place of honour in His service] at the appropriate time.

1 PETER 5:6 (AMP)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Matthew 9:14-15, 17:21; Ezra 8:21; Daniel 9:3; Nehemiah 1:4, Acts 10:30; Isaiah 58:6-14; Proverbs 22:4; Psalm 25:9, 27:13; 2 Chronicles 15:4

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- **ESSENTIALS: Fasting**, Chip Kawalsingh
- *Fasting*, Jentenzen Franklin
- *The Fasting Edge*, Jentenzen Franklin

WEEK 3: Sharing Jesus

I. Sharing Jesus with Non-believers

WRITTEN BY JIM JOHNSTON

THOUGHTS

When I visit a good restaurant or watch a good movie, I can't keep myself from sharing it with people. Everyone loves good food or a story with a clever twist and it's great to be the first to find it too. Though when it comes to sharing Christ with others—particularly non-believers—we can convince ourselves that no-one wants to hear about Him, or that people will belittle us and call us weirdos, or that we'll be accused by a mob of spreading hate.

Our imaginations are powerful tools, and left unbridled they will create a story beyond fact. Consider the following a two-part strategy:

1. Would you have wanted to know about Christ if you were them? His restoring love, unfailing friendship, His power in our lives? His forgiveness? Something that no movement in the world has? Is that worth sharing?
2. Listen to the Holy Spirit, be sensitive to His promptings to action. Doing this will render a greater level of relationship with God for yourself.

Whatever the outcome—even if our worst concerns are realised in some part—stretch your sharing muscles and introduce Christ to those in your world. You would have wanted to hear it if it had been you.

KEY SCRIPTURES

But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are royal priests, a holy nation, God's very own possession. As a result, you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

[1 PETER 2:9 \(NLT\)](#)

And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone."

[MARK 16:15 \(NLT\)](#)

And don't forget to do good and to share with those in need. These are the sacrifices that please God.

[HEBREWS 13:16 \(NLT\)](#)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Philemon 1:6; Luke 6:22; Acts 9:15

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- *From Zero To Eternity In 60 Seconds*, Dr Wendell Smith

2. Sharing Jesus with Co-workers

WRITTEN BY DANIEL NDLOVU

THOUGHTS

We spend 34 hours a week on average in the work place, which is more than we spend our church family, friends and, in some cases, our nuclear family. Our place of work should be somewhere we practically demonstrate our faith through consistent godly conduct and praying for an opportunity to share the gospel.

It's God's desire that we are salt and light when we meet non-believers, therefore our conversations should be God-conscious, not joining in gossip or destructive conversations.

The Bible also encourages us to 'work as unto the Lord' (Colossians 3:23-24). This means when others procrastinate, we are diligent; when there is fear and anxiety, we bring a godly perspective into the situation. Eventually, your co-workers will notice your differing attitude and the conversations can start!

Pray that the Lord goes before us and softens the hearts of our co-workers, and as His vessels, we are Holy Spirit lead and ready to proclaim the Good News!

KEY SCRIPTURES

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

COLOSSIANS 3:23-24 (NLT)

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

MATTHEW 5:13-16 (NLT)

And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.

COLOSSIANS 3:17 (NLT)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

1 Corinthians 15:58; Proverbs 11:30; Mark 16:15; 2 Corinthians 5:19-20

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- Salt of the Earth (**song**), Michael Mahendere

3. Sharing Jesus with Friends

WRITTEN BY SINÉAD HOLAS

THOUGHTS

Your friends are the people who confide in you. They are the ones who know you well, spend time with you and see you in everyday life. The way you speak and live therefore matters.

Being a good friend in behaviour, speech and conduct is a great way to share the gospel. It's in the ways we respond to each other, the way we deal with hardships, the way we speak faith in negative situations, the way we give when it doesn't make sense, and the way we show grace and forgiveness when we've been hurt and wronged. One of the most effective ways we can preach the gospel is by the way we live our lives and handle our relationships.

What if your friends don't know Jesus? What if they don't read the Bible or attend church? How could you teach them who Jesus is? How can you signpost them to the cross? How can you be a witness?

God wants to use your friendships to speak Jesus and point to Him. You can be one of the biggest examples of Christ if you live a life that reflects Him.

KEY SCRIPTURES

"You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless. You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden. No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father."

MATTHEW 5:13-16 (NLT)

Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it.

1 PETER 3:15 (NLT)

For you are to be his witness, telling everyone what you have seen and heard.

ACTS 22:15 (NLT)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

1 Thessalonians 5:11; 1 Peter 4:8-10; Isaiah 43:10; Philippians 2:15

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- Keys To Sharing Your Faith (sermon), Tanya Goffin
- *Honest Evangelism*, Rico Tice
- Real Connections (sermon), Andy Freeman

4. Sharing Jesus with Family

WRITTEN BY NEIL GALLAGHER

THOUGHTS

The good news is that God desires for our families to be saved! It's a wonderful promise, but it is conditional: our family members must personally respond to Jesus for themselves.

Our natural families don't always understand our faith in Jesus Christ and they can become the most difficult people to share Jesus with as they are familiar with us and they can be evasive, ridiculing and rejecting what we share with them.

Despite this, we have been given the privilege by the Lord to influence them for Christ through our prayer, connection, conversation—and most importantly through our conduct, which can serve as a living testimony. They knew us before we accepted Jesus and they've seen our new life in Christ.

KEY SCRIPTURES

Who desires all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.

1 TIMOTHY 2:4 (NJKV)

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.

ACTS 16:31 (NJKV)

Jesus said to them "A prophet is not without honour expect in his own town, among his relatives and his own home."

MARK 6:4 (NJKV)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Romans 11:14; 1 Peter 3:15; 1 Peter 1 3:1

5. Sharing Jesus with Other Religions

WRITTEN BY IAN MANN

THOUGHTS

We are surrounded by people from a wide range of different backgrounds, cultures and religions. In the same way that Paul shared Jesus with the Greeks in Athens, we are called to reach out to all people, whatever their religion may be. How can we do this in a way that honours God and respects the people around us?

Firstly, we can be an example of God's love in our community. As Jesus said, 'Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples' (John 13:34-35).

Secondly, Paul called us to 'speak the truth in love' (Ephesians 4:15). Let's be an example of love to those around us, in our families, our workplaces, and wherever we find ourselves.

Let's pray for godly opportunities to be living demonstrations of God's love, and for moments when our friends will be open to hear the truth of the Gospel boldly shared with them in love, trusting that the Holy Spirit will touch their hearts!

KEY SCRIPTURES

So Paul, standing before the council, addressed them as follows: "Men of Athens, I notice that you are very religious in every way, for as I was walking along I saw your many shrines. And one of your altars had this inscription on it: 'To an Unknown God.' This God, whom you worship without knowing, is the one I'm telling you about.

ACTS 17:22-23 (NLT)

There may be so-called gods both in heaven and on earth, and some people actually worship many gods and many lords. But for us, there is one God, the Father, by whom all things were created, and for whom we live. And there is one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things were created, and through whom we live.

1 CORINTHIANS 8:5-6 (NLT)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

John 13:34-35; 1 John 5:5; 1 Corinthians 2:13-14; John 14:6; Ephesians 4:15

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- *Handbook Of Today's Religions*, Josh McDowell and Don Stewart
- *Now Go Forward*, J. David Eshleman

6. Sharing Jesus with My Actions

WRITTEN BY CHIP KAWALSINGH

THOUGHTS

What we do often has a greater impact than what we say. Our actions should always represent Jesus, no matter the emotions we feel or how difficult things may be. We should be living to represent Jesus—that's what really matters!

"All things are lawful," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful," but not all things build up. 24 Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:23-24 (ESV)

The goal is to lay aside our own personal prejudices and hang-ups and build each other up.

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

ROMANS 14:17 (ESV)

It's clear that our goal should be to represent the Kingdom of God correctly. In v19, Paul goes on to say, 'Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.'

What can we do to represent Jesus? Maybe offer to help someone with groceries or drop off a meal for them. Maybe something simple like a random act of kindness when someone least expects it. It's well within our capability to share Jesus by our everyday actions.

KEY SCRIPTURES

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and receives human approval. Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a person to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble. It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother or sister to fall. So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the one who does not condemn himself by what he approves.

ROMANS 14:17-22 (NIV)

So whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. Don't give offense to Jews or Gentiles or the church of God. I, too, try to please everyone in everything I do. I don't just do what is best for me; I do what is best for others so that many may be saved.

1 CORINTHIANS 10:31-33 (NLT)

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to them, "Go in peace; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by my deeds. You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder. You foolish person, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? Was not our father Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. You see that a person is considered righteous by what they do and not by faith alone. In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction?

JAMES 2:14-25 (NIV)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Romans 6:15-23; Acts 17:24-26; Luke 5:18-20

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- Wholehearted Service (**sermon**), Alistair Begg
- *Truth For Life*, Alistair Begg

7. Sharing Jesus with My Words

WRITTEN BY SARAH KAWALSINGH

THOUGHTS

Our words bear fruit. Scripture is right when it says 'death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit' (Proverbs 18:21). Bearing fruit is mentioned in the Bible many times. John says that Jesus has appointed us that we should go and bear fruit. The fruit that we bear in our words should bring glory to God and be proof that we are His disciples (John 15:6-8).

God knows that we are all a work in progress and there are times when our words don't come out right, but when we choose to learn more about Christ, increase our knowledge of Him and allow Him to work in us, then the change in us will be reflected in our words and actions.

It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the thought of sharing our faith with someone who doesn't know Christ. But think of it this way: we've got to get the Word in us for God to get it out of us. There will be times when you will find yourself sharing your faith with someone and you walk away thinking what on earth happened there! You soon realise that the Bible study you did, or that Scripture you read, or that message you heard, was brought to mind in that moment to help you talk to that person about Christ.

KEY SCRIPTURES

For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

COLOSSIANS 1:9-14 (NKJV)

Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.

MARK 16:14-20 (NKJV)

FURTHER SCRIPTURES

Psalm 1; John 15:4-5; Jeremiah 15:16; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12

RECOMMENDED RESOURCES

- *In The Presence Of My Enemies*, Gracia Burnham
- *My Utmost For His Highest*, Oswald Chambers

First Fruits

Giving our finances – sowing and reaping – should be a normal part of Christian life. Jesus, in the Gospels, commissioned his followers to ‘give and it will come back to you’. We can go as far as to say the mark of a true convert is one who lives the exchanged life: a life that reflects Christianity as Jesus intended it to be; a life of love under-pinned by giving and receiving; a life of generosity and obedience.

I. What is first fruits?

First fruits comes from the Hebrew *bikkurim*: ‘promise to come’

First fruits is an offering given in faith, believing that God will bless and prosper you over the next 12 months. It's a prophetic arrow shot into the new year declaring God's goodness and blessings over your future.

KEY SCRIPTURE

"You shall bring the choice first fruits of your soil into the house of the Lord your God. "Behold, I am going to send an angel before you to guard you along the way and to bring you into the place which I have prepared. Be on your guard before him and obey his voice; do not be rebellious toward him, for he will not pardon your transgression, since My name is in him. But if you truly obey his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries. For My angel will go before you and bring you in to the land of the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Canaanites, the Hivites and the Jebusites; and I will completely destroy them. You shall not worship their gods, nor serve them, nor do according to their deeds; but you shall utterly overthrow them and break their sacred pillars in pieces. But you shall serve the Lord your God, [a]and He will bless your bread and your water; and I will remove sickness from your midst. There shall be no one miscarrying or barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days. I will send My terror ahead of you, and throw into confusion all the people among whom you come, and I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you. I will send hornets ahead of you so that they will drive out the Hivites, the Canaanites, and the Hittites before you. I will not drive them out before you in a single year, that the land may not become desolate and the beasts of the field become too numerous for you. I will drive them out before you little by little, until you become fruitful and take possession of the land."

EXODUS 23:19-30 (NASB)

PROMISES FROM SCRIPTURE

- The Lord sends angels.
- The Lord removes opposition from around you.
- The Lord commands a blessing over your food and water.
- The Lord will take sickness away from your surroundings.
- The Lord gives you long life.
- The Lord will increase your inheritance.

2. What is the difference between tithes and first fruits?

The best of all first fruits of any kind, and every sacrifice of any kind from all your sacrifices, shall be the priest's; also you shall give to the priest the first of your ground meal, to cause a blessing to rest on your house. (Ezekiel 44:30)

TITHES VS. FIRST FRUITS

- The tithe is 10% of your income.
- First fruits is given in relation to what God wants to do in your life.
- The tithe releases your past efficiency.
- First fruits relates to your future prosperity.
- The tithe protects what you have.
- First fruits protects what you will have.
- The Tithe is given in faith that God will protect your present needs.
- First fruits is given believing for the increase that God will give you in the future.

Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.

LUKE 6:38 (NKJV)

For if the first-fruit is holy, the lump is also holy; and if the root is holy, so are the branches.

ROMANS 11:16 (NKJV)

