

Boise Valley Christian Communion
Call to Prayer and Fasting
Monday, January 2 – Sunday, January 22, 2012

PURPOSE OF THE FAST

To inquire of the Lord for yourself and on behalf of Boise Valley Christian Communion
with an expectation of the miraculous.

WHY FAST?

Jesus set the New Testament example by entering the Judean wilderness where He sought the Father in preparation for the ministry He was about to begin in earnest. It was desolate, as we might feel at times, but God the Father met Him there. The Holy Spirit provided all that He needed, especially when He completed His 40 days of fasting and the devil began the temptations. The victory Jesus won there established a pattern for us to follow.

7 points on fasting from Dr. Bill Bright, Campus Crusade for Christ. For more information go to:
<http://www.ccci.org/training-and-growth/devotional-life/personal-guide-to-fasting/index.htm>

1. Fasting was an expected discipline in both the Old and New Testament eras. Jesus fasted 40 days and reminded His followers to fast, "when you fast," not if you fast.
2. Fasting and prayer can restore the loss of the "first love" for our Lord and result in a more intimate relationship with Christ.
3. Fasting is a biblical way to truly humble ourselves in the sight of God (Psalm 35:13; Ezra 8:21). King David said, "I humble myself through fasting."
4. Fasting enables the Holy Spirit to reveal our true spiritual condition, resulting in brokenness, repentance, and a transformed life.
5. The Holy Spirit will quicken the Word of God in our heart and His truth will become more meaningful to us!
6. Fasting can transform our prayer life into a richer and more personal experience.
7. Fasting can result in a dynamic personal revival in our own life-and make us a channel of revival to others.

WHO IS FASTING?

The call is for all who call BVCC their church home, from the youngest to the oldest as they are able in the manner of their choosing. We are asking each participant to fast food of some sort (consult with your doctor, as needed) along with anything else the Lord may direct you to fast. (TV, video games, social media, etc.)

SELECTING THE TYPE OF FAST FOR YOU

Full Fast - Drink only liquids, non-acidic. (be cautious if this is your first fast)

The Daniel Fast - Eat no meat, no sweets and no bread. Drink water and juice. Eat fruits and vegetables.

Partial Fast - A partial fast is from 6:00 am to 3:00 pm or from sun up to sundown. You can select from three types of fasting —a Full Fast, Daniel Fast or give up at least one item of food.

HOW DO I INCORPORATE MY CHILDREN INTO FASTING?

As age appropriate, explain why we fast, to get our thoughts off the things that distract us from our focus on Jesus in our daily lives. When we are giving up something through fasting we should be filling that space with prayer and listening for the "still small voice" of the Holy Spirit to speak to us. The children and youth will have opportunity to share what they are hearing, just as the adults will.

FOCUS AREAS OF PRAYER DURING THE FAST

Individual (you) – what in your life would you be inquiring of the Lord concerning?

Corporate (BVCC) – broad and specific things the Lord may be saying to us as a Body.

Children and Youth – regarding them as our primary focus area for 2012.

SAMPLE PRAYERS

BE SPECIFIC! – Write down your greatest needs, the needs you see for the church, children, and youth, and pray specifically over each need. Write down what God impresses on your heart regarding direction or guidance.

Corporate (BVCC): Lord, I desire to see the life of Christ and His love poured out through me and our church. In order for BVCC to move forward, we must first be revived, full of the Holy Spirit, willing to lay down our agendas, desires, and expectations and totally surrendered to whatever the You want to do in us, through us, and with us. As we come together during this time, may we find ourselves united in vision and purpose and as we seek You together, may we will clearly hear You speak and discern Your leading.

Individual: Lord, what steps do You want me to take and how do You want me to proceed in any area of ministry to be done to better serve You and Your people. More of You Lord and less of me. Show me what I must lay down for that to happen. What needs to die in me so that more of You may come to life in me?

OUTCOMES – WHAT SHOULD WE BE EXPECTING?

Spiritual Breakthrough – personal and corporate
Surrender to God of all that is not pleasing to Him.

Brokenness –that leads us to His restoring work.

Revival – personal, corporate, and city-wide

United Vision and Purpose – as the Holy Spirit reveals.

Miraculous activity - healing, restoration, freedom from sin, salvation,

SHARE

Where do I share what the Lord is revealing to me?

Share with one another during the fast goes and on January 8, 15 & 22 we will have Sunday 9 AM meetings in the sanctuary for the purpose of coming together to hear what the Lord is saying to you, share testimonies, give encouragement, and give thanks through worship and prayer for what we are hearing.

Our 10:30 AM service will follow each meeting. We encourage ALL ages to share.

The Fast will end on Sunday, January 22nd at the 10:30 AM service. We will have a time of worship, celebration, communion, and sharing testimonies of what we've heard from the Lord individually and corporately..

Fasting can help you Recover Your Passion, Recapture Your Dream and Restore Your Joy!

RESOURCES

Jentezen Franklin: 21 Days of Fasting Videos from the Holy Land:
<http://www.jentezenfranklin.org/watch/index.php?m=list&c=1104>

Dr. Bill Bright, Campus Crusade for Christ on fasting:
<http://www.ccci.org/training-and-growth/devotional-life/personal-guide-to-fasting/index.htm>