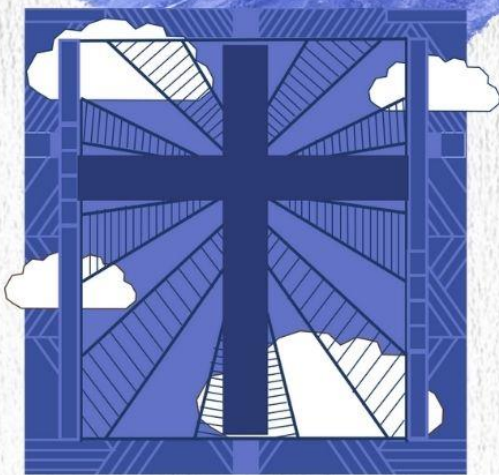


Midyear
**PRAYER
AND
FASTING**

July 4 - 9, 2022



**BE
HOLY**

1 Peter 1:16

From the Pastor's Heart

One key significant link to the holiness of God is prayer and, if I may add, fasting. When we turn to God in prayer, either as a church or as an individual, we are doing something that is holy, which is to say, we are making some conscious connection to the source of holiness – God.

R. A. Torrey writes, *"We should never utter one syllable in prayer, in public or private, until we're definitely conscious that we are coming into the presence of God and actually praying to Him."* And here's why it's important that we recognize to whom we are talking: it gives us a needed perspective. We are a holy people in the sense that we affix ourselves consciously to the One who is by definition, Holy.

The month of July marks the second half of the year – a chance to step back, assess, and evaluate our year so far as we are continuing to work our way through our theme "Be Holy." Without looking back and reflecting, it's hard to determine and gauge where we have been and how far we have come in a short period. It's all about that personal and communal growth in holiness and godliness.

Progress in personal holiness and godliness requires the cultivation of habits of prayer and fasting, both alone and with others. In Colossians 4:2, the apostle Paul says to us all, *"Devote yourselves to prayer."* As we choose to focus more deeply on prayer and fasting, God will bless us and strengthen our hearts for the challenging days ahead.

But the essence of real prayer and fasting is a cry for righteousness, a cry for holiness. I want you to know that this is really the essential part of prayer and fasting. Prayer and fasting more than anything else is the cry of the redeemed heart, the cry of the child of God for righteousness which he knows should be true of his life. However, it is violated repeatedly by sin. That's the substance that real prayer is made of.

May I encourage you in your prayer life, and in our prayer and fasting time, that your prayer, our prayer should primarily focus on hunger for righteousness and yearning for holiness. I'm telling you, if that becomes the dynamic in your prayer life, it will change your life and the life of our church. The cry of the heart is for true righteousness, true holiness; and to the one who is truly righteous and holy comes all the blessing of God.

Someone says, *"God is not melted into compassion by the heat of our words—but by the holiness of our hearts."* Charles H. Spurgeon beautifully puts it, *"Holiness is essential to power in prayer: the life must knock while the lips ask and the heart seeks."* A holy life in every phase is a life of consecration with prayer. And how does all this affect holiness? It affects it directly and in every aspect. Your growth and mine into the likeness of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be in exact proportion to the time and to the heart we put into prayer and fasting.

Pastor Ronel G. Rubrica

Head Pastor, KBCF

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Why Fast?

The Lord expects His disciples to fast. Referring to the time when He will no longer be with His disciples, our Lord Jesus Christ said, **"The day will come, when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast in those days"** (Mark 2:20).

Fasting, both personal and corporate, is a regular part of the life of God's people. And as heirs to this tradition, Jesus, and after Him the early church, fasted. The people of God in the Old Testament fasted when there was national emergency and distress, or when facing invasion (Ezra 8:21-23; 2 Chronicles 20:3; Nehemiah 1:4). They fasted as a sign of penitence (1 Samuel 7:6; Nehemiah 9:1; 2 Samuel 12:16). They fasted as an expression of sorrow (2 Samuel 1:12). They fasted as a sign of how serious they were for the things they were praying for and how serious prayer was for them (1 Samuel 1:8, 13; Esther 4:16). They fasted whenever they performed an important religious act, such as renewing their covenant with God (Ezra 10:6).

And as implied by the words of Jesus in Mark 2:20, Jesus' disciples will fast when the bridegroom, our Lord, is no longer physically present with them. Perhaps following the Lord is so much clearer when He is physically with them. But now that He is no longer visible, we, His disciples, fast, especially when we need His direction.

In our Days of Prayer and Fasting in the past, all agreed that this intentional act of fasting helped bring unity of spirit. The recent national & local elections have caused stress to many, and so we need to unite in prayer as we intercede for our new set of leaders. The fear of new COVID-19 variants continues to take its toll. Restrictions have affected the inertia of our church programs and activities, to say the least; and we need our Lord's direction, if not His clear word, as we establish a better normal in our church life. We need to unite in prayer for protection from the variants and for effective, readily available vaccines for vulnerable sectors. We need to pray for this pandemic to continue to be under control, and that we will emerge from it victorious and transformed more and more into Christ-likeness. Our nation and the whole world need our prayers so that this great crisis will not be wasted.

The Pastoral Staff and the rest of the leaders of the church have long desired in their hearts for the Lord to pour out His Holy Spirit upon us. These guidelines will help us prepare ourselves for the days of prayer and fasting.

Benefits of Fasting

Before He began His ministry, Jesus fasted for forty days. He knew He was going to need spiritual strength to fulfill God's purposes. Fasting makes us physically weak but spiritually strong, and prepares us to do God's work.

Jesus said, "**WHEN** you fast", not **IF** you fast. This means that fasting, like prayer, is not an option. Fasting is part of the Christian life. Fasting results to...

deepened humility;

increased hunger to know God and
intensified concentration in prayer;

radical pursuit of God's vision and
direction for His church and our lives;

heightened expectancy of faith and
effectiveness in prayer;

greater receptivity to the Spirit of God at work
within and through our lives;

earnestness and zeal to give oneself to God and
live for the advancement of His Kingdom.

How do I Pray and Fast?

Fasting is going without food, water, or specific meals and activities for the purpose of spiritual renewal and focus.

“When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.” (Matthew 6:16)

Types of Fast

1. COMPLETE FAST: In complete fast, a person goes without food for a predetermined amount of time. Water is allowed as it is necessary. Extreme caution should be taken with long fasts, especially if there are any underlying medical conditions. It is wise to consult your physician if you are planning to embark on a long fast.

2. PARTIAL FAST: In partial fast, a person just eats certain food for a period of time or has one or two meals a day. Daniel and John the Baptist maintained a certain diet during their fasts. John Wesley ate only bread and water for many days as his fast.

3. OBJECT FAST: It is possible to fast on something other than food. Some decide to fast on TV or computer time. The key is to replace the time spent on that activity with time devoted to the Lord.

Schedule

Day 1

- Complete fast
- Partial fast
- Object fast
- Other: _____

Day 2

- Complete fast
- Partial fast
- Object fast
- Other: _____

Day 3

- Complete fast
- Partial fast
- Object fast
- Other: _____

Day 4

- Complete fast
- Partial fast
- Object fast
- Other: _____

Day 5

- Complete fast
- Partial fast
- Object fast
- Other: _____

Day 6

- Complete fast
- Partial fast
- Object fast
- Other: _____

Prayer

Gatherings

Wednesday, July 6, 2022
7PM via Zoom

Thursday, July 7, 2022
7PM via Zoom

Meeting ID: 853 710 7761
Passcode: ILOVEJESUS

Friday, July 8, 2022
7PM at KBCF Worship Hall

Preparing to Fast

1. Be in faith.

Prayerfully and thoughtfully fill out the prayer points page of this guide. Ask the Holy Spirit for guidance. Be clear and specific about your faith goals in your personal life, family, finances, and church. These are what you will be believing God for during the fast and the entire year. Expect God to answer. Maintain a thankful heart throughout and after the fast.

2. Commit to a type of fast.

We encourage everyone to commit to a seven-day water only or liquid fast. However, we understand that some are unable to do so because of certain circumstances, such as pregnancy, a physically demanding profession, and medical conditions. If you belong to this category, there are alternatives—you may choose to do a combination fast.

You may do a liquid fast for three days and then a one-meal-a-day fast for the next four, for example, or any other combination according to your need or situation. Pray about the kind of fast you will undertake and commit to it. Some do the “Daniel fast” which is all vegetables and fruits and no meat. Do not decide on a day-to-day basis. Commit before the fast and be determined. Ask God for grace.

3. Plan your calendar.

Limit your physical and social activities during this period. You need to conserve physical energy and devote more time to prayer and reading the Bible.

4. Prepare spiritually.

More than anything, our semi-annual fast is a time when we believe God for a fresh encounter with Him. Be prepared to have the Holy Spirit put His finger on an area in your life that needs to change. Repentance is the foundation of prayer and fasting. Be ready to repent and change, and be transformed. Surrender everything to Him. Be completely open.

5. Prepare physically.

Be smart as you enter into this fast. Do not go to a buffet restaurant on the eve of the fast, hoping to stock up on food in your body. The key is to gradually prepare your body. Start eating smaller portions and meals seven days before you begin your fast. Avoid food that is high in sugar and fat. Avoid drinking coffee. This can cause headache during the fast. Two days prior to the fast, eat raw fruit and vegetables only. Consult a physician if you need to.

During the Fast

Seek the Lord.

- a. Commit to prayer and Bible reading the times you usually allocate for meals.
- b. Join at least one prayer gathering. Be ready to respond when you hear from God.
- c. This guide also has a devotional with which we encourage you to go through during the fast.

Commit to change.

- a. Whatever God tells you or puts His finger upon, apply it immediately.
- b. If you need to make restitution, immediately contact people you have broken relationships with.
- c. If there are habits that need to be changed, make the adjustment immediately. Ask your cell group leader/discipler to hold you accountable.

Practical tips:

- a. Avoid medical and even natural herbal drugs. However, if you are under medication, these should only be withdrawn upon the advice of your doctor.
- b. Limit your physical activity and exercise. If you have a workout routine, adjust it accordingly. A daily two to five-kilometer walk should be your maximum amount of exercise during an extended fast.
- c. Rest as much as you can.
- d. Maintain an attitude of prayer throughout the day. Intercede for your family, pastors, church, nation, our missionaries, world missions, etc.
- e. Drink plenty of water.
- f. As your body adjusts, be prepared for temporary bouts of physical weakness as well as mental annoyances like impatience, irritability, and anxiety.

Breaking the Fast

Reintroduce solid food gradually.

You should break your fast the same way you prepared for it. It will take your body just as many days you fasted to adjust to a normal diet. Begin eating gradually. Don't eat solid food immediately after your fast. Start with fruits, juices, and salad. Then, you can begin adding vegetables and boiled potato. Take it slowly from there. Eat small portions spread throughout the day.

Continue praying.

Don't let your prayer life end on the day you finish the fast. Build from the momentum you gained during the fast. Let it transform your prayer and devotional life. Carry the new found passion with you throughout the year.

Be expectant.

Be in faith and believe God to answer your prayers soon! Don't give up; persevere in prayer even if you don't see the answers immediately. Make sure you keep the copy of your prayer points. You can check it at the end of the year and see how God has answered your prayers. It can be your thanksgiving list at the end of the year.

2022 Faith Goals



Myself



My Family



My School/
My Career

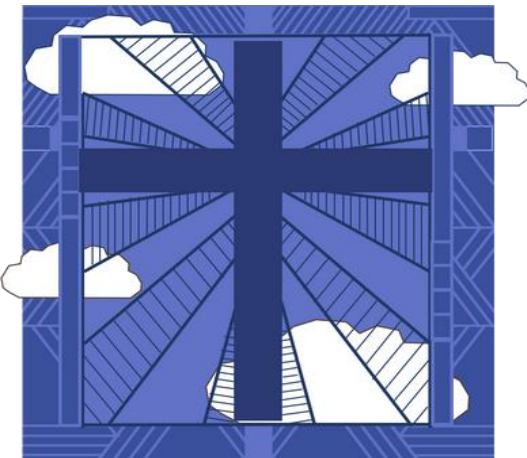


My Ministry

May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed. (Psalm 20:4)

Devotion

Guide



BE

HOLY

1 Peter 1:16

Day 1

Mon, July 4

We are a Royal Priesthood, a Holy Nation (1 Peter 2:9). Let us Consecrate Ourselves.

Exodus 19:9-15; Leviticus 8:5-12; 20:7

Start to Connect

One sign that you are serious and determined about a certain task, or even a calling, is that you consecrate yourself to it in the presence of the people whom you care about and whom you trust to hold you accountable. Have you consecrated yourself to be holy?

Truth to Ponder

1. At the least, as the people of God, we should not take for granted that our God is holy. To consecrate ourselves, as we approach him, is to be mindful of the condition of our heart, our inner life. Israel was asked to wash their clothes (and themselves?) and to be ready (Exodus 19:9-15; Leviticus 20:7). How then should you prepare yourself as you approach our Holy God? (i.e., Muslims wash their hands and remove their shoes/sandals before entering the mosque.)
2. A special consecration is required for the priests. (Aaron and his children, Leviticus 8:5-12) The breastplate Moses placed over Aaron is a reminder for the priest to always carry the nation Israel's life and its future in his heart in prayer. (The Urim and Thummim ["light" and "truth", v.8] are meant to seek and indicate the will of God for the nation Israel.) We are God's Royal Priesthood, a Holy Nation (1 Peter 2:9) for the world! We carry its life and future, its "light" and "truth" in our heart! How does this truth impact your spiritual life?

Examine the Word

1. Read Exodus 19:9-15 and Leviticus 20:7 prayerfully. What was God's instruction to His people before He meets with them? (vs. 9-11)

Is this a one-time requirement, or something that is demanded because of who God is? (Leviticus 20:7) _____

What is your reaction? _____

2. Perhaps “be ready” (or prepare, v. 11) is something we can relate to? But do we usually prepare (or ready) ourselves when we approach God in prayer or even read His word?

What is your reaction? _____

3. Given the fact that the Israelites were in the wilderness, is washing their clothes (or even themselves) as an act of consecration easy? (The Lord told them to prepare 3 days ahead!?)

4. Their act of consecration is communal. This means they consecrate themselves before their significant others who can hold them accountable! What is your reaction?

5. Consecration is setting oneself apart for God. Thus, Moses adds “do not go near a woman” (v. 15) What is your reaction?

6. Read Leviticus 8:5-12 prayerfully. As priests, Aaron and his sons’ consecration carries other “requirements”. What are these? (vs. 7-8, 10-12) _____

Vs. 10-12 indicate their place of work was also consecrated! What is your reaction? _____

Personal Application

1. The first step to be holy is to consecrate oneself, to set oneself apart for God, in the presence of witnesses, of people who can hold you accountable. What step(s) would you be taking to apply this in your life?

2. How does point #2 of Truth to Ponder above apply to your prayer life (if not the whole world, at least for our own nation.)

3. At the least as a Royal Priesthood, we need to be praying (as a continuing act of consecration) for our places of work and/or study. What step(s) would you be taking to apply this to your life?

4. Would it be possible to have yourself consecrated in the presence of your cell group or Bible Study group?

What step(s) would you be taking to apply this to your life?

5. Ask God to help you consecrate yourself in your desire to be holy.

Prayer List

NATION: National leaders

Praise God for outgoing leaders (President, Vice-President, Senators, Congressmen/women, Party List representatives) – for their specific accomplishments during their respective terms.

Pray for those duly elected in the May 09, 2022 elections:

- President, Vice-President –God’s wisdom for important programs like platform of government for the next 6 years and for actions to unify the nation.
- Senators (12) and Congressmen/Party List Reps. (316). God’s wisdom to make important bills that will enhance economic recovery and political stability; wisdom to approve/reject key appointments by the new president, wisdom in authorizing the new president to carry out national policies like those for national emergencies.



CHURCH/ MINISTRIES: Church Council

Praise God for His sustaining grace, for the leaders' commitment and service; guidance and strength as members of the policy-making body of the church.

- Continuing Elders: Dulce Abutal, JD Belandres, Miriam Daway, RJ Gonzales, Billy Muñoz, Renfred Silva, and Eireen Villa.
- Incoming Elders: Third Fermin and Mark Benedict Uy



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

Pray for: a. Holy Spirit's intervention for healing and restoration of relationships (within the church, family; among friends, neighbors, workmates, etc.) that were strained due to the elections and other issues;

b. breakthroughs for healing of sicknesses;

c. breakthroughs for sharing the good news of salvation and for discipleship opportunities within circle of influence and beyond.



MISSIONS

"World Christians focus their prayer toward God's global purpose and pray about things that will be a blessing to all the nations."

– David Bryant (Founder of Concerts of Prayer International).

Pray that as believers of Jesus Christ, we will all mature into Christlikeness and truly be a church after God's own heart. (Mark 8:34-35)

Pray that as we heard and received the Gospel from someone else and had been discipled by someone and grew spiritually through God's work in our lives, we will also have the boldness to share the Gospel with others and become disciple-makers who in turn will disciple others as well (2 Tim 2:2).

Pray that as a Church, we will have unity with Jesus and the Father, and with one another, that we might be empowered in obeying the Great Commission (John 17).

Pray that as a Church, we will continue to spread in our missions work in ever-widening circle from Jerusalem to Judea and then into Samaria and continuing to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8).

Start to Connect



Are you different (in a good way) from others, at least from those who are not upfront about themselves being Christians? The Lord would like for His people to be set apart from other nations. We are a Holy Nation. Let us start it in our homes by honoring our parents.

Truth to Ponder



1. The Lord would like us, His people, to be different (in a good way) from the people around us. (Leviticus 19:2-4). In the days of Moses, the Lord specifically mentioned 3 areas where His people ought to be distinct in their homes – honoring of parents, Sabbath worship, and the worship of other gods. How are you distinct from the people around you?
2. Paul sets the Christian home in the context of God’s plan and purpose to unite heaven and earth in and through Christ (Ephesians 1:10) The relationship between husband and wife sets the tone on how this plan and purpose of God happens in the home. (Ephesians 5:31-33; note that the early churches are house churches) Loving your spouse and honoring one’s parents (which includes loving one’s siblings) are acts of holiness. Can this be said of you?

Examine the Word



1. Read Ephesians 5:31-33 prayerfully. God would like the Christian couple reflect/recover His original intention in creating mankind. (v. 31; Genesis 1:27; 2:24) What is your reaction?

2. Paul's use of mystery in Ephesians refers to God's plan and purpose now revealed in and through Jesus Christ and now proclaimed by the apostles. (v. 32; Ephesians 1:10; 3:8-11) The Christian couple reflects God's plan and purpose proclaimed in the house church. This is a matter that would take the Christian couple a lifetime to be awed and to reflect on. What is your reaction?

3. During that time husbands owned his wife and his children. He can do anything with them! How can a Christian couple then be distinct and holy? (v. 33)

4. Read Ephesians 6:1-4 prayerfully. Honoring of one's parents comes with a promise. Here Paul alludes to God's promise to Israel that if they are holy and honor their parents, they will live long in the land. Article XV section 1 of our constitution recognizes the family as the foundation of the nation. What is your reaction?

Thus, loving your spouse and honoring one's parents are not only acts of holiness but is also helping build the nation! What is your reaction?

5. At that time fathers owned their children. They can do anything with them. How then is being a Christian parent distinct and holy? (v. 4)

Personal Application

1. Take time to reflect as a Christian couple on your part in God's plan and purpose for the whole of creation. (Thought to ponder no. 2; Examine the Word nos. 1 and 2) What is your realization(s)?

2. As a couple, what step(s) would you be taking to apply the lessons you learned?

3. As a son or daughter, what step(s) would you be taking to apply the lessons you learned?

4. In the first century AD, the burden of being holy and distinct is in the shoulder of the father, *pater de familia*. If you are a father, what are your realizations?

What steps would you be taking to apply the lesson(s) you learned?

5. Pray for your family (and families that the Lord reminds you of) as you end your time of reflection.

Prayer List

NATION: National leaders

Praise God for previous leaders (name the Governor, Vice-Governor of your respective provinces) – for their specific achievements during their term.

Pray for the Governor, Vice-Governor of your province duly elected in the May 09, 2022 elections, and for the rest of the 81 Governors and Vice-Governors.; 782 members of Provincial boards. Pray that they will be responsible in delivering the services needed in your respective provinces. (Name these services).

CHURCH/ MINISTRIES: Admin-Finance, Church Staff and Volunteer Office Workers (VOW)

Pastor Ronel Rubrica
Jay Cayari, VOW-Worship Department
Ruth Dave, VOW-Spiritual Care Department
Rene Salem, VOW Maintenance
Tess Bibay, VOW-Cashier
Milet Cardano, Admin Head
Jay Ann Tutor, Bookkeeper
Faith Leonen, Secretary
Ivan Mahaguay, Multimedia
Ruben Jambongana, Maintenance

FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

God's wisdom for adjustment of family members on reporting onsite for work — schedules and assigned chores, for review of family income and expenses in the midst of rising prices and transport challenges.

Breakthroughs for enhancing businesses and sources of income, settling of accountabilities and dislocations due to the pandemic.

MISSIONS

“The Church of the Lord Jesus Christ is defined by mission – for it is composed of those who were won to salvation by mission, and now have the awesome responsibility to win others as their mission.”

– Patrick Johnstone (served many years as missionary in many countries in Africa; was Director of Research at WEC International when he authored the book ‘Operation World.’)

Pray that as we have been blessed (top line blessing), we might be a bottom-line blessing to others spiritually and in practical and tangible ways. (Gen. 12: 2-3)

Pray that as the Lord has blessed us with His provision for all our needs, we will also give willingly towards His work in missions and to His workers as well — the called and sent ones — so that we not only support them with our prayers but with His provision as well. (I Cor. 9:13-14)

Pray for wisdom and guidance as the Missions Committee align ourselves to God’s vision and agenda as we make plans and implement our mission goals through various trainings — evangelism, missions, church planting and developing Kingdom-building tools.

Pray that we will continue to grow and expand as a global church as we see mission, not as one place to the rest of the world, but as everywhere to everywhere. The worldwide migration is a phenomenon and opportunity in our times. Many mission fields have now arrived at our doorsteps — refugees, migrants/the diaspora, international students, business and trade people — pray we will seize the moment and reach many of these least-reached people groups.

Start to Connect

What are the other traits concerning holiness that we learn from our home? Our main passage identifies idolatry (the worship of other gods) and the practice of Sabbath. In the bible idolatry is intertwined with covetousness and the practice of Sabbath highlights the rhythm of trust and rest in the midst of a hurried world.

Truth to Ponder

1. In a life based on agriculture, surrounded by hostile tribes, to leave your farm and all that you have, not to mention the things that you need to attend to in the farm (your servants are also having their Sabbath rest), to worship God on a Sabbath is an act of trust. Does your worship involve trusting God? (i.e., Can you turn off your phone if you are on call, or if you're expecting an important call?)
2. Sabbath too is a reminder of our redemption, and a call to a compassionate life to those who are in the margin of society. (Deuteronomy 5:14-15) It is also a call to have a rhythm of rest and worship in one's life. In a frantic world, where every chance and opportunity matter, Sabbath worship at the least is counter-intuitive. Is your worship life distinct from others, and is an act of holiness?
3. Idolatry is the worship of other gods other than, or even in addition to, the worship of the true God, Yahweh. Paul equates idolatry to covetousness and/or greed. Is there any other god in your home? (i.e. career, reputation, money, accumulation of material things)

Examine the Word

1. Read Leviticus 19:1-4 and Deuteronomy 5:12-15 prayerfully. Can you imagine a time when everything stops as implied in Deuteronomy 5:14? What is your reaction?

(Nowadays, when we decide to just spend the day worshipping the Lord, there are the *kasambahays* to cook for us, or restaurants to serve our meal!) What must it be like to worship the Lord and devote the whole day to Him in a hostile environment (i.e., persecutions; Hebrews 10:24-25)

2. Read Leviticus 19:1-4 and Ephesians 5:5 prayerfully. The nations around Israel took for granted to worship their gods (in fact Old Testament scholars think that it took for Israel to be exiled to realize that their God Yahweh is no tribal god like that of the nation!). In fact, since Israel has no idol(s) in their altar they were considered atheists! God's command is for them to have "no other gods before me" (Yahweh alone sits in the altar). To be holy, distinct, is to have no other gods. What is your reaction?
-
-

3. If covetousness or greed is tantamount to idolatry (Ephesians 5:5), what does Paul imply in terms of the human heart regarding idolatry? (i.e., we create gods in our image!)
-
-

Greed and/or covetousness have nothing to do with holiness. What is your reaction?

Personal Application

1. Sabbath is woven into the fabric of Israel's life, individually and corporately. It is a sign that they are set apart, holy before God. Can your worship and prayer life make you distinct, holy, and different from others? Why/why not?
-
-

What step(s) would you be taking to apply God's command to observe Sabbath (or its equivalent) in your life now?

2. How would you teach the practice of Sabbath to your children? (i.e. life lived in the rhythm of rest, worship, and trusting the Lord.)

3. At the least, addressing idolatry should start by living simple lives and not being caught up with materialism and the consumerism of the modern world. What steps would you take to address this matter in your home?

4. Pray for your family (and families that the Lord reminds you of) as you end your time of reflection.

Prayer List

NATION: Elected LGU Leaders

Praise God for former leaders (name the past Mayor, Vice-Mayor, Councilors of your respective cities) — for their specific achievements during their term.

Pray for the duly-elected Mayor, Vice-Mayor and Councilors of your city and for the rest of the 146 City Mayors and Vice-Mayors, 1,650 City Councilors; 1,488 Municipal Mayors and Vice-Mayors, 11,908 Municipal Councilors.

Pray they be responsible in delivering the services needed in your respective cities/ municipalities. (Name these services).



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

Holy Spirit's empowering to parents/ guardians and students to cope with demands of shifting from online to face-to-face classes in the midst of limited and high cost of transport; breakthroughs for hybrid set-ups mutually beneficial for teachers and students.



CHURCH/ MINISTRIES

Worship Department Ministries

(Pulpit preaching, Ministerial services, Sunday worship, Special events, Prayer, Ushering, Choir and Music/ Band)

Missions Department Ministries

(Missions Committee: Missionary Care and Development, Church Planting, Missional Partnerships and Engagements (Evangelism, Campus Ministry, Workplace Discipleship and Sports)



MISSIONS

Pray for our missionaries, local and cross-cultural, for their sensitivity to God's leading in their lives and ministries, strength and good health, protection from the evil one and empowerment as they proclaim the Gospel, make disciples and engage the people groups to which they are reaching out.

Pray for our local Missionaries: Set 1

1. Pastor JOHNNY PABIA (Mahanaim Ministries)
2. Pastor JOSEPH LEE (Bless Fellowship/New Tribes)
3. Pastor PHILIP FLORES (TOPIC)
4. Pastor JOJIE LIMJOCO (Companion with the Poor)
5. KIM SISON (KBCF - Pastor's Mentor)
6. Dra. MATE FRANCISCO (Tentmaker-Zamboanga)
7. EFRAIM ELIJAH and MAIMAI TENDERO (Campus Crusade for Christ)
8. Pastor TERRY and ADA LUAREZ (In Christ Fellowship-N. Ecija)
9. Elder SITO SILVA (FOCIG)
10. PHOEBE PARREÑAS (Messiah College)

Day 4

Thu, July 7

Holiness is Loving Your Neighbor as Yourself.

Leviticus 19:9-18; Mark 12:29-31

Start to Connect

In the Old Testament to be holy is to be a good neighbor. Jesus would like His followers to be good neighbors. (Luke 10:37) We'll learn today the different ways to be a good neighbor.

Truth to Ponder

1. Leviticus 19 spells out what it is to be holy in God's sight. Vs. 1-4 defines who we are in our homes and what we teach our children in and through our lives. Vs. 5-8 points to ritual practice and how we need to be mindful of how we go about it. Vs. 9-18 illustrates our relationship with our neighbors and those around us. Holiness is loving your neighbor as yourself. In the modern world, with our busy lives, we seldom are concerned with our neighbors. In God's sight, who we are to our neighbors is a matter of being holy. (Luke 10:37)
2. The phrase "Remember your first love" (Revelations 2:4-5) evokes memories of the times when we passionately pursue holiness (We're not even aware that such is holiness.) because of our love for God. (Remember when we first came to know Him!?) In Mark 12:29-31, Jesus equates loving God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength with loving our neighbors as ourselves. In a way, the command for us to be holy is God telling us to remember our first love.

Examine the Word

1. Read Leviticus 19:9-10 prayerfully. Perhaps we find it hard to relate to the agricultural setting of this passage, but what do you think is the modern-day equivalent for us of God's command, "You shall leave them for the poor and the sojourners: I am the Lord your God."? (v.10; i.e., making provisions from our resources to give to the poor.)

2. Read Leviticus 19:11-12 prayerfully. With regards to our dealings with our neighbors, two commands stand out, “You shall not s_____” and “You shall not l_____”. These commands become more serious for us now that we bear His name! (CHRISTIans!) What is your reaction?

3. Read Leviticus 19:13-14 prayerfully. This passage warns us in the way that we conduct ourselves with our neighbors when we feel we have power over them, whether real or imagined. We shall always treat them with k_____. Why?

4. Read Leviticus 19:15-18 prayerfully. Usually, when grudges and/or bitterness with our neighbors have piled up, conflicts are taken to court. (At that time, this was taken up “in the gate” among elders, and neighbors stand as witnesses and/or called to be in the panel of judges, v.15) Thus, it is important to do away with bitterness and not hold grudges. (vs. 17-18). According to v. 17, how does one prevent himself to be bitter?

With the lessons learned from this passage in Leviticus and after reading prayerfully Mark 12:29-31, what does loving your neighbor as yourself mean to you personally?

Personal Application

1. As we consecrate ourselves to be holy, the Lord is telling us that we need to remember our first love. (Truth to Ponder no. 2 above) What step(s) would you be taking to respond to this reminder from God?

2. What lesson(s) from our study of Leviticus above regarding holiness and loving our neighbor strike/s you the most?

What step(s) would you be taking to apply this (these) lesson in your life?

3. Bitterness and/or grudges have nothing to do with holiness. In the light of the recently concluded contentious election, and in response to God's call for you to be holy, is there any bitterness or grudge that you need to do away with?

4. Ask God to reveal the condition of your heart. (Jeremiah 17:9; Romans 8:27)

Prayer List

NATION: Government Platform

Pray national leaders to uphold continuity of long-term government programs, for new administration to consider the past administration's Ten-point Agenda — Numbers 1 to 5:

1. Strengthen healthcare capacity
2. Accelerate and expand the vaccination program
3. Further reopen economy and expand public transport capacity
4. Resume face-to-face learning
5. Reduce restrictions on domestic travel and standardize LGU requirements



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

Holy Spirit's enablement for family members to enhance physical fitness and outdoor activities, to go back to more nutritious home-cooked meals; breakthroughs to discard habits acquired during the pandemic that are not healthy for the spirit and for the body.



CHURCH/ MINISTRIES

The Lord to provide a full-time pastor for the Spiritual Care department (SCD).



MISSIONS

Pray for our missionaries, local and cross-cultural, for their sensitivity to God's leading in their lives and ministries, strength and good health, protection from the evil one and empowerment as they proclaim the Gospel, make disciples and engage the people groups they are reaching out to.

Pray for our Local Missionaries: Set 2

1. Pastor Buboy and Barbs Pabia (ABCCOP-Bukidnon)
2. Eve Bariuan (House Church Movement)
3. Joy Famador (Micah Philippines, Vote Net, Global Integrity Network)
4. Dra. Cynthia Hubalde (Shiloh Bible Christian Fellowship, Pasig)
5. Wilma Limjoco (Philippine Sending Council of SEND International)
6. Pastor Freddy Vasquez (Northview Christian Fellowship)
7. Marcelo Boot (Companion with the Poor)
8. Mel Micah Catalon (Campus Crusade for Christ)
9. Sonny Cristobal (Kairos Bible Christian Fellowship, Bagong Silangan, Quezon City)

To be Holy is to be a Forerunner of the Reign of God, Part 1

Numbers 15:40; Matthew 4:17; 5:3-5; Luke 4:18-19

Start to Connect

To be holy is to obey all of the Lord's commands (Numbers 15:40). Jesus commands us, His followers to be the forerunners of the reign of God. We are those in and through whom the kingdom of God comes (cf. Matthew 28:18-20) – The poor in spirit, those who mourn, and the meek.

Truth to Ponder

1. In Matthew's gospel, Jesus is presented like Moses. As Moses gave the word of God, the Ten Commandments, coming from the top of Mt. Sinai, Jesus gave the "new" commandments in His sermon from the mount (Matthew 5:1-9; New Testament scholars note that, as there are 5 books of the Torah, Jesus in Matthew's gospel gave 5 sermons/discourses, Matthew 5-7, 10, 13, 18, and 23). To be holy is to obey the commands of Jesus. (cf. Matthew 28:18-20)
2. The Beatitudes is part of the continuing proclamation of Jesus about the coming of the Kingdom of God. (Matthew 4:17; New Testament scholars say that Matthew's use of the kingdom of heaven is the Jewish way of not mentioning God. Cf. The Lord's Prayer, Matthew 6:9) Thus, Jesus is not talking about the attitudes that will merit the blessings of the kingdom, but rather is talking about the kinds of people in and through whom the kingdom of God comes. Jesus' followers are forerunners of the reign/kingdom of God. They are those who are poor in spirit, those who mourn, and those who are meek. Are you one?

Examine the Word

1. Read Matthew 5:3-5 and Luke 4:18-19 prayerfully. Jesus exemplifies what it is to be poor in spirit, what it is to mourn for the pains of the earth, and what it is to be meek. It is in this way that He brings the kingdom of God! What is your reaction?

2. From what you have read about Jesus in the gospel, how did Jesus exemplify what it is to be poor in spirit? (i.e., John 8:1-11)

What it is to mourn? (i.e. Luke 7:11-17)

What it is to be meek? (i.e., Jesus before Pilate, John 18:28-38)

3. Jesus exemplifies what it is to be holy. (He is the holy one of God, Mark 1:24) Thus, to be holy, as a forerunner of the kingdom of God, we must be poor in spirit, mourn, and be meek. What is your reaction?

Personal Application

1. Which of these traits – poor in spirit, one who mourns, meek – do you resonate with? Why?

2. Which of these traits are you far from being one? Why?

What step(s) would you be taking to have these traits manifest in your life as you pursue holiness?

3. Take time to pray for yourself to become a forerunner of the kingdom of God as you pursue holiness.

Prayer List

NATION: Government Platform

Pray national leaders to uphold continuity of long-term government programs, for new administration to consider the past administration's Ten-point Agenda – Numbers 6 to 10

6. Relax requirements for international travel
7. Accelerate digital transformation through legislative measures
8. Provide for enhanced and flexible emergency measures through legislation
9. Shift the focus of decision-making and government reporting to more useful and empowering metrics
10. Medium-term preparation for pandemic resilience



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

God's wisdom for heads of families on COVID-19 vaccination for children, 3rd and 4th vaccinations for adults; breakthroughs for wisdom on safe means for physical interaction among the vaccinated and unvaccinated.



CHURCH/ MINISTRIES

The Lord to provide workers/volunteers to the following committees of Spiritual Care Department.

- a. Shepherds Care Committee head and other members
 - Discippler development – CGLA coordinator; identify and recruit potential disciplers.
 - Monitoring – assist in connecting with disciplers and monitor discipleship frequency
 - CG support – DUA writers
- b. Growth Care Committee
 - Equipping – coordinator/secretariat for Events and Schedules; assist Growth Care head



MISSIONS

Pray for our missionaries, local and cross-cultural, for their sensitivity to God's leading in their lives and ministries, strength and good health, protection from the evil one and empowerment as they proclaim the Gospel, make disciples and engage the people groups they are reaching out to.

1. Pastor Ver and Melody Garrido (Indonesia)
2. Bishop Ef Tendero (WEA, Global Ambassador)
3. Glenn and Pia Sebios (Cambodia)
4. TM (Kyrgyzstan)
5. Jong Vital (Cambodia)
6. MDR (Dubai)

To be Holy is to be a Forerunner of the Reign of God, Part 2

Numbers 15:40; Matthew 4:17; 5:6-9; Luke 4:18-19

Start to Connect

To be holy is to obey all the commands of the Lord. (Numbers 15:40) Jesus commands us, His followers to be the forerunners of the reign of God. We are those in and through whom the kingdom of God comes (cf. Matthew 28:18-20) – Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, and the peacemakers.

Truth to Ponder

1. In the light of the ongoing war in Ukraine which highlights the way of the world that might is right, how did the kingdom of God come in the person of Jesus? (Matthew 5:3-9; As one New Testament scholar puts it, “When the kingdom of God comes, God does not send in the tanks and artilleries, but rather the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, etc.”) Does this make sense in our violent world today? Or is this what it is to be holy (set apart for God), distinct, different from the world?
2. To hunger and thirst for the righteousness is to hunger and thirst for God’s justice. Is this what is happening to you heart right now in the light of the unjust pain and suffering in the world and in our nation today?

Examine the Word

1. Read Matthew 5:6-9 prayerfully. What is your reaction to no. 2 above regarding v.6?

2. We’ve just had a very contentious election that elicited a lot of animosities across all political colors. What does it mean to be merciful in our dealings with one another? (i.e., at the least, not to judge others.)

3. To be holy is not only a matter of behavior, but is also a matter of the heart according to v.8 (cf. Matthew 5:22, 28) What is your reaction?

4. At the least we ought to be praying for P_____ in Ukraine, according to v.9. Given the very divisive recently-concluded election, what should our stance be for our fellow Filipinos?

Personal Application

1. John Stott calls the Beatitudes as counter-cultural. To be holy is to be set apart for God, distinct and different from the world, thus, the beatitudes is God's call to be holy in today's world. What steps would you be taking to manifest what the Lord desires for His people, His holy nation, today?

2. Poor in spirit: _____

3. People who mourn: _____

4. Those who are meek: _____

5. Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness: _____

6. Merciful: _____

7. Pure in heart: _____

8. Peacemakers: _____

9. The common denominator in all of the steps you have listed above is prayer, for yourself and for your brothers and sisters. Read Matthew 5:3-9 again and pray that the Lord will bring about what He promised the kingdom will bring to His people who strive to be holy.

Prayer List

NATION: Government Platform

1. PRAY for major national concerns like:

Infectious Diseases: The Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases and the National Task Force Against Covid-19 to continue enhancing government long-term approach to prevention and treatment of infectious diseases.

2. Economic recovery: The National Economic and Development Authority to continue making and implementing measures to address economic recovery after the pandemic and in the midst of economic impact of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

God's covering of safety against infections as face-to-face meetings become closer and more frequent among relatives, loved ones, neighbors; Holy Spirit's prompting to observe health protocols.



CHURCH/ MINISTRIES

Pray that attenders will see the value in becoming a member of the Church, and attend our Baptismal and Membership classes.



MISSIONS

Pray for missions organizations, for their sensitivity to God's leading in their ministries, empowerment as they use their ministry to proclaim the Gospel, make disciples and engage the groups they are reaching out to.

4.1 Missions Organizations

1. ABCCOP (Pastor Chito Ramos)
2. Asian Theological Seminary (Missionaries Training Ground)
3. Philippine Council of Evangelical Churches
4. Values Orientation In Christian Education (Beverly Tenecio)
5. CBN ASIA (Lucille Talusan)
6. Back to the Bible (Bishop Ef)
7. OMF Literature (Yna Reyes)
8. Philippine Bible Society (Bishop Ef)
9. FEBIAS College of Bible (Bishop Ef, Dulce Abutal)
10. Far East Broadcasting Company (Bishop Ef)
11. World Evangelical Alliance (Bishop Ef, Third Fermin, Jores Dema-ala)

4.2 Special Ministries

1. KKCCS, KBCF Kinder Care Christian School
(Chairman-Rey Garrido)
2. KOPF, KBCF Operation Paglingap Foundation
(Chairman- Mon San Pascual)

2022 Midyear Prayer and Fasting Contributors

Pastor Jun Gonzaga ([Devotional Guide](#))

Pastor Ronel Rubrica ([From the Pastor's Heart](#))

Elder Cesar Montano ([Prayer Lists](#))

Thank You!



**BE
HOLY**
1 Peter 1:16



KBCF
