

What does JESUS Desire From His Followers?



KBCF

Midyear

Prayer and Fasting

July 3-8, 2023

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From the Pastor's Heart

What does your prayer life look like? Spending time with God in communion and prayer has been a lifelong struggle for many Christians. Though we experience blessed seasons when prayer is the easiest and most natural thing in the world, we also experience seasons when prayer is difficult and when it feels awkward or even ineffective.

We know so much of what the Bible says about the privilege, priority, and practice of prayer, yet struggle mightily to pray fervently and consistently. Very few of us pray as often and as earnestly as we would like. Very few of us are confident that we pray well. Fewer still feel like we really get prayer.

This discipline doesn't come naturally to us and we battle constantly to spend time with God and to even want to spend time with God. It is one that breeds guilt and shame. It breeds frustration and exasperation. Even at our most insightful moments we can't, however hard we try, figure out what it is that convinces us that we should do anything but spend a good part of our day pouring out our heart to God.

Even at those times when we feel like we are making strides forward, we still know how much better we could do. We are astounded at our own failures. It's not that we don't pray at all, but more that we just don't pray enough.

We know prayer to be theoretically important but yet practice it very little. We don't pray often enough and we don't pray vehemently enough. And for this reason, we are to look closely at this command and accentuate that it requires effort, it requires growing skill, it requires growing competence, it requires increasing faith.

The importance of prayer in the life of Jesus' follower cannot be overstated. The prayer life of Jesus shows us it is more about our relationship, engaging in conversation with him, and getting to know him better each day. If daily prayer was such an important lifeline for Jesus that he never neglected it, then surely it must be the same for all who seek to follow him. If it was part of the sacred discipline of Jesus that he should observe frequent seasons of retirement, how much more is it incumbent on us, broken as we are and crippled by manifold sin, to be diligent in the exercise of "prayerful prayer."

If we are followers of Christ, we will and should always pray to God. All Christians are called to pray (Col. 4:2). While, indeed, the Scripture commands us to pray, we pray not just out of obedience to the commandment to pray but moreover because we delight in communicating with God our Father. The most important appointment we make every day is the one we make with God. If we live our lives as followers of Christ in a relationship with God, we should communicate with Him regularly.

In his book, *Celebration of Discipline: The Path to Spiritual Growth*, Richard Foster reminds us that, “Of all the spiritual disciplines, prayer is the most central because it ushers us into perpetual communion with the Father.” This means that as we pray, we not only bring to God what is on our hearts but it draws our hearts closer to God. It’s the conduit we have to grow in a relationship with God and connect with Him in an ever deepening, intimate way.

Dr. Tim Keller states that “Prayer is continuing a conversation that God has started through His Word and His grace, which eventually becomes a full encounter with Him. The power of prayer, then, lies not primarily in our effort and striving, or in any technique, but rather in our knowledge and relationship with God.” Inherent as is our dependence upon God, no duty is more earnestly impressed upon us in the Bible than the duty of continual communion with Him.

Someone has also said, “The occupation of our soul is our communication lines with our Holy God. The occupation of our soul is our prayer life with Christ, one of the primary purposes of our existence.” Prayer is central to the follower of Christ’s faith and life. Prayer should be an integral part of our daily life, not an occasional lifeline when things go wrong. It ought to be a lifestyle for us as followers of Jesus. It shouldn’t be the last resort or a final act of desperation. Prayer is a lifestyle, not a lifeline.

It's just the way we live from day to day. It's a part of our entire life. It's the core of who we are. It's our breath. It's what we do all the time; on all occasions! Prayer is not to be a little segment of our lives, rather, it is to permeate all of life. As followers of Jesus, we have to go back to the heart of our relationship with God, and it's in our communication with Him through prayer, all the time, about all things, because that's our lifestyle! J. I. Packer writes, *"I believe that prayer is the measure of the man, spiritually, in a way that nothing else is, so that how we pray is as important a question as we can ever face."*

As we journey together in understanding the nature, the purpose, and the power of prayer, it is my prayer that God will bless these words and instill a joyful and fruitful prayer life in your life and mine. Pray for God to give us the heart and passion to pray. Pray that we as individuals and as a church would grow in great measure and deeply in prayer. Pray that we would not neglect our personal prayer, corporate prayer, and seasons of especially devoted prayer. Be encouraged and behold that the Lord is accomplishing something through our prayers, something greater than if He were to give us what we desire apart from ardent, impassioned, tear-filled prayers.

Pastor Ronel G. Rubrica

Head Pastor, KBCF



What is Fasting

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)



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.

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.



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 six-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 any of these categories, 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.

Types of Fast

a. 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.

b. PARTIAL FAST: In partial fast, a person just eats certain kinds of 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.

c. 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.

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.

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

July 3-7, 2023 | 7PM

July 8, 2023

Culmination | 10AM

KBCF Worship Hall



During the Fast

1. 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 which we encourage you to go through during the fast.

2. 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 with which you have broken relationships.
- c. If there are habits that need to be changed, make the adjustment immediately. Ask your cell group leader/discipler to hold you accountable.

3. 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

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

2023 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)

A man with a beard, wearing a brown robe, is seen from behind, looking out at a wooden boat on the sea. The scene is set against a bright, hazy sky. The image is framed by a wooden border at the top and bottom, with a rope running diagonally across the corners.

Devotion

GUIDE

Day 1

03 July | Monday

Consumed by His Word

Psalm 119:89-97



Our mid-year Prayer and Fasting is focused on what the Lord requires of us as followers. It is but right that we place firmly our faith in our faithful God and His Word. Today's passage states the reasons why we can truly anchor our faith in His Word.

First, His Word is established in the heavens and has endured the test of time, generation after generation (vv.89-91). Though written throughout a long span of time by a number of people, "all Scripture is breathed out by God" (1 Timothy 3:16). While some books last for many years, their content will become obsolete. Not so with God's Word. From the time of Creation until now, His Word stands.

His Word also gives life and sustains us (vv.92-93). Reading God's Word makes us realize our sinfulness, and the life-giving grace of Jesus. Our lives are powered by His Words of wisdom and guidance. Its fullness, sufficiency, and strength give us the "nourishment" we need as we journey with Him.

We also find security (vv.94-95), because as Peter said, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life" (John 6:68). The world's voice will be drowned by His Word that speaks victory which Jesus had won for those who choose life over death. There can never be a safer place than under the covering of our Lord who has the words of everlasting life.

God's Word is perfect (v.96) because it is spoken by a perfect God. His Word spoke creation into being, and now holds all things together. With such a clear picture of what God's Word is and the power it holds, what holds us back to meditate on it day and night?

Examine the Word

1. The writer of this Psalm showed such high regard to God's Word. What reasons were stated? _____

2. Verse 96 says "I have seen a limit to all perfection, but your commandment is exceedingly broad." Explain. _____

3. Why do you think Jesus requires us to be consumed by God's Word?

Personal Application

1. What steps can we take to allow ourselves to be consumed by God's Word? _____

2. How does meditation of His Word help us in our desire to follow Jesus? _____

Prayer

Father in heaven, Your Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light to my path. May I allow myself to be consumed in your Word, that I may become more and more like you as I walk in this journey called life. May my heart find joy in meditating your Word day and night, to seek you and your ways, and to follow you more closely. Amen

Prayer List

PHILIPPINES

Ito ang resulta ng survey ng *SWS at **PSA tungkol sa dami ng mahihirap. Ayon sa PSA, P12,030 per month for a family of 5 ang poverty threshold. Kapag ito lang income, hindi ito sapat para sa individual basic food and non-food needs.

SURVEY BY	RELEASE DATE	RATED SELVES AS POOR	POVERTY INCIDENCE, (*FIES Survey, 2021)
SWS	May 7, 2023	51% or 14M families	-
PSA	Aug. 15, 2021	-	18.1% or 20M

*SWS-Social Weather Station **PSA-Phil. Statistics Authority *FIES-Family Income and Expenditure Note: Hindi parehas ang survey pero result sinasabi--at least 14 M Filipinos ang mahihirap.

PRAY:

1. Palaguin ng Dios ang mga negosyo sa bansa para marami ang may trabaho at makaahon sa kahirapan.
2. Learning institutions, mabigyan ng sapat na kaalaman/kakayanan ang mga Filipino students para akma ang kanilang alam at kakayahan sa need ng employers.
3. Wisdom for government leaders, masuri ang mga dahilan sa mabagal na pasok ng investors; paano gawing mas competitive (more favorable) sa investors na dito magnegosyo at magbigay ng hanapbuhay.



CHURCH/MINISTRIES: Church Council

Continuing Members:

Elder Third Fermin
Elder Mark Uy

Newly Elected Council Members:

Elder Dulce Abutal
Elder JD Belandres
Elder Doris Cuaresma
Elder Mon Dela Torre
Elder Billy Muñoz
Elder Eireen Villa

Pray: God's anointing, empowerment and joy in serving; for their families to be blessed as their family member(s) obey God's call for service.



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

a. Family

Maalala ng mga magulang na pinili sila ng Dios para turuan ang kanilang sambahayan na sundin ang Panginoon, gumawa ng makatuwiran at tanggapin ang mga pangako ng Dios. Genesis 18:19

b. Health

Pray for KBCFers na may sakit in body, soul or spirit.

c. Breakthroughs

pray for breakthroughs in healing of relationships as members of KBCF



MISSIONS

a. Pray to the Lord of the harvest to send his laborers:

- Missions Pastor to KBCF na susunod sa Dios sa pag-akay sa KBCFers to labor in His harvest field.

- Campus Ministry workers to labor among the high schools around KBCF: Ramon Magsaysay High School, Quezon City High School , Don Alejandro Roces Sr. Science-Technology High School, and Manuel Roxas High School

- God to cause the continual enhancement of the Missions Department Policy Manual to help KBCF further raise up and care for missionaries and daughter churches

Pray for KBCF Missionaries

1. **Delos Reyes, Myrna** - Cru International
2. **Boot, Marcelo** - Companion with the Poor
3. **Catalon, Mel Micah** - Cru Philippines
4. **Flores, Philip** - PCEC- TOPIC Phils.
5. **Garrido, Ver and Melody** - SEND Intl.
6. **Lee, Joseph and Cora** - New Tribes Mission

Day 2

04 July | Tuesday

Devoted to Prayer

Colossians 4:2-6



As God's children, we should be devoted to prayer (v.2). The verb tense of the word "devote" is that of continuing action, meaning that prayer should be a constant preoccupation of our lives. While it is good to have special and scheduled times of prayer, we must practice the presence of God always whatever we are doing and wherever we are. We must pray continually (1 Thess. 5:17). We must live prayerfully.

When we pray, we are acknowledging that God is already at work around us. We are not twisting God's arm for Him to do something but simply joining God in what He is already doing in the world. Praying is getting God's will done on earth as it is in heaven. Therefore, we must be watchful, awake and alert to align with His will. And we must be thankful, showing trust in God that His will is always the best.

A necessary focus of our prayers should be that people will come into the saving knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. We should always pray for our leaders, pastors, and missionaries that God will enable them to be effective in reaching others for Christ (vv.3-4). And we should also pray for ourselves that as we go on with our daily lives, we can also do our part in expanding His kingdom (vv.5-6). We should realize that we can be the answer to our own prayers for people to know Jesus Christ.

Every person you and I encounter each day could be a divine appointment that leads to a positive spiritual outcome. We should build relationships with other people, pray for them, and then keep alert for opportunities to share Christ to them (v.5). We must be willing to be seen by the world as different, then that will give us opportunities to share the reason why (v.6). All of these should be done in an attitude of dependence on God and in the spirit of prayer.

Examine the Word

1. What do you understand by praying continually? How can it be done in the midst of our busy lives? _____

2. Why is our personal testimony before others a necessary ingredient in leading them to Christ? _____

3. How can our conversation be always full of grace and seasoned with salt? _____

Personal Application

1. Examine your prayer life. How often do you pray? What do you usually pray for? Do you focus on God's will rather than your own will? Do you pray only for your own needs or do you also pray for the needs of others, especially their spiritual needs? _____

2. Do you pray for our church, our leaders, and other Christian workers? How should you pray for them? _____

3. Have you ever been asked by others about the difference people can see in your life compared to others? How will you answer such a question? _____

Prayer

Lord, make us not just people who pray but people of prayer. May we live our lives in utter dependence on You and seek You always and align ourselves to Your will in all that we do. Help us to pray not only for material things for ourselves and for others but lead us to pray for the expansion of Your kingdom in people's lives and in our world. Use us to be the answer to our prayers. Cause us to reflect your light to others. Enable us to share with them Your good news. We pray these in the Name of our Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Prayer List

PHILIPPINES

Ito ang ilang details ng report ng survey ng International Institute for Management Development (IMD - Switzerland) tungkol sa global competitiveness ranking ng mga economies ng current and previous years: Philippines, bumaba ang ranking. Mas favorable sa investors magnegosyo sa bansa na mataas ang global competitiveness. Sa mga karatig bansa ng Philippines sa Asia-Pacific, 13th out of 14 economies ang rank ng Philippines for the past 6 years. Worldwide, bumaba sa #52. Malaki epekto ng paghina ng peso, ng pagbaba ng kita sa tourism at pagtaas ng inflation.

	World Ranking of Economy of Country				
Country	Philippines	Indonesia	Thailand	Malaysia	Singapore
Ranking	#52	#34	#30	#27	#4

Sa apat (4) na dimensions of competitiveness may improvement sa isa (1) pero nag-decline (bumaba) ang tatlo (3).

PERFORMANCE OF PHILIPPINES				
Performance	1. Economic Performance	2. Government Efficiency	3. Business Efficiency	4. Infrastructure
Improvement	YES #53, 2022 to #40, 2023	NO	NO	NO
Decline	NO	YES	YES	YES

Pray:

1. Praise God sa improvement sa dimension ng Economic Performance ng bansa, matapos ang pandemic gaya ng mga sumusunod:

SUBFACTORS/ AREAS WITH IMPROVEMENT	
1. Exchange rate stability	6. Homicide
2. Unemployment rate	7. Real *GDP Growth
3. Labor Force, Long term Growth	8. Gross Fixed Capital Formation-Real Growth.
4. Employment, Long-term Growth	9. **RandD, (Business Expenditure, Total Expenditure, Researchers, Total Personnel in RandD
5. Government Subsidies (Ayuda)	

**GDP-Gross Domestic Products **RandD-Research and Development*

2. Magpatuloy ang improvements sa areas na ito para makatulong mapagkasya ang income, pagdami ng pwedeng mag-trabaho, pagdami ng pagtatrabahuan. ayuda sa mga kinakapos, pagbaba ng krimen, pag-usad ng economy at mapalakas RandD na susi sa pag-unlad. Pagpalain ng Dios ang leaders ng national government at kawani ng government agencies na nakatulong sa improvements at patuloy silang gamitin ng Dios.



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

a. Family:

God to cause parents to be honored in the family so that the lives of children may be long. Exodus 20:12

b. Health

Pray for your family member, love ones who are sick in body, soul or spirit.

c. Breakthroughs

Pray for breakthroughs in healing of relationships within your family, circle of friends, your workplace, neighborhood.



CHURCH/MINISTRIES:

Church Staff and Volunteer Office Workers (VOW)

Pastor Ronel Rubrica

Elder Ruth Dave - VOW-Spiritual Care Dept.

Luke Suarnaba - VOW-Worship Dept.

Tess Bibay - VOW-Cashier

Milet Cardano - Admin Head

Jay Ann Tutor - Bookkeeper

Ivan Mahaguay- Multimedia

Ruben Jambongana-Maintenance Staff

Dandy Jambongana- Mechanical Staff



MISSIONS: KBCF Missionaries

7. Limjoco, Jojie - Companion with the Poor

8. Limjoco, Wilma - SEND-PSC

9. Magsalin, Terese - Philippine Challenge

10. Miranda, Benjie and Mimi - Action International Ministries, Phils.

11. Ngo, Pastor Tim - Street Believers Ministry

12. Pabia, Buboy and Barbs - Student Ministry - CMU

Day 3

Absolute Surrender

05 July | Wednesday

Luke 22:39-42



Absolute surrender means giving up our own will and personal agenda. It means putting our trust in God and allowing Him to control all aspects of our lives - for Him to direct our every step and decision. When we surrender our everything to Him, we are declaring His lordship over our life.

Surrender means to submit, to cease resistance, to agree to stop fighting, hiding, and resisting. What are you struggling to give up? What are you hiding from God? Why is it hard to "let go and let God?"

Oswald Chambers describes surrendering to God's will this way: "True surrender is not simply surrender of our external life but surrender of our will— and once that is done, surrender is complete. The greatest crisis we ever face is the surrender of our will. Yet God never forces a person's will into surrender, and He never begs. He patiently waits until that person willingly yields to Him. And once that battle has been fought, it never needs to be fought again."

Just like Jesus, we learn obedience to God through the things we suffer (Heb. 5:8). We must also learn to delight to do the will of God (Ps. 40:8). Let us learn to take joy in writing His every instruction on our hearts and in doing God's will and desire for our lives.

Examine the Word

"As was his custom" (v.39) – This narrative is also recorded in Matthew 26:36-46 and Mark 14:32-42. While Luke wrote a more condensed version of this account, he captured something very important - Jesus often went to Mount of Olives to pray. This is not the first time Jesus withdraw to a secluded place to pray.

In fact, this was an established habit, a natural part of his daily routine. This should remind us that we do not come to God just because we are in distress or undergoing difficulty. We are to regularly talk and converse with Him because of the close and authentic relationship we have with Him.

"Pray that you may not enter temptation" (v.40) - When Jesus taught his disciples how to pray, he included the petition to "lead us not into temptation" (Luke 11:4). When we pray against the temptation to sin, we acknowledge our weakness and the power of sin. This demonstrates our humility and dependence upon the Father. God does not tempt any one (James 1:13). We are tempted when we are lured and enticed by our own desires and pleasures (James 1:14). If we pray this particular phrase, God, in his grace and mercy, helps and even delights to keep us from any temptation.

"Knelt down and prayed"(v.41) - Jesus' posture in prayer is an indication of his total submission and surrender to the Father's will. Kneeling is a sign of submission to authority. We bend our knee to acknowledge other's authority over us. Psalm 95:6 invites us "to worship and bow down to our knees before God, our Maker." We are called to acknowledge the Lord's rule in our lives by kneeling before the Father when we pray.

"Not my will but yours"(v.42) - Jesus pleaded and presented his request to avoid the pain of the cross, but He submitted to the will of the Father. This demonstrated both the extent of Jesus' suffering and His willingness to submit to the Father's authority no matter what.

Personal Application

1. Pray not only against sin but also temptation. Plan against temptation in tangible ways. Identify specific patterns and tendencies to particular sins and list practical things you can do to avoid them. (Read 2 Timothy 2:22; Romans 13:14; Proverbs 5:1,3,8). Surrender every pattern and tendency before the Lord, and ask from the Holy Spirit the wisdom, grace, and strength to overcome them.
2. Like Jesus, we can reveal the deepest longings in our hearts to God, our Father. Can you trust Him enough to bear your innermost thoughts and feelings? Talk to him right now, and be truthful and authentic. He is intently listening to and patiently waiting on you.
3. Spend time to be still before God and quietly listen to His voice. Write down God's response to your prayers - any divine revelation and supporting scripture verses.

Prayer

Abba Father, help me submit to Your rule and will for my life. Thank you that you love me and always have the best intentions for me and my future. Lord, make me an obedient child - a person living a surrendered life that is pleasing to You. You know everything about me and I open myself to you. Search my heart and change me into the person that emulates Jesus Christ. Heal, change and transform me. In all of my weaknesses, please show Yourself strong - be magnified in me, O God! I choose today to surrender my all to You. Amen

Prayer List

PHILIPPINES

Ito pa ang ilang details ng report ng survey ng IMD (Switzerland) tungkol sa global competitiveness ng mga economies. Sa apat na dimensions of competitiveness, Philippines nagdecline sa tatlo.

PERFORMANCE OF PHILIPPINES			
1. Economic Performance	2. Government Efficiency	3. Business Efficiency	4. Infrastructure
YES #53, 2022 to #40, 2023	-	-	-
-	YES	YES	YES

Pray: Gabay ng Dios sa mga leaders ng national government at kawani ng government agencies para maisaayos mga sanhi ng pagbaba ng Government Efficiency, Business Efficiency at Infrastructure for the following areas:

SUBFACTORS/ AREAS THAT DECLINED		
1. Long-term Unemployment	6. General Government Debt	11. Current Account Balance, ^CAB
2. Cost of living...	7. Population Growth	12. Trade to GDP ratio
3. Consumer Price Inflation	8. Universal Health Coverage...	13. Public Expenditure, Education
4. Gasoline prices	9. Office Rent	
5. Government Budget Deficit	10. Tourism Receipts	

**GDP-Gross Domestic Products*

***RandD- Research and Development ^CAB-Financial Inflow to Outflow*

Pray: Gabay ng Dios sa leaders ng national government at kawani ng government agencies para matugunan ang kulang na Long-term unemployment, mataas na presyo ng biling, pagtaas ng Gasoline/ crudo, lumalaking utang ng gobyerno, paglaki ng population, kulang na health care coverage, mataas na office rent, pagbaba ng kita sa tourism, mas maraming pera ang lumalabas kaysa pumapasok sa bansa, kapos na pondo for public education.



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

a. Family

Pray for family members na mahalín ang Panginoong Dios nang buong puso, with all their soul and with all their might at ilagay sa puso ang kanyang mga utos at ituro sa kanilang mga anak. *(Deuteronomy 6:4-7)*

b. Health

Pray for yourself, tell God if you are sick in body, soul or spirit.

c. Breakthroughs

Pray for breakthroughs in your personal finances.



CHURCH/MINISTRIES

Worship Department Ministries

Pulpit Preaching, Ministerial Services, Sunday Worship, Special Events, (Prayer, Ushering, Choir and Music/Band)

Mission Department Ministries

For Missions Activities: Missionary Care and Development, Church Planting, Missional Partnerships and Engagements; Evangelism—Campus Ministry, Workplace Discipleship and Sports)



MISSIONS: KBCF Missionaries

13. Pabia, Pastor Johnny - Mahanaim Ministries
14. Sebios, Glenn and Pia - Independent Missionary
15. Silva, Sito - FOCIG, ATS
16. Sison, Kim - Independent-Cross-Cultural Missionary
17. Tendero, Buddy and Mai-Cru Philippines
18. Tendero, Bishop Ef -WEA, Galilean Movement

Day 4

06 July | Thursday

Loving Obedience

1 Samuel 15:1-35



Dictionary defined Obedience as an act or instance of obeying; the quality or state of being obedient.

In these passages, we see the quality of obedience by Saul and how this was rejected by the LORD.

God's word to Saul through Samuel in v.3 says, "Now go and strike Amalek and devote to destruction all that they have. Do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey."

How did Saul respond?

1. He complied but did not completely obey the command. He defeated the Amalekites but spared the king and the best of their animals. (vv.8-9)
The Lord's command entails complete obedience. Partial obedience is disobedience.
2. When confronted by Samuel, Saul reported that he had performed the commandment of the Lord, then later pointed to the people as the ones who spared the best of the sheep and oxen to sacrifice to the Lord. (v.15)
3. Though Saul admitted his sin of disobedience, he justified his transgression because he feared the people and obeyed their voice. (v.24)
4. As a consequence of his sin, the Lord rejected Saul from being king over Israel, tore the kingdom of Israel from him and gave it to a neighbor who is better than him. (vv.27-28)

Sounds familiar? Men of the Bible (e.g., Adam, Moses, David, Solomon, Jonah, Samson) fell into disobeying God and suffered consequences. How about us? How is our walk in obedience? Do we obey God in loving obedience and with all our being, or do we tend to rationalize or make alibis, excuses in compliance? Do we consider it as an obligation or a duty that we need to accomplish to make us pleasing in our relationship with God?

Obedience entails our reverence, fear, and our worship to God. It is our way of praising and thanking God for what He has done and will do to our lives. Obedience is a proof of our loving God. John 14:15 reads, "If you love Me, keep my commandments. Obedience is the core of our relationship with Jesus."

Examine the Word

1. In verse 12b, we read that "Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he set up a monument for himself and turned and passed on and went down to Gilgal". What could have been Saul's motive in setting up a monument for himself?

2. Why is Saul's rejection of the word of God likened to a rebellion which is as sin of divination and his presumption is as iniquity and idolatry (v.23)?

3. Saul reasoned out that he feared the people and obeyed their voice that has transgressed the commandment of the Lord in (v.24). Why would he fear the people, who were the same ones who demanded from the Lord for a king in Chapter 8? _____

Personal Application

1. Are there "bleating of the sheep and the lowing of the oxen" that you may be hearing which remind you of your disobedience to God? Ask for the Holy Spirit's discernment and repent, confess these to the Lord.

2. You are slaves of the ones you obey. Ask for the Lord's cleansing if there are idols in your heart that prevent/hinder you from full obedience to God. _____

3. Examine yourself. Is there an area in your life that deters you from completely obeying God's commandments? _____

Prayer

Abba Father, help me submit to Your rule and will for my life. Thank you that you love me and always have the best intentions for me and my future. Lord, make me an obedient child - a person living a surrendered life that is pleasing to You. You know everything about me and I open myself to you. Search my heart and change me into the person that emulates Jesus Christ. Heal, change and transform me. In all of my weaknesses, please show Yourself strong - be magnified in me, O God! I choose today to surrender my all to You. Amen

Prayer List

PHILIPPINES

Mas favorable sa investors na magnegosyo sa bansa na mataas ang global competitiveness. Ito ang ilang details sa report ng survey ng IMD (Switzerland) tungkol sa pagbaba ng global competitiveness rank ng Philippines sa area ng Government Efficiency.

SUBFACTORS OF GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY					
Subfactors	Public Finance	Tax Policy	Institutional Framework	Business Legislation	Societal Framework
Decline	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Must Address	Public Management Strategies to support fiscal responsibility	Public Management Strategies on Taxation	Education Learning Gaps, Healthcare Systems, Vulnerability to Climate Change	Ease of Doing Business	Social Protection

Pray:

1. Gabay ng Dios sa mga leaders ng national government at kawani ng government agencies para:

- maisagawa ang pagiging responsable ng mga government officials at personnel sa paghawak ng public funds,
- Maitaas ang tax collection at matigil ang pagtagas nito.
- Mapalakas ang public education para mga students at may akmang knowledge at skills para sa work.
- Mapalawak ang sakop ng nabibigyan ng healthcare sa buong bansa.
- Maisaayos at makapagtayo ng infrastructure na makatutugon at mag-iiwas sa disasters mula sa Climate change.
- Maisaayos ang systems para walang sagabal at delays sa mga old and new legitimate businesses.
- Maisaayos ang systems para ang mga nasa laylayan ng lipunan ay mabigyan ng proteksyon laban sa kahirapan at pang-aabuso.



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

a. Family

Pray: Families to remember that a child is a heritage from the Lord, a reward and blessing from Him (Psalm 127:3-5).



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

b. Health

Pray: For physical health of KBCF workers, missionaries, daughter church pastors, and outreaches.

c. Breakthroughs

Pray: Breakthroughs in financial condition of KBCF, daughter churches and outreaches.



CHURCH/MINISTRIES

Ministries under Spiritual Care Department

Sub-committees: Members Care, Sunday School, Youth, Young Adults, Home Builders, Seniors

Pray:

a. God's anointing, outpouring of wisdom and strength over the workers doing the work on each sub-committee, that they be able to accomplish their respective tasks for God's glory; God to fill up the needed workers for the vacant slots; for oneness of heart and mind to do the work of the sub-committees.

b. God to touch every KBCFers, cause them to be active in the suitable sub-committee and jointly be cared for and take care of one another.



Pastors of KBCF Daughter Churches and Outreaches

1. **Aliño, Nards** - Builders of Dreams Christian Communities (Kamias, Quezon City)
2. **Buan, Greg** - Kingstown Christian Church (Kingstown Subd., Caloocan City)
3. **Cailao, Errol** - Jesus Lord of Redeeming Grace Christian Ministries (Sampaloc, Manila)
4. **Daguman, Charles** - Living Hope Christian Community (Bagumbong, Caloocan City)
5. **Gaspar, Romy** - Christ's Transforming Communities Christian Fellowship (Cainta, Rizal)
6. **Gonzales, Rody** - Upgrade Christian Church (Capitol View Park Subd. Malolos City)
7. **Hinanay, Ricky** - Crew Zone Youth Center (Parola, Cainta, Rizal)

Day 5

07 July | Friday

A Humble Service

Philippians 2: 5-11



Our meditation today stirs us to reflect on another dimension of what Christ wants from His followers. Christ requires us to serve Him and others. To serve as He did, in humility. Let us contemplate on our theme in two parts: First, why is there a need for us His followers to serve; and second, if we are to serve Him, how can we serve Him in all humility?

Why is it necessary that we serve God?

As followers of Jesus Christ, serving God and others is considered a natural response to the unconditional love He gave on the cross and for His continuing faithfulness in our lives. In 1 Samuel 12:24 it reads, "Only fear the Lord and serve Him faithfully with all your heart. For consider what great things He has done for you." This is reiterated by Paul in Romans 12:1, "Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is your true and proper worship." It is expected of us who have been saved by the blood of Jesus Christ to honor and serve Him, because in His love He has provided the greatest service of all - our salvation and eternal life with Him.

When we serve God and others, the Almighty is honored and glorified. Peter underscored this in I Peter 4:11 "If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ." The transforming power of Jesus Christ is displayed in the lives of His followers who have decided to serve Him.

But, why is there still lack of enthusiasm from among believers in serving God and others? Why are there only a few who respond to His call to participate in the mission of the Church and its ministries? How come the hesitation and deep reservation from accepting responsibilities where their gifts, support or presence are very much needed?

Let us go back and be reminded that serving God and others is anchored on His two greatest commandments: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: "Love your neighbor as yourself." (Mark 12:30-31). God wants that our service will flow from these two commands - to love.

Let us reflect then how much do we love God and how compassionate are we to others? Being recipients of God's unconditional love, may we find in our hearts, in our souls, in our minds the strength to serve God and others in ways that please Him.

How Can We Serve in Humility?

The second half of this meditation on what Jesus requires from us is the quality and manner of service - to serve Him and others in humility. There are three features that characterize a humble service modeled by Christ as described by Paul in Philippians 2:6-9, "Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross! Christ Jesus."

1. A humble servant foregoes his/her rights for others (v.6). Jesus was of the same very nature of God. Jesus has always been, is and will always be God. Yet, Jesus did not hold on to His rights as God.

to take our place on the cross and suffer death. He relinquished His rights for our sake. Him being our model, then in the same way, let us be willing to give up our privileges or entitlements in deference to others. It is allowing others to go ahead of us while in line, getting out of our comfort zones so others will feel more at ease, taking the back seat, considerate of the need of others before our own.

2. A humble servant diminishes his/her significance so others can become more (v.7). Jesus emptied Himself of significance by becoming a servant even though He is Lord. He gave up His splendid room in heaven and allowed Himself to be born in a manger. He gave up being exalted to being mocked. He gave up His own life so we can enjoy eternal life. Emptying of ourselves is the very essence of a humble service as followers of Christ. Him being our model, then in the same way, let us empty ourselves of pride, greed, unforgiveness, apathy so that God can refill our hearts with compassion and love for others. It means valuing our co-workers higher than ourselves, appreciating their inputs no matter how small, letting them shine over you. As John the Baptist said, "I must decrease so Christ will increase" (John 4:30). As we serve God in humility, may we decrease so others will increase and that Jesus will be the one to be recognized and not us.

3. A humble servant is obedient to God's will at all cost (v.8). The embodiment of Jesus' humility is His total obedience to the will of the Father even at the cost of His death. In Gethsemane, Jesus prayed "Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done (Luke 22:42). Jesus, being obedient to God the Father, allowed Himself to die on the cross – the most degrading form of execution, reserved for the lowest class of people. As followers of Christ, we can never give up as much as He sacrificed. We will never be able to humble ourselves as much as He brought Himself that low. However, we must be willing to do anything He asks us to do anytime, anywhere, anyhow.

Sadly, we fail by having already predetermined the extent of service we want to do. We limit our service only to this area, on that time, in this way, or when circumstances allow. We have conditioned our minds that God will never ask us to serve outside these parameters we have set. We have put a cap by deciding not to listen when He asks us to go beyond our set boundaries. Can selective obedience be called obedience at all? A genuine humble service requires being totally obedient to Christ, whatever the cost, whenever, wherever and however the call.

As followers of Christ, may this meditation serve and encourage us to serve God and others in a manner of humility. As Paul said in Philippians 2:9-11, "Because Jesus was obedient, because He humbled Himself, because He was willing to pay the price, He will be exalted. The Father has given Him the name at which every knee will bow and tongue confess that He is Lord." Indeed, Jesus Christ is worthy of all honor, praise and glory. Our humble service towards God and others honors, praises and glorifies Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Serving in humility as Jesus Christ did is our wealth and reward in this life as we are able to express and experience the first and second commandment: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'" (Mark 12:30-31).

Examine the Word

1. In Philippians 2:6-8, how did Jesus display being a humble servant?

2. What is the reward that awaited Christ having been obedient to His Father's will? (vv.9-10) _____

3. What is the ultimate reason or purpose for serving God and others in humility? (v.11) _____

Personal Application

1. As a follower of Christ, in what way(s) are you serving God and others?

2. Describe and assess the degree/quality of your humble service to God and others. _____

3. What struggles are you facing in serving God and others in humility? What factors are causing these difficulties in serving God?

4. Which particular area/aspect would you need to improve on?

5. How can you align attitudes and actions according to the parameters modeled by Christ in Philippians 2:5-11? _____

Prayer

Our Father, we honor and glorify Your Name for having sent Your only Son Jesus Christ to take our place on the cross. We are amazed on how He demonstrated the humblest service to all mankind by His willingness to come down to earth so we may gain eternal life. We are awed with the sacrifice He made by dying the most cruel and lowest degrading form of death just so we can be freed from our own death.

Father, forgive us for we have not responded spontaneously to Your unconditional love. Forgive our apathy and reluctance in serving You. More often than not, we forego opportunities to serve in our church, in our own families and in the community where you placed us. Many times, we fail you for putting ourselves first - our own interest, comfort and wants before the need of others. We are sorry that we have set limits to what we want to do for You and what we are willing to render to other people especially those in need.

We thank you though for having encountered You again today, for reminding us that as Your followers, You want us to serve You, and to serve You and others in humility. Thank you for reminding us to give up our own entitlements and rights for the sake of others, for encouraging to become less so others may become more significant in Your eyes, and for instilling in us that only when we totally obey can we become your humble servants.

I pray that in response to Your goodness and faithfulness, please kindly teach our hearts, our souls, our minds to love You, and translate this into actual service for others. Strengthen our resolve to serve You in all humility, untiringly, with excellence and always on our bended knees so that people will see how beautiful and blessed it is to serve You. Amen.

Prayer List

PHILIPPINES

Praise God sa opinion na nakalap ng Asian Institute of Management, AIM sa mga sumusunod na factors na nakaka-akit for investors to come to the Philippines

FEEDBACK FROM OPINIONS OF EXECUTIVES : FACTORS THAT MAKE PHILIPPINES ATTRACTIVE		
Dynamism of the Economy	High Educational Attainment	Cost Competitiveness

PHILIPPINES

2. Pagpalain ng Dios ang mga Filipinos na:

- Patuloy na hasain ang kakayahan, soft and hard skills para handa sa mga job opportunities.
- Makita nila ang kabutihan ng Dios, huwag mawalan ng pag-asa at panatilihin ang open at positive attitudes.
- Magtulungan para lahat ng negosyo ay umunlad, huwag matakot maging negosyante para umusad ang ekonomiya.
- Ang DepEd, CHED at private schools ay magtulungan para hindi lang marunong sa English ang mga pinoy kundi hasa din sa science, mathematics at iba pa, para mas mataas na uri ng mga trabaho na ang mapapasok.
- Magtulungan para maibaba ang gastos ng pagnenegosyo sa Philippines, makalaban sa ibang bansa gaya ng Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia at iba pa para piliin ng investors ang Pilipinas.



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

a. Family

Pray: Every KBCF family to be devout and God-fearing, and share generously to those in need and pray to God regularly. (Acts 10:2)

b. Health

Pray: For millions of filipino children who are malnourished and stunted due to poverty.

c. Breakthroughs

Pray: Breakthroughs in lives of poor filipino families; God to provide them food, clothing and shelter.



CHURCH/MINISTRIES

Ministries under Spiritual Care Department

Sub-committees: Members Care, Sunday School, Youth, Young Adults, Home Builders, Seniors

Pray:

- a. God's anointing, outpouring of wisdom and strength over the workers doing the work on each sub-committee, that they be able to accomplish their respective tasks for God's glory; God to fill up the needed workers for the vacant slots; for oneness of heart and mind to do the work of the sub-committees.
- b. God to touch every KBCFer, cause them to take to heart KBCF's desire for every member to be a disciple-maker.



MISSIONS

Pastors of KBCF Daughter Churches and Outreaches

8. **Hubalde, Cynthia** - Shiloh Bible Christian Fellowship (Rosario, Pasig City)
9. **Lee, Joseph** - Bless Fellowship (Cainta, Rizal)
10. **Pabalate, Edwin**-Kairos Bible Christian Fellowship (Bagong Silangan, Quezon City)
11. **Quitoles, Allen** - Pangasinan Evangelical Fellowship (Urdaneta City)
12. **Red, Joey** - Christ to the World Christian Church International (San Antonio Village, Makati City)
13. **Vasquez, Freddy** - Northview Christian Fellowship (Batasan Hills, Quezon City)
14. **Villanueva, Eli** - Christ's People Christian Church (Antipolo, Rizal)

Day 6

08 July | Saturday

Steadfast Faithfulness

2 Timothy 1:1-7



Imagine a young pastor tasked by his discipler to oversee and assist a new church outreach. The discipler proceeded to minister to other places but eventually got arrested due to an intensified crackdown on Christians, who were falsely blamed by the emperor himself for a great tragedy. This was not the first time that the discipler was imprisoned. The discipler was able to write a letter to this young pastor when he first got arrested five years prior. But this letter during the second imprisonment hints that the discipler is lonely, having physical issues and anticipating that he might not come out of prison alive this time around. And sure enough, shortly after writing this second letter, the discipler was executed. These were the circumstances behind Apostle Paul's 2nd epistle to Timothy.

Despite the circumstances in writing this letter, Paul's demeanor was still calm, and exhibiting confidence and strong faith in God.

This passage is Paul's reminder to Timothy about the importance of steadfast faithfulness. In the backdrop of what was happening then, it was all the more critical to stay the course and not lose heart. Paul exemplified this in his life until the very end.

We can liken picture steadfast faithfulness to a ship in the stormy sea and buffeted with turbulent, unpredictable waves. If the ship is anchored securely to a rock, it will remain steadfast. In the same way, the "promise of life," or the security we have in the assurance of our salvation in Christ should anchor us in the midst of tumultuous circumstances in our lives for us to soldier on in serving Him and living for Him.

Paul always commenced his epistles by identifying himself as an apostle of Christ. This is not to be misconstrued as boasting, or seeking to be recognized as the same level as the original disciples or apostles of Christ. It is more of being secure in one's identity in Christ. We can weather any storm in life when we are sure of our position in Christ. When we start to doubt or forget who we are in Christ, we might lose our footing and start to fall away. Our commitment and faithfulness in Jesus should be grounded in the security that we have in Him.

A strong bond between Paul and Timothy is very evident at the start of the epistle. Paul calls Timothy his "dear son" (v.2), letting the latter know that Paul is constantly praying for him, and longing to see him, remembering the latter's pain and sufferings ("your tears") also. This reveals that Paul is aware and probably has journeyed with Timothy in his spiritual brokenness. We can infer here that a close relationship with one's mentor or spiritual parent/discipler is a critical factor in nurturing a younger believer's faith towards spiritual maturity. Should the young believer experience hardship, suffering or persecution, the loving care and encouragement from his or her discipler might spell the difference for the former to persevere and grow stronger in the faith; or stop growing, turn away from the faith, be swallowed by the cares of this world, and slide back in his/her old ways.

In v.5, Paul affirms Timothy's sincere faith, and hints the influence of his mother and grandmother might have on him. We can surmise that a person can grow spiritually and be rooted in the faith when the family provides a conducive environment for it. By extension, a spiritual family (a small group, ministry group or the larger church family) is essential for a person to grow in faith. Having a strong faith community can help believers weather the storms that may come in their lives and help anchor them in the faith.

Another aspect of steadfast faithfulness is to “fan into flame the gift of God.” Not only did Paul encourage Timothy to continue in the ministry, but to all the more do so with zeal and passion. We also fan into flame by developing our gifts, honing them and putting them to good use - God gave everyone of us spiritual gift(s) not as an end in itself but to serve Him and minister to others. Having steadfast faithfulness may also be used to fuel this passion to serve God, and at the same time, serving God and ministering to others may also be a source of encouragement and joy in persevering in one’s spiritual journey. Validation, recognition (v.6) and encouragement by the discipler, small group leader or church leaders for the believer’s ministry expression will reassure the believer to continue on, even despite hardships and challenges.

The last reminder of Paul in this passage is for Timothy to realize that we have the Holy Spirit to give us power, the resolve or discipline, and balancing it with love, to continue on with our Christian life. Going back with the backdrop of what was happening at the time, this was a very timely encouragement by Paul to this young pastor, to be courageous in times of great hardships, even to the point of losing one’s life - as opposed to responding in timidity or fear.

In conclusion, we need to have a proper eternal perspective and overall picture in terms of trudging on in our walk with God and ministry to others. What we have been doing for the sake of Christ, loving and serving others, and following Him, God will remember and reward us, ultimately in eternity. We will never know the eternal impact we can make as we obey God and do His work even if it seems to go unnoticed and unappreciated by others, or seen as unimportant or thankless. God knows. 1 Corinthians 15:58 states, “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as ye know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.” (KJV)

Examine the Word

1. How does the “promise of life” in Christ Jesus inspire and sustain our faithfulness, especially in the face of challenges, opposition, or discouragement? What biblical examples can you find of individuals who remain steadfast in their faith despite difficult circumstances?

2. Reflecting on the passage, what insights can we gain about the role of mentoring, accountability, and community in fostering and supporting faithfulness? _____

3. What role does the Holy Spirit play in empowering believers to live faithfully? How can we rely on the Holy Spirit's guidance, strength, and discipline to remain steadfast in our faith? (v.7)

Personal Application

1. How can you develop a disciplined and intentional approach to your faith journey? What practices or habits can you adopt to deepen your relationship with God, grow in knowledge of His Word, and live a life that aligns with His will?

2. How can you actively cultivate a heritage of faithfulness in your own family or faith community? What practical steps can you take to pass down a sincere faith to the next generation? _____

3. Reflecting on the spiritual gifts and callings that God has given you, how can you intentionally use them to serve others and advance His kingdom? Are there specific areas of ministry or service where you can apply your gifts for the benefit of others? _____

4. Are there areas in your life where fear or timidity has hindered your faithfulness? How can you seek the empowerment of the Holy Spirit to overcome those fears and live with boldness and courage?

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the promise of life that we have in Christ Jesus. We are grateful for the eternal hope and abundant life that we receive through faith in Him. May this promise continually fuel our faithfulness and inspire us to live with purpose and devotion.

We acknowledge O Lord, the influence of those who have gone before us in the faith. We thank you for the godly heritage we have received from the examples of sincere faith displayed in our physical / spiritual families. Help us to honor and learn from their dedication to you as we seek to pass down a legacy of faithfulness to the generations that follow.

We recognize that you have equipped each one of us with unique gifts and callings. We pray that you would help us to identify and develop these gifts, not allowing them to remain dormant but fanning them into flame. May we use our talents and abilities to bring glory to your name, serve others, and build up your Kingdom.

Holy Spirit, we invite your presence and empowerment in our lives. Fill us with your power, love, and self-discipline. Grant us boldness and courage to overcome fear and timidity, enabling us to live faithfully and boldly for Christ. Help us to rely on your strength, knowing that we can do all things through you.

Lord Jesus, we commit ourselves to walk in steadfast faithfulness. Help us to remain rooted in your promises, to seek your guidance, and to rely on your grace and mercy each day. May our lives be a testimony of your love, power, and transforming work. Empower us to live faithfully, shining your light in a world that needs your truth, your love and hope.

In your precious name we pray. Amen.

PHILIPPINES

1. Praise God sa suggestions ng business analysts gaya ng mula sa Asian Institute of Management (AIM) na tinukoy ang mga “Challenges” na dapat harapin para magpatuloy ang pag-unlad ng Pilipinas matapos ang pandemic

Pray:

1. Gabay ng Dios sa mga leaders ng national government at kawani ng government agencies para:

- maipatupad ang post-pandemic economic recovery strategies habang pinapalakas ang pag-iingat sa pondo ng bayan.

2. Gabay ng Dios sa mga leaders ng national government at local government units (LGUs) para makabuwelo sa naudlot na kilos para sa poverty reduction at maisama ang mas maraming Pinoy sa economic development.

3. Talino mula sa Dios para sa leaders ng national government (executive, legislative at judiciary branches) para mapamunuan ang bansa in creative and innovative ways, na maiaahon ang mga Filipino at maisulong ang pagkaka-isa.

PHILIPPINES

2. Praise God sa tinukoy nila na mga sumusunod na challenges na dapat tugunan ng mga bansa gaya ng Pilipinas para ang mga investors ay patuloy na magnegosyo at makapagbigay ng trabaho sa marami.

CHALLENGES FACING WORLD ECONOMIES (AIM)				
Political Events	Economic Events	Social Events of Global Reach	War In Ukraine	Global Rise in Prices of Basic Commodities.

Gabay ng Dios sa leaders ng national at local government units at mga business groups sa bansa para maliksi at mabilisan nilang maisasagawa ang mga sumusunod:

- Patuloy na maitaas ang skills ng mga Pilipino.
- Subaybayan ang political, economic at social events na nangyayari sa buong mundo at humingi ng tulong sa Dios para sa gabay paano matugunan ang mga ito, kilalanin na kailangan nila ng tulong ng Dios.
- Makagawa ng hakbang para matugunan ang epekto ng gyera sa Ukraine na dagdag-pahirap hanggang ngayon sa pag-ahon mula sa pandemic dahil sa pagbulabog sa maayos na daloy ng food stocks worldwide, agricultural inputs at energy resources at para maibaba ang prices ng basic commodities na naiipit.



CHURCH/MINISTRIES: Special Ministries

KBCF Kinder Care Christian School (KKCCS)

Chairman: Rey Garrido

KBCF Operation Paglingap Foundation (KOPF)

Chairman: Mon San Pascual



CHURCH/MINISTRIES: Special Ministries

Ministries under Spiritual Care Department

- Sub-committees: Growth Care, Equipping and Resource Development, Cell group Leaders/ Disciplers

Pray:

- a. God's anointing, outpouring of wisdom and strength over the workers doing the work on each sub-committee, that they be able to accomplish their respective tasks for God's glory; God to fill up the needed workers for the vacant slots; for oneness of heart and mind to do the work of the sub-committees.
- b. God to use these ministries to foster spiritual growth among KBCFers; to equip them for the task of being disciple-makers.



FAMILY/ HEALTH/ PERSONAL BREAKTHROUGHS

a. Family

Pray for wives to submit to their husbands, as is fitting in the Lord; husbands to love their wives, and not be harsh with them; children to obey parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord; fathers not to provoke their children, lest they become discouraged. (Colossians 3:18-21)

b. Health

Pray for God to bless every family with good health.

c. Breakthroughs

Pray for every family to experience breakthroughs on their struggles as a family.

Midyear
**PRAYER AND
FASTING**

Contributors

Pastor Ronel Rubrica
Elder Cesar Montano
Elder Eireen Villa
Elder Ruth Dave
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Thank You!



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