

21 DAYS

PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE



www.shbcpinnacleofpraise.org



PRAYING THROUGH THE PROCESS

Through this 21-Day Fast, we will focus on the mind, body, and soul by strengthening our spiritual walk and commitment to God.



© 2020 by Sweet Home – The Pinnacle of Praise. All rights reserved.

Scripture quotations, unless otherwise noted, are from The Holy Bible, King James Version®, NKJV®. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved worldwide. www.zondervan.com



PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

Greetings:

As God grants us the opportunity to see and witness His blessings on our church, community, city, and country, I am excited that you are stepping out on faith and participating with me and our fellowship of believers in this customized 21-Day Fast.

In Matthew 17:21 and Mark 9:29, Jesus reminds us that some things can only be accomplished through fasting and prayer. I believe that if we earnestly fast and pray, God will empower us to excel in our Mission to “develop Christian Disciples, through the Word, to influence the world; building our hearts and minds in such a way that we “resemble our Savior to reach sinners.”

As you participate in this 21-Day Fast, I challenge you to include an individual ministry of our church in your daily devotionals, prayers, and meditations. I also ask that you pray for the members, families, and ministries of our fellowship as well as the lost souls in our community.

I pray each of you attain the utmost success as we commit corporately to take this 21-day journey and position ourselves to receive all that God has in store for us.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dante D. Wright

“Developing Christian Disciples through the word, to influence the world.”





PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

THE MINISTRIES OF SWEET HOME - THE PINNACLE OF PRAISE

- Children's Ministry
- Flower and Plant Ministry
- Hospitality Ministry
- Health Ministry
- Media Ministry
- Men of the Forge Ministry
- Music and Performing Arts Ministry
- Prayer and Care Ministry
- Women's Impact Ministry

GUIDELINES

Fasting is the most powerful spiritual discipline of all the Christian disciplines. Through fasting and prayer, the Holy Spirit can transform your life. When God's people fast with a proper Biblical motive—seeking God's face—God will hear from Heaven and heal lives, churches, communities, nations and the world (2 Chronicles 7:14 NKJV). Fasting and prayer can bring about a revival and the fulfillment of the Great Commission. The awesome power of God can be released through you as you fast through the enabling of the Holy Spirit.

The more time you spend with God in fellowship, worship, and adoration of Him, and the more you read and meditate upon His Word, the greater your effectiveness will be in prayer and the more meaningful your 21-Day Fast will be. We encourage you to arrange your schedule accordingly so that you may fully participate in this church-wide initiative.

Please be advised that this 21-Day Fast is non-traditional. This fast is specifically designed to help you succeed by reaching your individual goal(s) and our goal(s) as a church family.

This guide is designed to provide direction, answer general questions, and usher you through your participation in this 21-Day Fast.



PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

INCLUDED IN THIS GUIDE

- Instructions for the 21-Day Fast
- Self-Assessment
- Before You Begin
- Daily Prayer Focus
- Daily Devotional
- Weekly Reflections

DAILY PRAYER CALENDAR

Begin Date: The First Day of the Month

End Date: The 21st Day of the Month

DAILY PRAYER TIMES

Morning: Between 5 a.m. and 7 a.m.

Evening: Between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

RULES

Everyone age 13 and older is encouraged to participate. Minors need parent or guardian consent.

As the host church, Sweet Home – The Pinnacle of Praise recommends that all participants talk to their physician before participating in this fast and/or embarking on any major changes in diet or exercise.



PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE 21-DAY FAST

Step 1: Canvas your lifestyle and make a list of 10 things that you do or treats in which you indulge out of habit rather than necessity. Make a list of those things and circle or highlight the items that would be realistic sacrifices. You choose, just be realistic! It shouldn't be easy, but it shouldn't be impossible. The circled or highlighted items are the items that you will be focusing on for your customized fast.

Step 2: Determine the method in which you will make your sacrifice.

- Option 1: Choose one or more of the items or activities to give up for the entire 21 days.
- Option 2: Choose at least one item to give up at the beginning of each week. Resume use of the item at the end of each week.
- Option 3: Choose a total of three items to give up, staggered over 3 weeks. Week 1 - Sacrifice the 1st item for 21 days; Week 2 - Sacrifice the second item for 14 days; Week 3 - Sacrifice the 3rd item for 7 days. Add an additional item to the list at the beginning of each week.

Step 3: In your calendar, write the items that you are sacrificing across the entire week so that you can see them clearly. As you follow the devotional meditations and the prayer topics for each day, remember to also ask God to give you the perseverance to resist the thing(s) that you have given up.

Step 4: Try to replace some of the time or energy that you usually spend with the sacrificed activities or items with a productive activity or healthy indulgence.

IDEAS FOR ADULT SACRIFICES

- Alcohol Consumption
- Caffeine
- Cell Phone Use - other than for legitimate emergencies (6 p.m. - 12 p.m.)
- Complaining
- Eating Out - Buying Lunch and/or Dinner
- Other Electronic Devices (6 p.m. - 12 p.m.)
- Profanity
- Shopping (Clothes, Shoes, ALL) In-store and Online
- Smoking
- Sugar Snacks (Candy, Soda, Cookies, Ice Cream, Cake, etc.)
- Surfing the Web (Personal Use)
- Television
- Use of Social Media: Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Twitter, Snapchat, etc. (6 p.m. - 12 p.m.)

IDEAS FOR YOUTH SACRIFICES

- Caffeine
- Cell Phone Use - other than for legitimate emergencies (6 p.m. - 12 p.m.)
- Complaining
- Other Electronic Devices (6 p.m. - 12 p.m.)
- Sugar Snacks (Candy, Soda, Cookies, Ice Cream, Cake, etc.)
- Surfing the Web (Personal Use)
- Television
- Use of Social Media: Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Twitter, Snapchat, etc. (6 p.m. - 12 p.m.)
- Video Games (6 p.m. - 12 p.m.)



PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

21-DAY SELF-ASSESSMENT

Rate Your Success for Each Week

Satisfactory / Needs Improvement / Unsatisfactory

Write in the Item Sacrificed (Food / Event / Activity)	Days 1-7	Days 8-14	Days 15-21
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			
15.			
16.			
17.			
18.			
19.			
20.			
21.			



PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

BEFORE YOU BEGIN RESPOND TO THE FOLLOWING PROMPTS ...

I AM THANKFUL FOR . . .

I AM BELIEVING GOD FOR . . .

I AM COMMITTING TO PRAY FOR . . .



PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

DAYS 1-7 | DAILY PRAYER GUIDE

	Date	Prayer Times	Prayer Menu	Notes
Day 1	Monday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	SIGNS OF LIFE (PHIL 2: 14-15)	
Day 2	Tuesday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	A FAITH THAT WORKS (JAMES 2:17)	
Day 3	Wednesday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	TURN ON THE LIGHTS (MATT. 5:16)	
Day 4	Thursday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	LIVING IN THE MOMENT (JOHN 10:27)	
Day 5	Friday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	PASS THE SALT (MARK 9:50)	
Day 6	Saturday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	WITNESS STATEMENTS (COL. 3:23)	
Day 7	Sunday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	THE MARK YOU LEAVE BEHIND (1 COR. 4:2)	



DAYS 1-7 | DAILY DEVOTIONALS

(Day 1)

SIGNS OF LIFE (PHIL. 2:14 - 15)

Today's Scripture: "Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world..."

Are you disturbed by the evils in our society today? Do you do anything other than talk about it? Do you leave the impression that you hate those who don't live by your standards? If you do, people probably see you as a self-righteous snob! Jesus and His followers did not hesitate to denounce sin, but their primary focus was to demonstrate the purity, compassion, unselfishness, and humility of Christ's love. It is much better to be a beacon of truth rather than an instigator of condemnation. Instead of complaining about problems be a solution and start serving the Lord through ministry work. We need to follow Jesus' example and reach out in love to those around us who need Jesus. This is displaying Christ-like character.

(Day 2)

A FAITH THAT WORKS (JAMES 2:17)

Today's Scripture: "Thus also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead."

How does the community view your church? Are you servicing the surrounding community? Are you shaping soldiers? Do you roll up your shirtsleeves for God? Are you aware that being Christ-like is a daily practice? Don't be a Christian who speaks the language of Christianity only. Be a Christian who speaks the language of Christianity through your works. Christianity is faith and action. Authentic Christians build an intimate relationship with God through prayer. They also study scripture with devotion, are active in a ministry, and they spread the Good News of Christ. Christians understand that we are not saved by good works, but for good works. Our faith is only significant when it promotes action. The world around us cannot see our inner faith, but they can see the good works that flow from our inner faith.

(Day 3)

TURN ON THE LIGHTS (MATT. 5:16)

Today's Scripture: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

There are people around us whom God is pursuing. It may be a lonely teenager, a co-worker who don't know who to turn to in his or her time of trouble. It could be a weary single parent, or even someone standing next to you in line at the grocery store. The world is filled with men, women, teenagers, and children who are crying out for help. They are crying out in the desperation of their hearts and in the darkness of their solitude. God has been working in their lives and stirring a desire for him. God wants to use us to be a light to them and bring them the Good News of hope in Jesus Christ. Ask God to show you those in your neighborhood or workplace who need to be recipients of your prayers and services. God will help you build a relationship with them and be a vessel through whom God can share His love.



PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

(Day 4)

LIVING IN THE MOMENT (JOHN 10:27)

Today's Scripture: "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me."

Many Christians spend too much time wandering around without direction. God's desire is that we follow His son Jesus. Jesus said, "My sheep hear my voice!" This insinuates that Christians know Jesus' voice because they are always listening to Jesus' voice. We live in a world filled with distractions, and we can't afford to be disconnected from God for one moment of any day of our lives. Christians must stay connected to God. How do Christians stay connected to God? Christians establish "spiritual broadband" connection with God. We take time to read God's Word. We take time to pray in our "prayer closets!" We take time to meditate on God's Word. We take time to listen to God's voice. Christians do this daily. Staying connected to God is a Christian lifestyle.

(Day 5)

HEALING THE LAND (2 CHRONICLES 7:14-15)

Today's Scripture: "If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land. Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayer that is made in this place."

What do you think of when you hear the word healing? Most tend to think of healing in a manner of physical nature. Not all healing is physical. A wound on the skin has to be addressed in a manner of cleaning the wound, applying medicine, then covering the wound to allow it to heal. After this process the wound keeps healing even after the bandage is taken off. The same process in the spiritual healing of our own souls and the world at large is necessary to address, apply the medicine of God and allow him to heal you in the process. Pray for the healing of your spiritual life and the life of the world.

(Day 6)

WITNESS STATEMENTS (COL. 3:23)

Today's Scripture: "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men..."

Do you enter each day with a joyful attitude? What is your outlook when disaster happens? What comes out of your heart in difficult and trying situations? God wants us to perform our service with a cheerful heart. God is not concerned with what we produce, but that we love Him with all our heart regardless of what He asks us to do. Understand the results God is looking for is found in your heart. God is looking for love, joy, and hope within our hearts. God uses trials to help us grow spiritually.

(Day 7)

THE HOUSE OF WORSHIP - A PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL REVITALIZATION (PSALM 100)

Today's Scripture: "Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing! Know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name! For the Lord is good, his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations."

Think about your favorite restaurant and how you would feel if it no longer existed, how does that make you feel? You would have a sense of longing that your favorite restaurant would return so you could enjoy the delicious food you order from there. The church, the building that followers of Christ gather, is like the favorite place to go that is on the way back to being the favorite place you enjoy. Continue to pray for the place of worship so that like mined believers can worship together in the house of God.



PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

DAYS 8-14 DAILY PRAYER GUIDE

	Date	Prayer Times	Prayer Menu	Notes
Day 8	Monday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	DUST Y SHOES (LUKE 1 4:23)	
Day 9	Tuesday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	WALK AROUND THE CLOCK (JEREMIAH 6:16)	
Day 10	Wednesday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER (1 PETER 3:1 5)	
Day 11	Thursday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	TONGUE-TIED (JOSHUA 1:9)	
Day 12	Friday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	THE "OTHER" MENTALITY (PHILIPPIANS 2:4)	
Day 13	Saturday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	ATTENTION TO DECALS (GALATIANS 2:20)	
Day 14	Sunday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	PHYSICAL EVIDENCE (1 TIMOTHY 5:25)	



DAYS 8-14 | DAILY DEVOTIONALS

(Day 8)

DUSTY SHOES (LUKE 14:23)

Today's Scripture: "Then the master said to the servant, 'Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.'"

What will your Christian legacy record about your service? If we are true servants of Christ we must go and not only spread The Gospel, but also offer our service to the downtrodden. We must leave our comfortable neighborhoods and go to the uncomfortable places in our community to share Christ. While sharing His Word, Jesus would want us to help our fellow man or woman and bring them into the fold. Although our acts of service may never reach that of William and Catherine Booth, the founders of the organization known today as The Salvation Army, we thank God that they answered Christ's call and took on the often thankless task of serving the needy while sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In 2005, history recorded that The Salvation Army was actively serving in 111 countries throughout the world. How and who will you serve to edify Christ in the up-building of His kingdom?

(Day 9)

WALK AROUND THE CLOCK (JEREMIAH 6:16)

Today's Scripture: "Stand in the ways and see, and ask for the old paths, where the good way is, and walk in it; then you will find rest for your souls. But they said, 'We will not walk in it.'"

It's been said that, "Character can be measured by what one does when no one is watching." No matter how men and women see us, God, Our Creator, Maker and Savior, is always watching. The story is told that while Marie Antoinette was yet a princess she liked to sneak out of the palace in disguise to go party with her friends, but no matter how clever her disguise, she couldn't fool any of her onlookers because she was unable to hide her unmistakable walk of royalty. As you go about your daily life, do you "walk" like a servant of Christ, or do people mistake you for a non-believer? The Bible encourages us to walk worthy of our calling, and reminds us that there should be something peculiar about us. Is God pleased with your "walk"? What can you do to ensure that your obedience to God is seen as you go about your daily tasks?

(Day 10)

THE KEYNOTE SPEAKER (1 PETER 3:15)

Today's Scripture: "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;"

How many different places do you go every month? week? day? Have you ever thought to yourself, "I wonder why God would send me here?" Well the answer might be as easy as the thought itself. Maybe you travel to those places so you can stand up for Christ. If you stand up for Christ, He will stand up in you and give you the words to say. It's ok to be apprehensive at first because you aren't alone. Moses and Jonah are examples that show us that God will be with us wherever he sends us and will give you a word to share. Take a moment to reflect on the places that life takes you. Are there places that you can share Christ and invite someone to come to church with you next Sunday?



PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

(Day 11)

GODLY LEADERSHIP (PROVERBS 4:6-7)

Today's Scripture: "Do not forsake her, and she will keep you; love her, and she will guard you. The beginning of wisdom is this: Get wisdom, and whatever you get, get insight."

The world has its own way of figuring how to lead based upon whoever has the power. The one in power can control the narrative to say what they want everyone to know. IF God is in control, He controls the narrative and he guides but it is the mission of his followers to get in line. The prayer for Godly leadership is important for the those who lead God's people to find themselves submitted to the leadership of God and lead in the wisdom of God.

(Day 12)

THE "OTHER" MENTALITY (PHILIPPIANS 2:4)

Today's Scripture: "Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others."

Do you have an "other" mentality? This is not a trick question. It is a question about your mindset for serving others. Do you spend time caring for the legitimate needs of your brothers and sisters, especially your brothers and sisters in Christ? Philippians 2:5-8 describes the "other" mentality that we should use as our example in serving others: "Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross." If our Savior could come from heaven and serve, can't we increase our mentality for serving others?

(Day 13)

ATTENTION TO DECALS (GALATIANS 2:20)

Today's Scripture: "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

What do people see when they look at you and the life that you live? Does your appearance advertise that you are a blood-bought child of God? If you were a NASCAR vehicle with bumper-to-bumper advertisements, who would be displayed as the major sponsor across your hood, your doors or your roof? Just like companies advertise their investment in a NASCAR team, God desires that others can see his investment in us. We display His investment in us by our thoughts and actions. If we exercise our faith in difficult situations, we indicate that God is the head of our lives. If we display hope in dark situations, then we show that we have a relationship with the Holy Spirit, our comforter and guide. If we love in all situations, then we exhibit Christ to all who see us. Let's commit to displaying our Savior wherever we go; He paid it all!

(Day 14)

SPIRITUAL REVIVAL (PSALM 85:6)

Today's Scripture: "Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?"

In an emergency situation where someone has lost conscience-ness, no longer breathing, and no longer shows signs of life, in the hands of medical professionals a defibrillator is a life saver for someone near deaths door. The defibrillator sends an electric shock to the body to restart the heart and keep life going. Sometimes you may find yourself in dire need of a shock from God to revive your near death situation. Spiritual revival is necessary to continue the work of God in a new and refreshed way. Pray that God revives the vitality in life to continue serving God in the midst of a changing world.



PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

DAYS 15-21 | DAILY PRAYER GUIDE

	Date	Prayer Times	Prayer Menu	Notes
Day 15	Monday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	WORN-OUT KNEES (EPHESIANS 6:1-8)	
Day 16	Tuesday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	THE HEAVENLY FREQUENCY (1 THESSALONIANS 5:17)	
Day 17	Wednesday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	CLOSER TO YOU THAN TO ME (LUKE 9:23)	
Day 18	Thursday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	LOVE'S BOUNDARIES (PHILIPPIANS 3:7)	
Day 19	Friday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	ON PINS AND NEEDLES (PSALM 73:28)	
Day 20	Saturday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	THE POTTER'S HANDS (ISAIAH 64:8)	
Day 21	Sunday	5:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.	GREATER WORKS THAN JESUS (JOHN 14:1-3)	



DAYS 15-21 DAILY DEVOTIONALS

(Day 15)

WORN-OUT KNEES (EPHESIANS 6:18)

Today's Scripture: "Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints."

Hearing the Lord's direction begins with prayer. One of the reasons we're so worn out from life is that our knees aren't worn out from bending on them. It's great to have good habits, high hopes, bold strategies, deep pockets, and passionate zeal. But nothing can replace humble hearts and bent knees. Of course we don't have to kneel to pray, but kneeling represents submission, earnestness, and yieldedness. When we bow before Almighty God, we acknowledge Him as our "Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend." As we yield ourselves, our plans, and our problems to Him, He intervenes for His glory and our good.

(Day 16)

THE HEAVENLY FREQUENCY (1 THESSALONIANS 5:17)

Today's Scripture: "Pray without ceasing."

The Bible teaches that "the prayers of a righteous person are powerful and effective." Genuine prayer—offered with open hands—is saying, "Your will be done." Prayer is the most powerful kind of broadcast the world has ever known. The Lord promises to move heaven and earth to answer our prayers. If we pray as Jesus did and in His Name, we are on the right frequency to access the awesome power of God. Jesus taught us to pray, "Our Father in heaven." He told us that if we, being evil, know how to give good things to our children, how much more will our heavenly Father give blessings to those of us who ask Him. So when we pray, we must talk to God as personally as if we were talking to a family member we respect and revere.

(Day 17)

CLOSER TO YOU THAN TO ME (LUKE 9:23)

Today's Scripture: "The He said to them all, 'If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.' "

Jesus has called for unconditional surrender—death to the flesh—for all who would follow him. Unconditional surrender to God brings us spiritual victory. When we became Christians, we were "crucified with Christ." Through Christ's substitutionary death, we died positionally and now, from God's viewpoint, we are holy, positionally. If we are to accept Christ's terms of surrender, that we live daily on the cross, then we should begin each day with a prayer of surrender. The prayer of surrender should be the constant prayer of any true believer. For the saints of God, surrender leads to an entirely new kind of life.



PRAYER, FASTING, AND PERSONAL DEVOTION GUIDE

(Day 18)

LOVE'S BOUNDARIES (PHILIPPIANS 3:7)

Today's Scripture: "But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ."

Loving the world destroys our relationship with God, it denies our faith in Him, and it discounts our future with Him. Sin is like a cancer that destroys little by little, sometimes so slowly that we don't realize what's happening to us. Because of the world's desirability, we often don't realize how much it is dulling our spiritual senses. Over time, loving the world can be deadly to us spiritually. Therefore, our love for God should be greater than our affection for anything in this world. We should have boundaries on all of our affections except for our affection for God. The world and its lusts are passing away, but those who do the will of the Father abide forever.

(Day 19)

ON PINS AND NEEDLES (PSALM 73:28)

Today's Scripture: "It is good for me to draw near to God; I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all Your works."

Our hearts are held together by the pins of God's promises and His precious promises are available to you and me. They hold together our broken hearts and crippled souls in the hour of our greatest pain and need. The needles of God's nearness pierce our hearts and securely join us to Him. But the pins of God's promises and the needle of His nearness do little good without the thread of theology. Personal stability and inner peace come with the thread of solid doctrine. Therefore, we must commit to grow in our knowledge of the Bible. The Lord is a trustworthy tailor who knows how to stitch together our hours and our days. When we live for God, we don't have to worry about falling apart at the seams.

(Day 20)

THE POTTER'S HANDS (ISAIAH 64:8)

Today's Scripture: "But now, O LORD, You are our Father; We are the clay, and You our potter; and all we are the work of Your hand."

The potter's wheel is an apt metaphor for God's works in our lives because we are, in a literal sense, pottery. We've been formed from clay. God physically shaped Adam from the clay of the earth. But God also wants to shape us spiritually, to fashion us into vessels fit for His use. He wants us to be willing to be pliable in His hands. So we should allow Him to mold and shape us in every area of our lives. On a daily basis, we should get into the habit of asking God to have His own way in our lives as He forms—and re-forms—us into His wonderful image.

(Day 21)

GREATER WORKS THAN JESUS (JOHN 14:13)

Today's Scripture: "Whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son."

We are each born with certain gifts and talents specifically designed for the upbuilding of God's Kingdom. We should use our God-given gifts and talents to participate in ministry that impacts our community. Our primary ministry in the world is to be conduits through which Jesus continues to perform His miracles. Jesus' promise to us is that if we seek to continue the works He began, then we can ask anything in His name and He will do it. With the Spirit working in and through the church, there is no limit to what can be accomplished for God's Kingdom.



***“Even now,” declares the LORD,
“return to me with all your heart, with
fasting and weeping and mourning.”***

— JOEL 2:12





SWEET HOME

— THE PINNACLE OF PRAISE —

EST. JANUARY 1905

CONTACT US

3200 Sunrise Road
Round Rock, Texas 78665

(512) 823-2888 (O) • (512) 823-2890 (F)

Email: shbc@shbcpinnacleofpraise.org

www.shbcpinnacleofpraise.org



Discover Jesus—Discover Your Influence