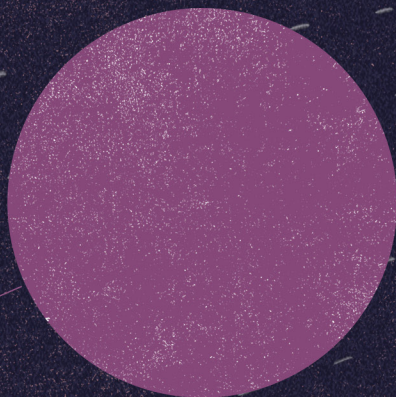


CROSSPOINTCITY.CHURCH/CLOSER



# CLOSER

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING

*PRAYER & FASTING BOOKLET*



CROSSPOINTCITY.CHURCH







## How to Use This Booklet

Over the next 21 days of prayer, we hope that the Lord will use this time in a significant way in your life. This is a time to clear out the distractions of life, focus your heart, and seek the Lord together as a church. This booklet contains a daily Psalm reading, reflection section, and a prayer for you to use during this 21-day period. Our hope in providing this booklet is that it will assist you in focusing your heart each day. Here are some ways to make the best use of your reading each day:

### **Read -**

Each day will begin by reading a Psalm. Above all else in this booklet, this is the most important part! Begin each day by hearing from the Word that God has spoken to us. The daily Psalm is directly connected for the daily “theme” that is the middle section of each day.

### **Reflect -**

After reading each passage on your own, you will find a short reflection on what you have just read. Spend time going over each reflection and continue to think through what the Scripture is teaching you and how God wants to use that truth in your life.

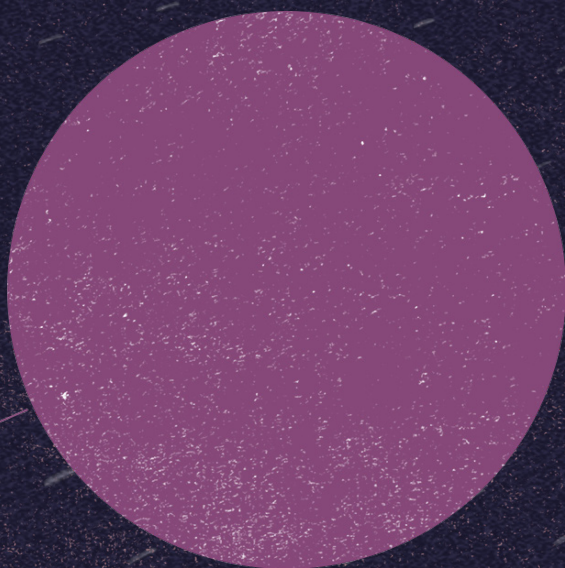
### **Pray -**

Each day you will find a short personal prayer in response to the Scripture reading from that day. During this time of prayer, begin to pray over whatever the Lord may prompt in your heart each day.

COME CLOSE TO GOD  
AND GOD WILL COME  
CLOSE TO YOU.

JAMES 4:8





**CROSSPOINTCITY.CHURCH/CLOSER**



# C L O S E R

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING | REVIVAL NIGHTS

## Fasting Guide

Over the course of these 21 Days of Prayer, many will find it important to fast during this intentional period of time. Below is a short guide for those considering fasting:

### What is Fasting?

The goal of fasting is to draw near to God. Biblical fasting always has to do with eliminating distractions for a spiritual purpose. Fasting is a way to express our desire for God and our holy discontent in a fallen world. Remember, your personal fast should present a level of challenge, but it is very important to know your body, your options, and most importantly, to seek God in prayer and follow what the Holy Spirit leads you to do.

### Scripture References for Fasting

Matthew 6:16-18

Matthew 9:14-15

Luke 18:1-14

### Types of Fasts

#### Complete Fast

In this type of fast, you drink only liquids, typically water with light juices as an option.

#### Selective Fast

This type of fast involves removing certain elements from your diet. One example of a selective fast is the Daniel Fast, during which you remove meat, sweets, and bread from your diet and consume water and juice for fluids and fruits and vegetables for food.

#### Partial Fast

This fast is sometimes called the "Jewish Fast" and involves abstaining from eating any type of food in the morning and afternoon. This can either correlate to specific times of the day, such as 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., or from sunup to sundown.

#### Non-Food Fast

This fast is a great option if you do not have much experience fasting from food, have health issues that prevent you from fasting from food, or if you wish to refocus certain areas of your life that are out of balance. For example, you might choose to stop using social media or watching television for the duration of the fast and then carefully bring that element back into your life in healthy doses at the conclusion of the fast.



CROSSPOINTCITY.CHURCH



# CLOSER DAY 01

## **Read: Psalm 1**

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; 2 but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. 3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. 4 The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; 6 for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

## **The Way of the Righteous and the Wicked**

The first Psalm identifies two very contrasting pathways for life: the way of the righteous and the wicked. The righteous are described as blessed, prosperous, and known by God. The psalmist illustrates this person as a healthy tree with a constant supply of nutrients and water. They produce fruit and never wither. However, the wicked are tied to sinners, scoffers and lack a sustainable source for godly living. They are depicted as chaff blown away by the wind, never standing with the righteous. One commentator described the two paths as “the way of the world or the way of the Word.” One thing is clear. The wicked follow the worldly path and perish while the righteous follow the Word of God and delight in it.

## **Prayer**

Lord, I want to walk the pathway of righteousness. I want to be closer to you. Will you give me the love, desire, commitment, and discipline to read, study, meditate upon and obey your Word?



# CLOSER DAY 02

## **Read: Psalm 2**

Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and against his Anointed, saying, 3 "Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us." 4 He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. 5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying, 6 "As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill." 7 I will tell of the decree: The Lord said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession. 9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel." 10 Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. 11 Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

## **The Reign of the Lord's Anointed**

In the previous psalm, we saw a contrast between the wicked person and the righteous person. Psalm 2 has a similar theme as the psalmist contrasts the rebellion of evil leaders and nations with the rule of God's Messiah, Jesus Christ. Sin not only positions individuals against God, but it also turns nations against God. However, we see that God feels no threat from such rebellion but exercises His judgment on them. Yet, God provides repentance and refuge under the rule and reign as Messiah even in his wrath.

## **Prayer**

Lord, I pray today for our federal, state, and local leaders. Would you bless those who courageously follow you? Would you lead those rebelling against you to repentance and submission to the rule and reign of Christ? I also pray you would do the same for all global leaders.



# CLOSER DAY 03

## **Read: Psalm 3**

A Psalm of David, when he fled from Absalom his son.

O Lord, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me; 2 many are saying of my soul, "There is no salvation for him in God." Selah 3 But you, O Lord, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head. 4 I cried aloud to the Lord, and he answered me from his holy hill. Selah 5 I lay down and slept; I woke again, for the Lord sustained me. 6 I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around. 7 Arise, O Lord! Save me, O my God! For you strike all my enemies on the cheek; you break the teeth of the wicked. 8 Salvation belongs to the Lord; your blessing be on your people! Selah

## **Save Me, O My God**

The history behind this Davidic Psalm is what makes it so impactful. David responded to a humiliating and traumatic series of family events that pointed to his husband, father, and leader failures. The rape of his daughter, the murder of his son, and now that murderer (his son Absalom) wanted to take his father's life (2 Samuel 13-15). David's life was falling apart! So, he wrote a song of praise. How many of us do that when faced with overwhelming circumstances like this? Instead of turning to salvation from the world, other people, or abandoning his faith altogether, David proclaimed what he knew to be true about God and His promises. What is unmistakable in this Psalm is that when life falls apart, we can experience the same victory David experienced by crying out to God through prayer.

## **Prayer**

Lord, will you give me the strength not only to overcome my circumstances but to thrive in them? Will you give me the faith to believe, proclaim, and receive the promises you have for me?



# CLOSER

## DAY 04

### **Read: Psalm 4**

To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments. A Psalm of David. Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer! 2 O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? Selah 3 But know that the Lord has set apart the godly for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him. 4 Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. Selah 5 Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord. 6 There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O Lord!" 7 You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound. 8 In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O Lord, make me dwell in safety.

### **Answer Me When I Call**

In the aftermath of Absalom's rebellion, David was still dealing with the stress of threats against his position as King, but ultimately, he knows where the source of his joy comes from. David is so confident that God hears the prayers of those who belong to Him that he cries out to God in his distress because he knows that those who belong to the Lord will find peace and rest. Our stress may come and go, but the peace that passes understanding will guard our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 4:7)

### **Prayer**

Lord, answer me when I call you in my time of distress. We face an enemy who desires our destruction in this world, but we know that we have been set apart by our faith in Jesus to do good works. We are grateful that as we seek to renew our minds daily, we continue to add joy to our soul and rest to our sleep. Remind us of your presence as we walk in peace, knowing we belong to you.



# CLOSER DAY 05

## **Read: Psalm 5**

To the choirmaster: for the flutes. A Psalm of David.

Give ear to my words, O Lord; consider my groaning. 2 Give attention to the sound of my cry, my King and my God, for to you do I pray. 3 O Lord, in the morning you hear my voice; in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch. 4 For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you. 5 The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. 6 You destroy those who speak lies; the Lord abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man. 7 But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house. I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you. 8 Lead me, O Lord, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me. 9 For there is no truth in their mouth; their inmost self is destruction; their throat is an open grave; they flatter with their tongue. 10 Make them bear their guilt, O God; let them fall by their own counsels; because of the abundance of their transgressions cast them out, for they have rebelled against you. 11 But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you. 12 For you bless the righteous, O Lord; you cover him with favor as with a shield.

**Continued on next page -**



# CLOSER DAY 05

## **Lead Me in Your Righteousness**

It's important to note how King David recognizes God as King to highlight his dependence on God's authority. He prayed this prayer in the morning, not only with words, but also groanings (Romans 8:23) as he sought rest from those who accused him. In verse 7, David makes his declaration of faith that he will enter the Lord's house and will bow in reverence before the God who can put down his enemies. David differentiates the voice of God from the voice of the accuser and points out the importance of taking his enemies to God first instead of taking matters into his own hands. David had the authority and the army to destroy his enemies, and he still acknowledged his need for God to fight on his behalf. He ends this beautiful psalm with a request for God to spread His protection over those who take refuge (Psalm 91:1-2) and love God's name. David declared God would cover the righteous with favor as a shield against his enemies, and so can we.

## **Prayer**

Father encourages us to bring our needs to you early in the day and recognize our dependence on you as our refuge. Help me walk in righteousness today and not give opportunity for the Enemy to discourage me. Lord, I want to hear your voice and walk under the shadow of your wings and delight in your presence. May your voice drown out any other that would distract me. Lead me in your righteousness and cover me with your favor.



# CLOSER DAY 06

## **Read: Psalm 6**

To the choirmaster: with stringed instruments; according to The Sheminith. A Psalm of David. O Lord, rebuke me not in your anger, nor discipline me in your wrath. 2 Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled. 3 My soul also is greatly troubled. But you, O Lord—how long? 4 Turn, O Lord, deliver my life; save me for the sake of your steadfast love. 5 For in death there is no remembrance of you; in Sheol who will give you praise? 6 I am weary with my moaning; every night I flood my bed with tears; I drench my couch with my weeping. 7 My eye wastes away because of grief; it grows weak because of all my foes. 8 Depart from me, all you workers of evil, for the Lord has heard the sound of my weeping. 9 The Lord has heard my plea; the Lord accepts my prayer. 10 All my enemies shall be ashamed and greatly troubled; they shall turn back and be put to shame in a moment.

## **O Lord, Deliver My Life**

This psalm begins with a plea for mercy. The first four verses contain verbs that set the tone for the psalm's message: rebuke me not, nor discipline me, be gracious, heal me, and turn, oh Lord. The psalm doesn't tell us why David is asking for mercy, but it reveals a deep desire in him to please the Lord. He describes his plight of daily weariness and nightly tears and persevering in prayer until he realizes his prayer has been heard. David prays the evil workers will leave him alone. Once he learns the Lord has listened to his prayer, his demeanor changes from one of defeat to one of victory immediately. David begins to rejoice that he has been heard. There is no indication his circumstances have changed, but he knows the victory is the Lord's in his heart.

## **Prayer**

Lord, as we face adversity, draw near and make your presence known. In a broken world, we will face pressure that will become unbearable and try to destroy us. Our enemies will continue to conspire, but knowing you hear us when we pray gives us the confidence to trust you even when we can't see you at work.



# CLOSER DAY 07

## **Read: Psalm 7**

A Shiggaion of David, which he sang to the Lord concerning the words of Cush, a Benjaminite.

O Lord my God, in you do I take refuge; save me from all my pursuers and deliver me, 2 lest like a lion they tear my soul apart, rending it in pieces, with none to deliver. 3 O Lord my God, if I have done this, if there is wrong in my hands, 4 if I have repaid my friend with evil or plundered my enemy without cause, 5 let the enemy pursue my soul and overtake it, and let him trample my life to the ground and lay my glory in the dust. Selah 6 Arise, O Lord, in your anger; lift yourself up against the fury of my enemies; awake for me; you have appointed a judgment. 7 Let the assembly of the peoples be gathered about you; over it return on high. 8 The Lord judges the peoples; judge me, O Lord, according to my righteousness and according to the integrity that is in me. 9 Oh, let the evil of the wicked come to an end, and may you establish the righteous—you who test the minds and hearts, O righteous God! 10 My shield is with God, who saves the upright in heart. 11 God is a righteous judge, and a God who feels indignation every day. 12 If a man does not repent, God will whet his sword; he has bent and readied his bow; 13 he has prepared for him his deadly weapons, making his arrows fiery shafts. 14 Behold, the wicked man conceives evil and is pregnant with mischief and gives birth to lies. 15 He makes a pit, digging it out, and falls into the hole that he has made. 16 His mischief returns upon his own head, and on his own skull his violence descends. 17 I will give to the Lord the thanks due to his righteousness, and I will sing praise to the name of the Lord, the Most High.

**Continued on next page -**



# CLOSER DAY 07

## **In You Do I Take Refuge**

In this psalm, we see that David is being persecuted and accused, most likely being slandered by his enemies. Even though this was not a physical attack, we all know that words cut deep. While under these attacks, as vicious as being torn apart by a lion, David trusts God and God alone. He is confident that God will deliver him and achieve ultimate justice. Although David does not claim to be perfect, but he knows he is innocent of the accusations against him. There is a deep trust in the character of God to defend the righteous and punish the wicked. David recognizes that God is the Perfect Judge, and because of that, he finds freedom from having to seek revenge from his accusers. David uses this freedom to give God glory by worshiping and praising Him.

## **Prayer**

God help us trust you more deeply every day. We ask that you free us from feelings of anger, resentment and frustration that might exist be in our hearts. We want to experience peace by trusting you to defend us and to pursue justice from those who have done us wrong. God, we thank you for your perfect character and ask that you help us depend more on you each day.



# CLOSER

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING | REVIVAL NIGHTS

~~WEEK 01~~

WEEK 02

WEEK 03



# CLOSER DAY 08

## **Read: Psalm 8**

How Majestic Is Your Name To the choirmaster: according to The Gittith. A Psalm of David.

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. 2 Out of the mouth of babies and infants, you have established strength because of your foes, to still the enemy and the avenger. 3 When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, 4 what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him? 5 Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned him with glory and honor. 6 You have given him dominion over the works of your hands; you have put all things under his feet, 7 all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, 8 the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas. 9 O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## **Made in His Image**

Psalm eight beautifully paints the picture of God's greatness and majesty. His creation attests to this truth. From mountain ranges to the depths of the ocean to the vastness of our cosmos, it is all God's creative work. David shows us that we are small and frail beings compared to God's greatness seen in creation. Yet, despite that, God shares His "glory and honor" (vs.5) with His creation. Unbelievable that our God is a Creator who has molded us in His image with great love and care. David's worship of God's majesty is a powerful reminder that our God has given indescribable value and worth to every human, and our interaction with all people should reflect this truth.

## **Prayer**

God, thank you for your creation. All around us, you give reminders of your beauty and your love. Remind us that we are made in your image. We are so thankful for the worth and value you have given to all people. Help us love others in the way that you have loved us. Convict us when we think more highly of ourselves than others. Give us eyes to see other people as precious sons and daughters of a Perfect Father and help our interactions display a love that gives you glory and provides a witness to the world.



# CLOSER DAY 09

## **Read: Psalm 9**

I Will Recount Your Wonderful Deeds To the choirmaster: according to Muth-labben. A Psalm of David.

I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart; I will recount all of your wonderful deeds. 2 I will be glad and exult in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High. 3 When my enemies turn back, they stumble and perish before your presence. 4 For you have maintained my just cause; you have sat on the throne, giving righteous judgment. 5 You have rebuked the nations; you have made the wicked perish; you have blotted out their name forever and ever. 6 The enemy came to an end in everlasting ruins; their cities you rooted out; the very memory of them has perished. 7 But the Lord sits enthroned forever; he has established his throne for justice, 8 and he judges the world with righteousness; he judges the peoples with uprightness. 9 The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed, a stronghold in times of trouble. 10 And those who know your name put their trust in you, for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you. 11 Sing praises to the Lord, who sits enthroned in Zion! Tell among the peoples his deeds! 12 For he who avenges blood is mindful of them; he does not forget the cry of the afflicted. 13 Be gracious to me, O Lord! See my affliction from those who hate me, O you who lift me up from the gates of death, 14 that I may recount all your praises, that in the gates of the daughter of Zion I may rejoice in your salvation. 15 The nations have sunk in the pit that they made; in the net that they hid, their own foot has been caught. 16 The Lord has made himself known; he has executed judgment; the wicked are snared in the work of their own hands. Higgsaion. Selah 17 The wicked shall return to Sheol, all the nations that forget God. 18 For the needy shall not always be forgotten, and the hope of the poor shall not perish forever. 19 Arise, O Lord! Let not man prevail; let the nations be judged before you! 20 Put them in fear, O Lord! Let the nations know that they are but men! Selah

**Continued on next page -**



# CLOSER DAY 09

## **Abiding Trust**

In this psalm, we find David thanking God for victory over his enemies. David knows that although evil people might succeed temporarily, the righteous and godly will ultimately prevail. His worship is all-consuming as he praises God for protecting him and acting as a righteous judge by pouring out wrath on the wicked. David is so thankful to the Lord for His protection and provision that he worshiped with his “whole heart” (vs.1). True worship is embodied not just by singing songs of praise but also by a heart that fully trusts that God will be our rescue and our Savior regardless of the problems we face. This abiding trust knows that God will always be the hope and defender of His children regardless of the timeline.

## **Prayer**

God, we thank you that you are our stronghold and our almighty fortress. Our enemies can do nothing to us that can take away the hope that we find in you. God remind us that we have nothing left to fear. With you as our Defender, help us live with confidence and a peace that even when we are surrounded by evil, you will protect us and deliver us from any attacks from the Enemy.



# CLOSER DAY 10

## **Read: Psalm 10**

Why, O Lord, do you stand far away? Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble? 2 In arrogance the wicked hotly pursue the poor; let them be caught in the schemes that they have devised. 3 For the wicked boasts of the desires of his soul, and the one greedy for gain curses and renounces the Lord. 4 In the pride of his face the wicked does not seek him; all his thoughts are, "There is no God." 5 His ways prosper at all times; your judgments are on high, out of his sight; as for all his foes, he puffs at them. 6 He says in his heart, "I shall not be moved; throughout all generations I shall not meet adversity." 7 His mouth is filled with cursing and deceit and oppression; under his tongue are mischief and iniquity. 8 He sits in ambush in the villages; in hiding places he murders the innocent. His eyes stealthily watch for the helpless; 9 he lurks in ambush like a lion in his thicket; he lurks that he may seize the poor; he seizes the poor when he draws him into his net. 10 The helpless are crushed, sink down, and fall by his might. 11 He says in his heart, "God has forgotten, he has hidden his face, he will never see it." 12 Arise, O Lord; O God, lift up your hand; forget not the afflicted. 13 Why does the wicked renounce God and say in his heart, "You will not call to account"? 14 But you do see, for you note mischief and vexation, that you may take it into your hands; to you the helpless commits himself; you have been the helper of the fatherless. 15 Break the arm of the wicked and evildoer; call his wickedness to account till you find none. 16 The Lord is king forever and ever; the nations perish from his land. 17 O Lord, you hear the desire of the afflicted; you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear 18 to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.

**Continued on next page -**



# CLOSER DAY 10

## **Why Do You Hide Yourself?**

David is struggling with persecution. He is being hounded at every turn by men he knows to be ungodly. Men that scorn the will and teaching of God and who seem to be winning despite their attacks against him. This psalm also reveals a wider struggle that people have trying to follow God in a world that does not align itself with His teachings. As the psalm continues, we see David calling out to God for help and ultimately reaffirming his belief in God's sovereignty and eternal promises. I think that many of us can get to a place where we feel completely surrounded by a world that is telling us one thing while God is telling us another. It can feel exhausting and can make us feel as if we are fighting a never ending battle. However, God's message to us is a reminder that His grace is ultimately sufficient for us when facing trials. Paul sums this up well in 2nd Corinthians 12:8-10 when he says "Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

## **Prayer**

God, we thank you for who you are and your perfect grace. Remind us that even in our worst times of trouble, your grace truly is sufficient for us. We are grateful for the eternal hope that you give us and we are grateful that you invite us into a relationship with you.



# CLOSER DAY 11

## **Read: Psalm 11**

To the choirmaster. Of David.

In the Lord I take refuge; how can you say to my soul, "Flee like a bird to your mountain, 2 for behold, the wicked bend the bow; they have fitted their arrow to the string to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart; 3 if the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?" 4 The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord's throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man. 5 The Lord tests the righteous, but his soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence. 6 Let him rain coals on the wicked; fire and sulfur and a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup. 7 For the Lord is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face.

## **Our Ultimate Safety**

This psalm deals with our longing for earthly safety and the fear that comes with knowing that we may lose it. Most of our lives are spent building up safety nets so that when trouble comes we have something to fall back on. I am not criticizing being a responsible person here. It is good to make responsible decisions in regard to money, education, family etc... This psalm addresses this in two ways. The belief that God provides the ultimate safety net in that He will always be on his throne, giving security and living up to his promise of eternal life. It also addresses our reaction to fear and the urge to give into it in order to seek earthly security. David speaks to this directly by reminding us that God is our ultimate refuge and in verses 4-7 saying "The Lord is in his holy temple; the Lord's throne is in heaven; his eyes see, his eyelids test the children of man. The Lord tests the righteous, but his soul hates the wicked and the one who loves violence. Let him rain coals on the wicked; fire and sulfur and a scorching wind shall be the portion of their cup. For the Lord is righteous; he loves righteous deeds; the upright shall behold his face."

## **Prayer**

God thank you that you are our refuge and the source of our strength. We ultimately have nothing to fear because you provide for us, especially in times of trouble.



# CLOSER DAY 12

## **Read: Psalm 12**

To the choirmaster: according to The Sheminith. A Psalm of David. Save, O Lord, for the godly one is gone; for the faithful have vanished from among the children of man. 2 Everyone utters lies to his neighbor; with flattering lips and a double heart they speak. 3 May the Lord cut off all flattering lips, the tongue that makes great boasts, 4 those who say, "With our tongue we will prevail, our lips are with us; who is master over us?" 5 "Because the poor are plundered, because the needy groan, I will now arise," says the Lord; "I will place him in the safety for which he longs." 6 The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times. 7 You, O Lord, will keep them; you will guard us from this generation forever. 8 On every side the wicked prowl, as vileness is exalted among the children of man.

## **Why Do You Hide Yourself?**

This psalm deals with the power of words and the danger of using them to hurt or spread lies. I am reminded of James 3:5 which says "So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire!" Words do indeed have a lot of power. With them we can inspire others, encourage someone who is hurting and share the Gospel. However, we can also use them to spread falsehood, cause fear and lead others away from God. In the psalm David found himself surrounded by men who only wanted what was best for themselves. David sees through this and reminds us in verse 6 that "The words of the Lord are pure words, like silver refined in a furnace on the ground, purified seven times." David knew as we know that the lies of the enemy can only affect us if we believe them.

## **Prayer**

God today would you remind us of the power of our words. Would we use them to proclaim the Gospel and not to lead others farther away from a relationship with Jesus Christ.



# CLOSER DAY 13

## **Read: Psalm 13**

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.

How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me? 2 How long must I take counsel in my soul and have sorrow in my heart all the day? How long shall my enemy be exalted over me? 3 Consider and answer me, O Lord my God; light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death, 4 lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him," lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken. 5 But I have trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation. 6 I will sing to the Lord, because he has dealt bountifully with me.

## **How Long?**

We wait for Amazon packages, vacations, or the arrival of a baby. We wait for an impending deadline, a conversation, or a diagnosis. There are different types of waiting, but the most unbearable kind of waiting is when we desperately need God to move on our behalf, and it feels as if He has forgotten us. We pray like the psalmist, David, and ask, "How long?" Our eyes have no sparkle because our situation has drained us dry. "But," with one word, David transitions from devastation to delight. The turnaround spins on David's trust in God for His assured salvation and faithfulness. How long will you have to endure your current situation? Only God knows. "But" when we spin our focus towards God, who is faithful, and we offer a sacrifice of praise, a tiny glimmer of light is sure to return to our eyes.

## **Prayer**

Lord, I confess I feel like David and sometimes it feels like you have forgotten me and everything I am going through. I wonder how long it will be before I see you moving on my behalf. I don't want to lose my joy and even though I may not feel it, I praise you. I ask for you to grow my trust in You.



# CLOSER DAY 14

## **Read: Psalm 14**

To the choirmaster. Of David.

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds; there is none who does good. 2 The Lord looks down from heaven on the children of man, to see if there are any who understand, who seek after God. 3 They have all turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is none who does good, not even one. 4 Have they no knowledge, all the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread and do not call upon the Lord? 5 There they are in great terror, for God is with the generation of the righteous. 6 You would shame the plans of the poor, but the Lord is his refuge. 7 Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion! When the Lord restores the fortunes of his people, let Jacob rejoice, let Israel be glad.

## **How Long?**

It isn't easy to imagine a time other than the present day when one would look around and wonder where the good in people have gone. The first would have been in the days of Noah, but David must have felt the same way when he wrote the lamenting Psalm 14. There is a longing not just for deliverance but for a Deliverer. "Who will come?" is how the NLT version begins verse seven. On the heels of the Christmas season, we know who came! But we still live with anticipation of when Jesus will return and put an end to the evil in this world. Unlike David, who lived in faith of the coming Messiah's salvation, we live with the confidence and knowledge of Christ's birth, death, and resurrection. We are delivered; we are restored. Let us live with joy amid this dark world, knowing we have experienced the Light who has come.

## **Prayer**

Lord, we praise you for coming to our world, becoming like us, dying on the cross on our behalf, and putting death to death through your resurrection. When you look around on earth, by your grace through the lens of the cross, may I be one you see who seeks after you? Please help me be your light in this dark world. You are my righteousness, my refuge, and I rejoice in your salvation.



# CLOSER

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING | REVIVAL NIGHTS

~~WEEK 01~~

~~WEEK 02~~

WEEK 03



# CLOSER DAY 15

## **Read: Psalm 15**

A Psalm of David.

O Lord, who shall sojourn in your tent? Who shall dwell on your holy hill? 2 He who walks blamelessly and does what is right and speaks truth in his heart; 3 who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbor, nor takes up a reproach against his friend; 4 in whose eyes a vile person is despised, but who honors those who fear the Lord; who swears to his own hurt and does not change; 5 who does not put out his money at interest and does not take a bribe against the innocent. He who does these things shall never be moved.

## **Blameless**

When we think about the word “blameless” in our lives, we need to think deliberate, intentional, and our heart’s motivation. Blameless people lean into obeying God, speaking truthfully, avoiding gossip, treating others fairly, avoiding saying cruel things, respecting other Christ-followers, and keeping their promises, no matter what the cost. That seems like an impossible list, but Christ is our righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:21). It is through His sacrifice on the cross that we have the power of the Holy Spirit to overturn premeditated negative thoughts or intentional motivations that would lead to non-God-honoring actions. What is breeding in our thought life and cultivated in our hearts? We must wrestle with those negative thoughts and guard our hearts so we can walk blamelessly. When we walk blameless, God promises that we will stand firm and not waver, be shaken, or be carried away!

## **Prayer**

Lord, in my weakness, you say you will be my strength. I need you every hour to guard my heart and protect my mind so that I can live a life that honors you. I am struggling right now with an area, and I will give it to you. Thank you for being my righteousness. Thank you so much for being so gracious. Thank you for helping me stand firm in my faith.



# CLOSER DAY 16

## **Read: Psalm 16**

A Miktam of David.

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge. 2 I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you." 3 As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones, in whom is all my delight. 4 The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names on my lips. 5 The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. 6 The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance. 7 I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. 8 I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. 10 For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. 11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

## **God Is Greater**

The main point of this psalm is in the first verse: only God can preserve us, and only He can provide us refuge. No matter the storm or struggle in our lives, God is greater. He is our refuge now and our inheritance in the future. That means we do not have to strive to earn what we have already been given freely, an eternity with Him. He has given us the gift of beautiful boundaries to live our lives within. These boundaries are for His glory and our good. We receive counsel to live this life well, moment by moment, day by day. This counsel comes through the Word of God that we have tucked into our hearts. We are to set our eyes on God before us, knowing that it puts us on the path of life as we move towards his presence and our joy.

## **Prayer**

Lord, sometimes the world is so loud around me, trying to get me to take my eyes off you. Sometimes it is so enticing that it tries to move me outside of the good boundaries you have placed for me. Please help me always take refuge in you, knowing that your counsel and direction are for your glory and my good. Thank you for being a God who gives good gifts to me. Thank you for being a God who preserves, protects, and provides for me. Your presence is where I find the fullness of joy. Would you please help me as I walk to keep you before me and my feet on the path of life?



# CLOSER DAY 17

## **Read: Psalm 17**

A Prayer of David.

Hear a just cause, O Lord; attend to my cry! Give ear to my prayer from lips free of deceit! 2 From your presence let my vindication come! Let your eyes behold the right! 3 You have tried my heart, you have visited me by night, you have tested me, and you will find nothing; I have purposed that my mouth will not transgress. 4 With regard to the works of man, by the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent. 5 My steps have held fast to your paths; my feet have not slipped. 6 I call upon you, for you will answer me, O God; incline your ear to me; hear my words. 7 Wondrously show your steadfast love, O Savior of those who seek refuge from their adversaries at your right hand. 8 Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings, 9 from the wicked who do me violence, my deadly enemies who surround me. 10 They close their hearts to pity; with their mouths they speak arrogantly. 11 They have now surrounded our steps; they set their eyes to cast us to the ground. 12 He is like a lion eager to tear, as a young lion lurking in ambush. 13 Arise, O Lord! Confront him, subdue him! Deliver my soul from the wicked by your sword, 14 from men by your hand, O Lord, from men of the world whose portion is in this life. You fill their womb with treasure; they are satisfied with children, and they leave their abundance to their infants. 15 As for me, I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake, I shall be satisfied with your likeness.

**Continued on next page -**



# CLOSER DAY 17

## **God Our Savior**

Our psalmist reminds us that as we seek to stay close to God and strive not to sin, we often find ourselves at odds with the world and the people of it. In these times when the world feels like it is caving in, we can fearlessly call on the name of God. God is our Savior, both from the penalty of sin and the daily attacks of our enemy. He is our refuge, tucking us under His wings, so we are comforted and protected. Although our enemies may seem like they are filled to the brim with good things, we recognize that knowing Christ surpasses all other rewards this life can give and that an end is coming. Anyone who does not know Jesus as Lord and Savior will only experience the shadow of joy on this Earth and spend forever separated from true joy. However, we are provided for, protected, and will have eternal joy as we move from this life to the next.

## **Prayer**

Lord, thank you that you hear my cry. Would you please give me eyes that see your provision during my struggles? Would you please build my faith to praise you in the hard places of life? God, please draw my enemy to you so even they can receive eternal life. God, remind me to pray for anyone who is lost and without hope. Thank you for tucking me securely under your wing, knowing that no matter what comes at me, it must pass through you first. Jesus, help me count these difficulties as joy as they produce faithful perseverance in me so that I can become more like you.



# CLOSER DAY 18

## **Read: Psalm 18**

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David, the servant of the Lord, who addressed the words of this song to the Lord on the day when the Lord delivered him from the hand of all his enemies, and from the hand of Saul. He said: I love you, O Lord, my strength.

2 The Lord is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer, my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold. 3 I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and I am saved from my enemies. 4 The cords of death encompassed me; the torrents of destruction assailed me; 5 the cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me. 6 In my distress I called upon the Lord; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears. 7 Then the earth reeled and rocked; the foundations also of the mountains trembled and quaked, because he was angry. 8 Smoke went up from his nostrils, and devouring fire from his mouth; glowing coals flamed forth from him. 9 He bowed the heavens and came down; thick darkness was under his feet. 10 He rode on a cherub and flew; he came swiftly on the wings of the wind. 11 He made darkness his covering, his canopy around him; thick clouds dark with water. 12 Out of the brightness before him hailstones and coals of fire broke through his clouds. 13 The Lord also thundered in the heavens, and the Most High uttered his voice, hailstones and coals of fire. 14 And he sent out his arrows and scattered them; he flashed forth lightnings and routed them. 15 Then the channels of the sea were seen, and the foundations of the world were laid bare at your rebuke, O Lord, at the blast of the breath of your nostrils. 16 He sent from on high, he took me; he drew me out of many waters. 17 He rescued me from my strong enemy and from those who hated me, for they were too mighty for me. 18 They confronted me in the day of my calamity, but the Lord was my support. 19 He brought me out into a broad place; he rescued me, because he delighted in me. 20 The Lord dealt with me according to my righteousness; according to the cleanness of my hands he rewarded me. 21 For I have kept the ways of the Lord, and have not wickedly departed from my God. 22 For all his rules were before me, and his statutes I did not put away from me. 23 I was blameless before him, and I kept myself from my guilt. 24 So the Lord has rewarded me according to my righteousness, according to the cleanness of my hands in his sight.

**Continued on next page -**



# CLOSER DAY 18

## **Read: Psalm 18 (cont.)**

25 With the merciful you show yourself merciful; with the blameless man you show yourself blameless; 26 with the purified you show yourself pure; and with the crooked you make yourself seem tortuous. 27 For you save a humble people, but the haughty eyes you bring down. 28 For it is you who light my lamp; the Lord my God lightens my darkness. 29 For by you I can run against a troop, and by my God I can leap over a wall. 30 This God—his way is perfect; the word of the Lord proves true; he is a shield for all those who take refuge in him. 31 For who is God, but the Lord? And who is a rock, except our God?— 32 the God who equipped me with strength and made my way blameless. 33 He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights. 34 He trains my hands for war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. 35 You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your right hand supported me, and your gentleness made me great. 36 You gave a wide place for my steps under me, and my feet did not slip. 37 I pursued my enemies and overtook them, and did not turn back till they were consumed. 38 I thrust them through, so that they were not able to rise; they fell under my feet. 39 For you equipped me with strength for the battle; you made those who rise against me sink under me. 40 You made my enemies turn their backs to me, and those who hated me I destroyed. 41 They cried for help, but there was none to save; they cried to the Lord, but he did not answer them. 42 I beat them fine as dust before the wind; I cast them out like the mire of the streets. 43 You delivered me from strife with the people; you made me the head of the nations; people whom I had not known served me. 44 As soon as they heard of me they obeyed me; foreigners came cringing to me. 45 Foreigners lost heart and came trembling out of their fortresses. 46 The Lord lives, and blessed be my rock, and exalted be the God of my salvation— 47 the God who gave me vengeance and subdued peoples under me, 48 who rescued me from my enemies; yes, you exalted me above those who rose against me; you delivered me from the man of violence. 49 For this I will praise you, O Lord, among the nations, and sing to your name. 50 Great salvation he brings to his king, and shows steadfast love to his anointed, to David and his offspring forever.

**Continued on next page -**



# CLOSER DAY 18

## **Equipped for Battle**

Our passage contains many action words describing God. He is the God who hears, comes down, speaks, engages in battle, draws up, rescues, rewards, shows mercies, and more. Our God is not far away, uninvolved with his people's lives. He is a God who moves on our behalf. When we are drowning, he reaches in and lifts us. When we feel like the enemy is winning, he reminds us that victory belongs to him. When we are in darkness, his light shines bright. He is a God that meets the merciful with mercy and provides a way for the humble. He alone is our shield and refuge. Through the Holy Spirit, He equips us for battle (Eph 6:14-17). As His children, we receive all the provision and protection of God. Praise the Lord for his salvation!

## **Prayer**

Lord, thank you for who you are. When I am overwhelmed, please remind me of your mighty hand. When I am afraid, remind me of your steadfast love. When I am exhausted, remind me you are my rock for refuge. Lord, thank you for your mighty love. Thank you that your ears hear my voice when I cry out. Would you please help me live every day dressed for battle, knowing you have already won it?



# CLOSER DAY 19

## **Read: Psalm 19**

1 The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. 2 Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. 3 There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. 4 Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun, 5 which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy. 6 Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat. 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; 8 the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; 9 the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether. 10 More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. 11 Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. 12 Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults. 13 Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. 14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

**Continued on next page -**



# CLOSER DAY 19

## **God's Revelation**

God has revealed Himself to us in two specific ways; through His creation and His Word. While nature itself cannot speak words, His glory and His handiwork are proclaimed throughout the entire earth as we experience the world that He created. But the message of creation alone is not enough to communicate His saving grace. God's Word is perfect, sure, right, pure, clean, true, and righteous. It is the source of wisdom, revival, rejoicing, enlightenment, and it endures forever! For this reason, it is more precious than anything that can be found in this world. But for us to tap into this resource, we must know what his Word says and then submit to it.

## **Prayer**

Lord, thank you for revealing yourself, not just in your creation but also through your Word. I am thankful that you gave us your Word to know how to live for you rightly. Please help me prioritize your word in my life and give me the courage to submit to it. Search me and reveal to me sin in my life so I can confess it and live an acceptable life in your sight.



# CLOSER DAY 20

## **Read: Psalm 20**

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you! 2 May he send you help from the sanctuary and give you support from Zion! 3 May he remember all your offerings and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices! Selah 4 May he grant you your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans! 5 May we shout for joy over your salvation, and in the name of our God set up our banners! May the Lord fulfill all your petitions! 6 Now I know that the Lord saves his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with the saving might of his right hand. 7 Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. 8 They collapse and fall, but we rise and stand upright. 9 O Lord, save the king! May he answer us when we call.

## **King Jesus**

When faced with a difficult situation, do you tend to look to your skills or talents? Is prayer your "plan A" or do you use it as a last resort? These men are on the eve of a great battle, and they use this time to cry out to the Lord. It is easy to look to the things of this world (money, talents, etc.) in times of trouble, but our true source of victory can only be found in King Jesus!

## **Prayer**

Lord, you are my rock, my protector, my refuge in a time of storm. Help me to trust in you and not the things of this world. Help me to seek you first.



# CLOSER DAY 21

## **Read: Psalm 21**

O Lord, in your strength the king rejoices, and in your salvation how greatly he exults!

2 You have given him his heart's desire and have not withheld the request of his lips. Selah

3 For you meet him with rich blessings; you set a crown of fine gold upon his head.

4 He asked life of you; you gave it to him, length of days forever and ever. 5 His glory is great through your salvation; splendor and majesty you bestow on him. 6 For you make him most blessed forever; you make him glad with the joy of your presence. 7 For the king trusts in the Lord, and through the steadfast love of the Most High he shall not be moved. 8 Your hand will find out all your enemies; your right hand will find out those who hate you. 9 You will make them as a blazing oven when you appear. The Lord will swallow them up in his wrath, and fire will consume them. 10 You will destroy their descendants from the earth, and their offspring from among the children of man. 11 Though they plan evil against you, though they devise mischief, they will not succeed. 12 For you will put them to flight; you will aim at their faces with your bows. 13 Be exalted, O Lord, in your strength! We will sing and praise your power.

**Continued on next page -**



# CLOSER DAY 21

## **Our Claim to Victory**

The people praise and worship God, who has answered their prayers from Psalm 20 and given them victory in battle. They celebrate because they trusted God to do what He said he would do, and He proved Himself faithful. Their faith is encouraged because God has delivered them from their enemies and will continue to deliver them through His power and strength. As followers of Christ, we can sing and praise that same power. We have been delivered from the bondage of sin through Christ's death, burial, and resurrection. He has claimed victory over death, hell, and the grave, and like the people in this Psalm, we get to reap the rewards of His victory. We have been delivered and will be delivered when Christ returns, and we finally and wholly perfected.

## **Prayer**

Lord, we praise and worship you as our everlasting King and Savior! Thank you for sending your Son to pay the price for our sins and making way for us to be delivered. We praise your faithfulness, strength, power, and love. Help us rest in your steadfast love and grow our faith to trust you more and more.



# CLOSER

21 DAYS OF PRAYER & FASTING | REVIVAL NIGHTS

~~WEEK 01~~

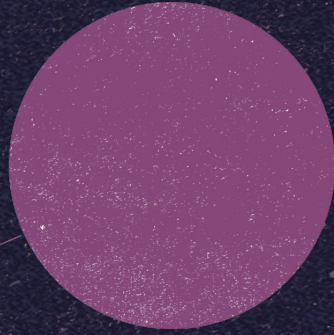
~~WEEK 02~~

~~WEEK 03~~

COME CLOSE TO GOD  
AND GOD WILL COME  
CLOSE TO YOU.

JAMES 4:8





**THANKS FOR JOINING US  
THE LAST THREE WEEKS  
IN DRAWING CLOSER TO GOD.**

**WE PRAY THIS TIME HAS  
IMPACTED YOU AND HELPED  
START YOUR YEAR OFF  
STRONG.**

**CONTINUE TO SEEK HIM,  
TRUST HIM, AND REST IN HIS  
STEADFAST LOVE.**



**CROSSPOINTCITY.CHURCH**