

# 2017: Moving FORWARD



Exodus 14:14-16 (Amp)

Together

Dear Spirit and Truth Family,

As we enter into 2017, our faith expectancy is at an all-time high! Here we are at the 20 year mark of ministry! Pastor Alma and I know without a shadow of doubt that one era has ended for Spirit and Truth and new era has begun. As we embark upon our church's 20<sup>th</sup> year Birthday celebration we believe our best days are ahead...in Jesus Name!

The third quarter of 2016 was an intense time of seeking God for direction for "what's next" for Spirit and Truth. We are so excited to say our efforts have proven to be fruitful! With the help of our senior leadership and action team members, our planning process has paid off with a three year strategic plan. We believe this plan will provide the forward momentum necessary to experience a greater level of God's power and glory in and through our church in the next three to five years.

Our guiding theme for 2017 is "**Moving Forward Together**", which comes from Exodus 14:15-16. <sup>15</sup> *The Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? Tell the sons of Israel to **move forward**"* <sup>16</sup> *As for you, lift up your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it..."* We believe this is the year God will do exploits through our ministry staff as we are stretched to new heights.

In order to move forward together in 2017, it's going to require a dependency upon God's awesome ability like never before both individually and collectively. To experience this display of God's power among us and in us, there are some things that we *must* do to trigger it. Designated times of prayer and fasting is something we can do to initiate this forward momentum in our lives and church.

Spirit and Truth is known for being a house of prayer & fasting. From its inception, we have prioritized prayer & fasting and have seen tremendous breakthroughs. And as a member, you know January has been one of those designated times when we, as a church, consecrate ourselves before the Lord and seek His face for the new year. God is waiting on us to send Him a personal invitation to get involved in our lives. This time of prayer and fasting will do just that, give God permission to get involved in the affairs of our church and in our lives personally. This year the Holy Spirit has lead us to set aside **21 days of consecration** using the **Daniel Fast** as our model. The consecration will begin on **Sunday, January 8, thru Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>**.

Pastor Alma and I are very appreciative for your support in previous years and we know we can count on you to partner with us in 2017. We love and appreciate our Spirit and Truth family and we want you to know you are always in our prayers. Thank you in advance for your "Unwavering Participation" and we agree for God's "Uncommon Favor" over your life in the days to come!

*"Moving Forward Together",*

*Pastors Edwin & Alma Bamberg*

# 2017: Moving FORWARD



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## 21 DAYS OF FASTING AND PRAYER

Spirit and Truth World Outreach Church  
Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> 2017

### DANIEL FAST

#### **SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:**

##### **Dan 10:2-3**

2 In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. 3 I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till **three whole weeks** were fulfilled. (NKJV)

##### **Dan 6:10**

Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees **three times that day**, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days. (NKJV)

#### **FASTING**

People who have never fasted don't know what is involved. Fasting can sound like drudgery and seem difficult. Many associate fasting with a long, long period of time, and yet a fast can be as short as one meal and still allow God to do some wonderful things in your life.

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF FASTING:** The purpose of the **Daniel Fast** is to sharpen your spiritual sensitivity to the Spirit of God. It is to undo unbelief. This is the key to fasting, Jesus told His disciples they were unable to cast out the evil spirits because of their unbelief. If they had been fasting and praying, however, they would have had the belief to cast them out. Fasting puts you in a position of higher faith.

Many people fast to diet, but that should NOT be your goal in fasting. If losing weight is your purpose in fasting, you are missing the fullness of the reason for fasting.

#### **WHAT FASTING DOES:**

1. **God will use fasting to lead you.** Jesus was led in fasting in Matthew 17:21. This was after He had been on the Mount of Transfiguration with three of His disciples. When He descended, a man whose son was demon-possessed came to Him and said, *"I brought my son to Your disciples, but they couldn't cast out the spirits."* Jesus answered, ***"...Because of your unbelief...this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting"*** (Matthew 17:20,21)
2. **Fasting and Prayer will not only bind up your unbelief; it will also break the powers of darkness.** (Judges 20) When you are not seeing results after having stood on the Word and having had people pray, you need to fast and pray. Then you will see the powers of darkness break.
3. **Fasting and prayer will show you what to do in a situation.** Sometimes there is a key answer you must get from God. (II Chronicles 20)

4. Fasting and prayer will show you how to get out of a selfish attitude. (Exodus 32) It will get the carnality out of you and put you into a right spiritual place with God.
5. When you fast and pray, it undoes unbelief in you and gives you BOLDNESS to reach out and take hold of the things of God – things you never had before!

### **WHAT TO DO DURING THE FAST:**

- **Abstain** from eating **meats** including **fish**; and **sweets** for twenty-one (21) days.;
- **Eat** fruits, vegetables and drink water.
- **Monitor** what you allow to enter into your eye and ear gates through **Television**. Refrain from over indulgence in secular television and replace this time with God in prayer, study of the Word or ministry to someone in need.
- **Pray** three daily. **You choose** the times most appropriate for you.
- **Read** Scripture daily about **F**AITH, God-given **O**pportunities, **R**everential worship, the **W**ord of God, **A**bility of God, **R**ewards of Obedience, & **D**rive for the things of God.

### **REMEMBER, “Moving Forward Together” in 2017 necessitates that we must:**

1. **REMAIN** in **F**AITH at all times.

**Hebrews 11:6 KJV**

*6 But without FAITH it is impossible to please him...*

2. **RECOGNIZE** God-given **O**PPORTUNITIES!

**Ephesians 1:18 KJV**

*18 The eyes of your UNDERSTANDING BEING ENLIGHTENED; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.*

3. **RENEW** our **R**EVERENCE for God through Worship.

**Ps 89:7 KJV**

*7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about him.*

4. **REVIVE** our **W**ORSHIP of God!

**John 4:23-24 KJV**

*23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.*

*24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.*

5. **REMEMBER** God's **ABILITY** works through us!

**Ephesians 3:20 (NLT)**

*20 Now all glory to God, who is **ABLE**, through his mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think.*

6. **REFLECT** on God's **REWARD** for obedience.

**Hebrews 11:6 KJV**

*6 But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a **REWARDER** of them that diligently seek him.*

7. **REFUEL** our, **DESIRE**, for the things of God.

**Phil 3:14 NKJV**

*14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*

**Matt 5:6 KJV**

*6 Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.*

**For best results follow directions:**

During the fast feed your spirit the Word of God **daily**. As you do this your faith in God will become stronger and your doubts, fears and unbelief will starve to death.

In addition to reading the King James Version of the Bible, I encourage you to read other translations of the scriptures as well. By doing this the Holy Spirit can illuminate hidden revelation from the Word of God. This will help bring greater clarity, understanding and meaning to the scriptures as you read them.

Recommended Translations: Amplified Bible; New Living Translation; and the Message Bible.

**Prior to reading the scripture for the day make the following confession:**

“Father, I thank you for the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation that dwell in my heart, and for the illumination that comes from Your Word. I praise you for the fresh revelation that enters my spirit and gives me understanding and wisdom to apply it to my life today.”

**IN JESUS NAME, AMEN.**

After reading the scriptures praise and thank God for the Word taking root in your heart and for the change that's taking place in your life today.

- **Spend time** sitting before the Lord **quietly**, meditating on what you have read, allowing the Holy Spirit to speak to your heart.
- **Spend time** praising and worshipping God.

There is no magic in fasting. It is a consecrated time where you deny your flesh its desires so as to discipline it and bring it under subjection to the Spirit of God.

***Disclaimer: If you are under the care of a physician, or on medication that requires you to adhere to a specified diet, please follow your normal schedule as prescribed by your doctor.***

Scriptural fasting and prayer are usually coupled together. (Acts 13:1-3.)

This fast will last for twenty one (21) days.

If you follow the instructions of the fast I believe that God will show Himself strong on your behalf and He will do exploits through you. (Daniel 11:32)

### **THE REWARDS OF FASTING** *(Isaiah 58:8-14)*

1. God will shed **HIS** own glorious **LIGHT** (Word) upon you. (V.8)
2. God will **HEAL** you. (V.8)
3. Your godliness will **LEAD** you **FORWARD**. (V.8)
4. Goodness will be a **SHIELD BEFORE** you. (V.8)
5. The glory of the Lord will **PROTECT** you from **BEHIND**. (V.8)
6. When you call, the **LORD WILL ANSWER**, Yes, I am here. He will **QUICKLY REPLY**. (V.9)
7. **YOUR LIGHT** will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you shall be as bright as day. (V.10)
8. God will **GUIDE** you **CONTINUALLY**. (V. 11)
9. God will **SATISFY** you with **ALL GOOD** things. (V. 11)
10. God will **KEEP** you **HEALTHY**. (v.11)
11. You will be like a **WELL-WATERED** garden, like an **EVER-FLOWING** spring. (v.11)
12. Your **SONS WILL REBUILD** the long deserted ruins of your cities. (v.12)
13. You will be known as “the **PEOPLE WHO REBUILD** their walls and cities.” (v.12)
14. The Lord will be your **DELIGHT**. (V.14)
15. God will see to it that you **RIDE HIGH** and get your **FULL** share of the **BLESSINGS** He promised to Jacob your father. (v.14)

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