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LOVING GOD & LOVING PEOPLE!

**Why?**

***Relationship***

**&**

***Representation***

**Loving God & Loving People**



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**Arrival vs. Abiding**

**&**

**Information vs. Transformation**

**Draw the Circle**

**The 40 day Prayer challenge**



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The power of (**UNDERSTANDING THE FIGHT!**)

The power of the (**HOLY SPIRIT!**)

The power of (**PRAYER!**)

The power of the (**WORD!**)

The power of (**FASTING!**)

The power of (**TRUTH!**)

The power of (**EACH DAY!**)



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## **Week #1**

The power of (**UNDERSTANDING THE FIGHT!**)

### ***The Fight!***

**Be serious and keep watch; the Evil One, who is against you, goes about like a lion with open mouth in search of food;**

**-1 Peter 5:8**



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**The Fight starts with an  
understanding that you are in one,  
and you can't do it in your own  
strength!**



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**Week #2 The power of the...  
HOLY SPIRIT!**



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# **Walking in the Power of the Spirit!**

## **5 practices:**

**Acknowledge**

**Pray**

**Trust**

**Act**

**Thanks**





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**Week #3**

**The Power of Prayer!**



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# **"What is the power of prayer?"**

According to the Bible, the power of prayer is, quite simply, the power of God, who hears and answers prayer.



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**Week #4**

**The Power of the Word  
of God!**



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# **The Power of the Word!**

Your word is a lamp to guide my  
feet and a light for my path.

**-Psalm 119:105**



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**Week #5**

**The Power of Fasting!**



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**More than any other observance, this discipline will sharpen our spiritual senses so that we can tap into our divine source.**



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# **Why, and What does it look like?**

*Food for your physical body sustains it and nourishes it. When we eat food, we literally take the earth and make it part of us.*



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We see the eternal nourishment of our spirits when Jesus told the devil in the wilderness, "'It is written: "Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God'"

(Matt. 4:4).





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**Psalm 119:103** How sweet are your words to my taste,  
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**Ezekiel 3:3** Then he said to me, “Son of man, eat this  
scroll I am giving you and fill your stomach with it.” So I  
ate it, and it tasted as sweet as honey in my mouth.

**Jeremiah 15:16** When your words came, I ate  
them; they were my joy and my heart’s delight, for I bear  
your name, Lord God Almighty.



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**During a fast, we deliberately let go of that which binds us to this physical world food!**

**...In order to receive all your sustenance from the spiritual world. You determine that for a period of time you will deny your physical cravings to focus on your spiritual cravings.**



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## **Fasting is not...**

- **A way to influence, impress or manipulate God.**
- **Doesn't prove anything to Him.**
- **It doesn't show Him whether you are serious.**
- **A fast is not a hunger strike designed to convince God to release what He has, up to now, held back.**
- **A last-ditch effort to get through to God.**
- **A great weight loss program.**



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# **Fasting is...**

**A means of sharpening our spiritual senses so that God can get through to us. Fasting is one of the ways that you and I fight!**



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# Where do we see it?

**New Testament:**

**16** “*When you fast*, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. **17** But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, **18** so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

-Matt 6:16-18



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# Where do we see it?

**Old Testament:**

**2 Chronicles 20:1-29**

After this, the Moabites and Ammonites with some of the Meunites came to wage war against Jehoshaphat.  
**2** Some people came and told Jehoshaphat, “A vast army is coming against you from Edom, from the other side of the Dead Sea.



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## **Couple of Questions...**

- What situation confronts you today?
- Do the facts of your situation overwhelm you and cause you fear and anxiety?
- Do your circumstances look hopeless to you?



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- **Difficult times always bring an opportunity to exercise your faith!**
- **Take your eyes off the circumstances and fix them on Jesus.**





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## **What did Jehoshaphat do when confronted with circumstances that threatened to defeat him?**

"Alarmed, Jehoshaphat **resolved to inquire of the Lord**, and he **proclaimed a fast** for all Judah. The people of Judah came together to seek help from the Lord; indeed, they came from every town in Judah to seek him" (2 Chr. 20:3-4).



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# What has God called us to do as Christians?

- **Go to Church?**
- **Have a Bible study?**
- **Give a little time and Money?**

***No, to Fight!***



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## ***How?***

- 1. Recognize we are in one!**
- 2. Inquire of the Lord!**
- 3. Pray!**
- 4. Read the Word!**
- 5. FAST!**



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**Aug 20<sup>th</sup> –September 28<sup>th</sup>**

**40 days of Fighting!**

**Read, Pray, fast, Journal!**