

Prayer and Fasting Guide: REVERE, RENEW, REVIVE in '25

The goal of fasting is to turn ourselves from worldly things, and set our minds and hearts fully on God. It is not a way to manipulate God or coerce Him to hear and answer our prayers, but rather it acknowledges our complete dependence on Him. Fasting awakens us to the reality that we are so often driven by our fleshly desires and appetites. It humbles us and awakens us to our great need for and reliance on God. This guide centers on three key themes: **REVERE**, **RENEW**, and **REVIVE**. Approach this time with humility, sincerity, and an open heart, listen to the Holy Spirit, and ask God to lead us in this time of seeking Him.

REVERE: To revere is to honor and glorify God, acknowledging His majesty and holiness as revealed in Christ. Begin your time of fasting by reflecting on His greatness and expressing your adoration and reverence of Him.

Scripture Focus: "Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Philippians 2:9-11)

Prayer Prompts:

- 1) Praise God for His attributes revealed through Jesus (e.g., His love, sacrifice, and resurrection power).
 - 2) Confess any ways we may have failed to honor Christ as Lord in our life.
 - 3) Ask for a heart that delights in worshiping Jesus in spirit and truth.
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RENEW: To renew is to seek God's cleansing and restoration through the finished work of Christ. Through confession and repentance, we experience His grace and renewal.

Scripture Focus:

- 1) "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me...restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit." (Psalm 51:10,12)
- 2) "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new." (2 Corinthians 5:17)

Prayer Prompts:

- 1) Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of sin or complacency in our life that need the transformative power of Christ.