

2024



21 DAYS OF PRAYER

Dear THV Family,

Every new year is full of anticipation and expectation for something new. It is a fresh opportunity to leave behind old habits, ideas, and weights that have tried to keep us from encountering the fullness of God. While there is nothing special about turning the page of a calendar, the turning of that page is a reminder that our God is giving us more opportunities to know Him in a deeper way. The word for us in this new year at The Hill is “ROOTED.” Our prayer mirrors the prayer of the Apostle Paul, that we would be a people that live our lives in Jesus, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in our faith and overflowing with thankfulness (Colossians 2:6-7).

To be rooted is to be deeply and firmly established in something. This year our desire is that as a church we, both corporately and individually, deeply establish and re-establish the roots of our faith. Roots that last can be established only when they are intentionally planted in a solid foundation. That foundation is God and His Word. So, it is with Him and the revelation of Himself that we begin this ROOTED journey together.

For the next 21 days, we will focus our times of prayer and devotion on discovering the mystery of just how God has chosen to reveal Himself to us as one, yet triune in nature. We will begin with knowing who our Father in Heaven is, followed by discovering the hope of Jesus, and end with a focus on living alive in the power of the Holy Spirit.

This intentional time of prayer and fasting will be foundational for the roots that we wish to establish this year. These next three weeks are not the end, but the launching point for where God is leading us as followers of Jesus. May our hearts and minds be in awe of God as we collectively seek to know Him more. And, may our faith be grounded and established in Him.

**With Love and Anticipation for the New Year,
THV Staff**



BibleProject

BIBLE IN 1 YEAR



THU 21 Days of Prayer Playlist



PRAYER TIPS

1. FIND A QUIET PLACE

Away from distraction and noise. If you can, pick the same place every day so that can become your “prayer closet.” Finding quiet may mean getting up early before your household does!

2. PICK A SET TIME

Consistency is key! If we want to connect with God more, the solution isn’t so much new prayer forms and more variety, but consistency and an established routine. In order to get the most out of these 21 days, set a specific time to pray.

3. REMEMBER THE A.C.T.S. MODEL

Adoration

Focus directly on God, adoring Him for who He is: His names, His character, His roles, etc. Worship and praise God with your heart, mind, and voice.

1 Chronicles 29:10-13

Confession

When you acknowledge who God is and adore Him for all that He is, confession is a natural follow-up. For we cannot stand before the throne of a holy God with sin between us and our Savior. Thank God, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins! Ask God to search your heart for areas that displease Him.

Psalms 139:23-24

Thanksgiving

This is a time for prayers of thanks for what God has done. Thank Him for salvation, the many blessings in your life, protection, provision, open doors, opportunities, and His gifts to man.

1 Chronicles 16:34

Supplication

This is when you bring your requests to Him. Ask God for His divine help to meet needs, solve problems, work in someone’s life, etc.

Philippians 4:6

WHAT IS FASTING?

Christian fasting is abstaining from food, drink, or social media for a specific period of time while focusing on prayer and fellowship with God.

Abstaining and fasting are about more than just “not eating” or “not going on social media.” They’re about setting ourselves apart for a purpose. It’s not about an outward behavior but also about seeking the Lord with all our heart, soul, and mind.

TYPES OF FASTS

1. Complete Fast

The complete fast is a Christian water-only fast, abstaining from all food. If you're brand new to fasting you may want to start with a liquid or partial fast before diving into a complete fast.

2. Liquid Fast

The kind of fasting involves abstaining from all food but allows liquids such as smoothies, fresh juices and pureed soups, and of course water!

3. Partial Fast

If you're new to fasting, a partial fast is a great first step. Not to be confused with dieting or simply eating healthy, fasting should involve a level of sacrifice that challenges your flesh. The focus isn't what you eat, but drawing closer to the Lord and strengthening your spirit. In a partial fast you can restrict the times of day you eat or choose what types of food to eat or abstain from.

4. Daniel Fast

This is a partial fast where one abstains from eating meats, sweets, or other items. You may choose to eat fruits, vegetables, whole grains, nuts, and seeds.

5. Soul Fast

This involves abstaining from all forms of media for a set period of time to clear your mind and focus on your spiritual health. Some people commit to abstain from social media in particular.



Father God

Reveal

God has revealed Himself to His people in profound ways. As the Bible opens in Genesis, He demonstrated who He is in mighty power by creating the heavens and earth and every living creature. He has redeemed and restored us through His Son, Jesus. He is relational, showing Himself to His children in a personal way. Let us not deny who He is and who He has shown Himself to be. If there is any doubt, let the attributes we study over the next five days highlight His character and affection toward us.

Day 1

OMNIPOTENT

Omnipotent. One of the first attributes of God that is revealed to us is His Omnipotence. This simply means that God is all powerful.

“Can I borrow your charger?” is a phrase we hear daily. Our phones, our appliances, lights, and everything we interact with require power. We need it to survive. But, to have or receive power a source is needed. A charger will not charge if it is not plugged in to a source, a light will not turn on if it is not drawing power from a source. All power comes from somewhere. Our lives that are constantly drained are no different. We need a source.

Isaiah tells us that God is everlasting and He does not grow tired, He gives strength and increases power, even the young grow tired and stumble, but those who find hope in the Lord renew their strength (Isaiah 40:28-31).

We need a source, but God does not. From the opening to the closing pages of the Scriptures our Father is revealed to us as Almighty and all powerful. He does not need anything or anyone to give or supply Him power; He is the source of power itself. It is in Him and His power that we live and move and have our being (Acts 17:28).

Let’s be reminded as we begin this new year that our God is the Almighty. He is our source of power—because He is power. As you place your hope in Him, allow Him to renew your strength from His unending source for all that He has planned for you this year.

Notes:

Day 2

IMMUTABLE

The Constant

“Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”

Growing up, I loved the TV series LOST. Without spoiling too much, in the later seasons, the characters begin to experience time-traveling phenomena. In order to put an end to it, they had to find their “Constant.” These “Constants” were someone that has been present in every season of their lives.

While we may not be dealing with random bouts of time travel, our lives are filled with twists, turns, and changes that we are rarely prepared for.

Thankfully, while life may be constantly changing and displaying its fickle personality, our God does not. He is immutable, meaning He is unchanging as well as unchangeable.

God is the same yesterday, today, and tomorrow. His Word, His truth, His promises, are as relevant to us today as they were when originally written. The blessings, guidance, protection, freedom, and salvation He gives are always flowing, consistently. He never wavers, changes His mind, or grows tired of us.

Though the world around us seems to change its mind with each passing moment, we can be reassured that God does not operate that way. He is immutable, He is unchanging, He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. He is our constant.

Notes:

Day 3

FAITHFUL

Have you ever experienced something that was out of your control? Have you ever had a time when you felt alone and unsure? If your answer is “yes,” know that you can turn to God. He will show Himself to be faithful to you. Being faithful means “being true to your word or promise.”

God is faithful to be there for us in any and every circumstance of life. God showed His faithfulness to us long ago. In the Bible, Romans 5:8 says, “But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” This means that God sacrificed His one and only Son to save us from our sins because He values us. God will be with you and see you through to the end.

God is faithful to protect us in our current circumstances. In Deuteronomy 31:6 it states, “He is faithful never to leave us or forsake us.” There was a boy named Joseph, recorded in the Bible, who was forsaken by his family, yet God saw him through to adulthood. Joseph had the favor of God to the point that he was placed in a high position to save his very own family.

God is faithful through our prayers. Be encouraged by this passage in Hebrews 11:1. “Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.” There was a woman named Hannah from the Bible, who prayed faithfully for many years to have a son, and God answered the prayer her heart.

Even if we waver in our faith, God has revealed Himself by remaining faithful to His own nature. In 2 Timothy 2:13, the words remind us that “If we are faithless, He remains faithful. For he cannot disown Himself.”

One final Scripture... Lamentations 3:22-23 reads, “His compassions never fail. Great is His faithfulness.” God’s faithfulness will remind us of His divine nature and our value. He will protect us like He did for Joseph over time. Keep trusting and believing in God’s faithfulness through prayers like Hannah.

Notes:

Day 4

JUST

Isaiah 61:8 “For I, the Lord, love justice. I hate robbery and wrongdoing. I will faithfully reward my people for their suffering and make an everlasting covenant with them.”

When I think about God being just, I think about how much He cares for us. Just means that He is perfectly righteous in His treatment of us and shows no partiality. It also means He does what is right and delivers justice according to His standards. He has revealed Himself as just by acting and being in conformity with what is morally upright and good.

The world that we live in tries to pull us away from Him and these truths about Him. More often than we would like to admit, it’s successful. Although we have turned our backs to Him many times, He has shown us His love and has provided us with a way back into a relationship with Him. This was made possible through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

A relationship with God, an everlasting covenant, is to be pure and there is no way for us to uphold that standard because we are born to sin. Before the death of Christ, there were lambs that were sacrificed to cleanse God’s people from the sins that they had committed. Hebrews 9:22 says, “Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.”

This verse is significant because it talks about what Jesus has done for us. The law was incapable of providing justice, so He became the lamb that was to be sacrificed for all of us so that we could have the ability to be in a relationship with God.

He loves us so much that He sent his Son to die for us. There was no way that we could ever become pure because of our sin so He helped us by sending Jesus. He forgave our sins because of the ultimate sacrifice of the lamb. Let’s remember this and that He is “The Rock, His work is perfect, for all His ways are justice. A God of faithfulness and without iniquity, just and upright is He” (Deuteronomy 32:4).

Notes:

Day 5

GOOD

God is good! He is a good Father! Sounds familiar right? It's something we say and sing, but is it something we always believe, receive or seek after? Psalm 107:8-9 says: *Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, And for His wonderful works to the children of men! For He satisfies the longing soul, And fills the hungry soul with goodness.*

Our heavenly Father has chosen to reveal Himself to us every single day and in every aspect of our lives, but we might not be experiencing His goodness if we are not truly believing Him or seeking Him. We may be confessing with our lips that we are thankful to Him for His goodness and wonderful works, but not believing it in our hearts, especially when life isn't looking or feeling good. It is not always easy, but when we choose to seek Him, we can always count on Him to reveal Himself to us in the middle of our unbelief and doubts... Praise God for that!

Thankfully His goodness isn't affected by our feelings. When we call out to Him, He hears our longing and hungry soul and answers us by filling us with His goodness. For this we thank Him and praise Him for He is truly good. Psalm 100:5 says: *For the LORD is good. His unfailing love continues forever, and his faithfulness continues to each generation.*

Remember Child of God! God is not good because we believe it to be, He is good because He is God! It is His nature, and He cannot be anything else.

Notes:

Day 6

REVIEW/REFLECT

God the Father is all powerful and unchanging. He is faithful, just, and good. This is demonstrated through His plan of redemption. He cares for us better than our earthly fathers, withholding no good things from us. He has revealed Himself to us through all of these attributes. You may have noticed that they are substantiated through His Word. We must be rooted in it we are to embrace believe who He is.

Omnipotent • Immutable • Faithful • Just • Good

Who is He? Our omnipotent Father God. The source of our limitless power. Stay connected to Him to receive it. Immutable, The One who never changes. The same yesterday, today, and forever. The One who will forever be faithful. Just as He protected Joseph and heard Hannah's prayers, we are reassured that He will protect us and hear our prayers. Even if we waiver He remains faithful and true to His nature. By nature, He is just. Out of His justice, He forgave us for our sin and welcomed us into relationship with Him, sending His Son to die for us. Just and upright is He. And God is good. A familiar phrase and response are: *God is good all the time! All the time God is good!* He has been good since the beginning of time. He was good when He created everything in the heavens and on the earth. He was good when he sent our Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ. He will be good when Jesus returns to defeat evil and restore the earth.

Notes:

Day 7

Are any of these attributes new to your understanding of who God is? Do you have any difficulty believing these any of these attributes? Why or why not? Is there an attribute of Father God not included this week that impacted the way He revealed Himself to you personally? What is it and how has it impacted your life?

Notes:

[illegible]

Jesus

Hope

With the fall of humankind, which occurred when Eve and Adam ate fruit from the forbidden tree of the knowledge of good and evil, sin entered the world. This in turn brought on a separation from God. Though detrimental to every person ever born, from the beginning God had a plan of hope and restoration for His people through His Son Jesus Christ. Jesus was with Father God in the beginning. He is the eternal Word who became flesh and lived among us, and we beheld His glory. The only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. He is our Blessed Hope.

Day 8

OMNISCIENT

The word omniscient means “to know everything.” The Bible says in Isaiah 40:13-14, “Who has understood the mind of the Lord, or instructed Him as counselor? Whom did the Lord consult to enlighten Him, and taught Him the right way? Who was it that taught Him knowledge or showed Him the path of understanding?”

People today think Artificial Intelligence is good, and as good as AI may be, it doesn’t know everything. It is God who created everything seen and unseen; that which is known, and that which we have yet to discover. And the Bible says, “He holds all things together.”

They say Santa Claus can see you when you’re sleeping, and he knows when you’re awake, but it’s God who really knows everything about me.

Psalm 139: 2-3 reads, “You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; You are familiar with all my ways.”

He knows the number of hairs on my head, and the number of my days on earth. He is gentle with us, “He knows my form and remembers that we are dust” (Psalm 103:14). We can trust Him. He knows what you need even before you ask, so go ahead and ask!

Psalm 62:8 says, “Trust in Him at all times, O people; Pour out your hearts to Him, for He is your refuge.”

When I was young there was a popular TV show, “Father Knows Best.” It was about Jim Anderson, his common-sense wife Margaret, and their children Betty, Bud and Kathy. Whenever the kids need advice on anything at all, they can always turn to their father, because father knows best. As good as Jim Anderson was, you and I have access to our Father God, who knows everything. In this new year, make it a habit to go to God first with everything because He knows everything and “cast your burdens on Him because He cares for you.”

Notes:

Day 9

HOLY

Read: Exodus 15:11, 1 Peter 1:16, 2 Timothy 1:9-10, 2 Corinthians 5:21, Colossians 1:22

Here is an amazing fact: our loving Father and Creator of the universe is majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, and He always works wonders (Exodus 15:11)! That's amazing. As we get grounded in Scripture, we learn a lot more about who God is and what makes Him holy and worthy to be praised. We learn that truly, there is no one like Him and He is set apart from anyone or anything else. Our God is holy!

You know what else is amazing? Scripture reveals that there is an invitation for you and me to be a part of His holiness (1 Peter 1:16). We are called to live a holy life! Now, you might wonder how it's possible to be associated with His perfection and holiness when we ourselves are imperfect and sinful.

According to 2 Timothy 1:9-10, *"He has saved us and called us to a holy life—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel."*

By accepting Jesus into your life, remember that you are a part of Christ and not apart from Him. Sinful nature always blends in with the world but through Jesus we can live set apart from the world.

Today, spend a moment to pray and ask God to help you see yourself as He does. Ask the Holy Spirit to continue to lead you and teach you how to live holy and righteous. And lastly, don't forget to thank the Lord for the victory, His holiness, and for making it possible to live Holy.

Notes:

Day 10

OBEDIENT

*If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land. –
Isaiah 1:19 (CSB)*

Your obedience to Christ is the key to him unlocking everything He has for you. Isaiah tells us that we must carry out two things: willingness and obedience. Willingness is the ability to go along with what the Lord tells you to do, while obedience means to do it His way.

Have you ever felt like your disobedience has caused a delay in your situation? I have, and I can tell you from experience that my journey of obedience hasn't always been easy. It's been far from perfect, but I wouldn't trade any of it for the world. Each step of obedience has made me bolder. Every "yes" has changed lives. That's why God says, "willing AND obedient." God is after our heart and our humility. He wants us to submit to His authority in our life and do what He says. God moves in extravagant ways with our yes.

Remember that we follow Jesus. Just as we are obedient to Him, He was obedient to the Father. He challenged us in John 15, saying, "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full" (v. 10-11).

So be encouraged today. Know with each step of obedience, doors will open, and amazing things will happen. For He promises a great reward not only in heaven but while you are here on earth.

Father, we thank You today for the opportunity to serve You in the body of Christ. I lift up and thank You for those that are faithful to the task that You have given them. Lord, I ask that You would bless those today that are going about their everyday activities, serving and obeying You with all their heart. Thank You for Your word that tells us that if we are just willing to do what You ask in the way that You want it done, then we will reap the rewards of our Father in Heaven. In Jesus' name, we pray, Amen.

Notes:

Day 11

COMPASSIONATE

Compassion is the ability to feel another person's burden, the willingness to sympathize with their pain. And even further, compassion stirs us to action in helping those who suffer.

Jesus' entire ministry was a demonstration of compassion. He felt compassion toward those who suffered physically and emotionally: he healed physical ailments, fed the hungry, and even revived the dead for their grieving families. One such account is found in Matthew 14:13-14.

When Jesus heard what had happened, He withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed Him on foot from the towns. When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, He had compassion on them and healed their sick.

Jesus also showed compassion for people who suffered spiritually. Let's read Matthew 9:35-36.

Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When He saw the crowds, He had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

What these passages have in common is that Jesus looked and saw a need. We tend to focus on our immediate concerns, our own circles and circumstances. The needs of our neighbors can go unnoticed when our attention is exhausted on ourselves.

Secondly, Jesus took action to meet the need. Whether an act of service, a material gift, or an encouraging conversation, our compassion necessitates a response. Jesus feels compassion for the broken and hurting people of the world, and he wants us to do something about it.

Notes:

Day 12

HUMBLE

What goes through your mind when the word ‘HUMBLE’ is mentioned? Do you consider being humble positive or does it have a negative connotation? How did you come to this conclusion or accept this as its true meaning? God’s Word helps us have a better understanding of how God views things. Philippians 2:6-8 exemplifies Jesus’ perfect humility.

Our Lord Jesus chose to submit and humble himself in complete obedience to the Father’s will. How can we follow Jesus’ example? As believers, are we better, wiser, greater, or exempt from a life of submission and humility? Scripture says He gives MORE grace to the humble, He rescues (saves) and supports them. However, God is against those who are proud. James 4:6,7a NKJV / Ps18:27 NLT

Have you noticed that God’s idea of success opposite from the world’s? Often, we accept the world’s view of what it means to be successful. We might think that having more—money, titles, property, social media followers or likes, etc., equates to success. Scripture, however, teaches us to be humble and consider others above ourselves. It is God who promotes and honors the humble. When we relinquish more of ourselves to God, there is more space for Him to reside in our hearts and our lives. Phil 2:3-5 AMP / 1Pet 5:6 NLT / 2 Sam 6:22 NKJV

Yielding to God’s discipline and molding means being humble to receive what He has for us. As we navigate through life’s difficulties and trials, we can rest and completely depend upon and trust in God’s faithfulness and goodness. Being humble doesn’t mean being weak. It actually gives us hope and allows God to have His way with us, revealing what is really in our hearts. A humble attitude causes us to submit to His ways and purposes, so He can remove whatever impurities we have. Like gold being refined by fire and made pure.

Dear Believer, God desires to be close to us. It is His desire to have an intimate relationship with us. He wants to be our everything. Being humble, submitted, and yielded to Him draws us nearer to Him. How much are you willing to give up for more of Jesus in your life? Is what you now have more important or precious than Him? As we take this time to draw near to Him and humble our hearts before Him, may we see the irreplaceable and immeasurable value of intimately knowing and receiving more of Jesus into our lives, Amen!

Notes:

Day 13

REVIEW/REFLECT

Jesus our Good Shepherd. The One who knows us better than we know ourselves. Out of His obedience to Father God, He humbled Himself, came to earth with a heart of compassion for our condition, saved us and invited us to be holy as he is holy. What an awesome God is He!

Omniscient • Obedient • Holy • Compassionate • Humble

Jesus said he came down from heaven to do the Father's will. He was obedient every moment He was here on earth. Holman Bible Dictionary (HBD) defines obedience this way: "To hear God's Word and act accordingly." The Greek word is *hupakoé* (hoop-ak-o-ay'). Strong's Concordance defines obedience as "submission to what is heard." HBD went on to say, a "person's obedient response to God's Word is a response of trust or faith. To really hear God's Word is to obey God's Word... True obedience means imitating God in holiness, humility, compassion, and love." These attributes spring forth from a grateful heart for all that Jesus is and had done for us. *We who have run for our very lives to God have every reason to grab the promised hope with both hands and never let go. It's an unbreakable spiritual lifeline, reaching past all appearances right to the very presence of God where Jesus, running on ahead of us, has taken up his permanent post as high priest for us, in the order of Melchizedek (Hebrews 6:18-20 Message).*

Notes:

Day 14

CATCH-UP/JOURNAL QUESTION

We will never be all-knowing, as is Jesus. We can however operate in His other attributes. Why is it important to be obedient, humble, and compassionate? What does the Bible say about us being holy? How do these affect your spiritual life and your relationships with others? How do they bring you hope?

Notes:

Holy Ghost

Empower

The Holy Spirit is Jesus' promise to all believers. He is the good gift from our Heavenly Father. He will teach us all things, and bring to our remembrance all things Jesus speaks to us. What Jesus said to the apostles, applies to us... "You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth" (Acts 1:8).

Day 15

OMNIPRESENT

“Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol (the nether world, the place of the dead), behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, Even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will take hold of me. If I say, ‘Surely the darkness will cover me, And the night will be the only light around me,’ Even the darkness is not dark to You and conceals nothing from You, But the night shines as bright as the day; Darkness and light are alike to You.”

Omnipresent can be defined as: “God’s complete essence is fully present in all places at all time. There is no place in creation where God does not exist in all His divine fullness. God’s presence is in the sphere of immensity and infinitude.” Infinitude means that which is without limit. Immensity refers to that which cannot be contained.

How amazing is that? That in every moment, every second of every day in every location, the Spirit of God, the Holy Spirit is with us! David writes in that above verse that there is nowhere that we can go to escape His presence. Not heaven, not the grave, not the wings of the morning, and not even the farthest part of the ocean. Even if we think perhaps the darkness can conceal us, it won’t work because even the night shines as bright as the day with Him. Hebrews 4:13 would echo these same sentiments when it says “Nothing in all creation is hidden from God’s sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him...” May we find comfort and confidence in this truth today. That we are never alone. That in every moment, every second of every day in every location, the Spirit of God is with us.

And not only is the Holy Spirit with us, but His presence with us is immense and infinite. He has unlimited power and supplies us with this power so that in whatever we face, we can overcome and walk in victory.

In our weak moments He is there to help us. Read Romans

In our painful moments the Holy Spirit is our comforter. Read John

In moments of temptation, the Holy Spirit frees us from the power of sin. Read Romans

In all our daily moments, He has taken up permanent residence within the believer. Read John

Rejoice and rest in this truth today. Thank You Holy Spirit that You’re always with me. That You are omnipresent, and Your power is available to us daily.

How will you live out today knowing that the Holy Spirit’s immense and infinite presence is with you?

Notes:

Day 16

ACTIVE

We often mention and sing about the movement of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Is the Holy Spirit active? Is the Holy Spirit active within me? Yes and yes!

In scripture, there are many action words that show how the Holy Spirit interacts with His creation. We see the words “come, send, move, dwell, fill, etc.” The Holy Spirit is very active in the Word of God and in our daily lives all around us. The Holy Spirit not only interacts with us, but He also inspires us to become more like Jesus.

In scripture, it says, *“Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”* (Galatians 5:25). In the same way that the Holy Spirit interacts with us, we also need to act in accordance with the Spirit. That interaction inspires us to do amazing things in the name of Jesus.

Paul says, *“For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love and self-discipline”* (2 Timothy 1:7). The Holy Spirit that is active in our lives gives us the ability to be active in the world around us, empowers us to love the unlovable, empowers us to deny our flesh, and empowers us to receive the boldness to share the name of Jesus to the ends of the earth.

Notes:

Day 17

POWERFUL

There's a lot of ways we talk about the power of the Holy Spirit. We hear about wonderful healings, spiritual awakenings, and other miraculous events. Those are so wonderful! But what about those hard things that aren't gone in a day? The bills, the sickness, the worry, and of course the pile of laundry that always shows up at the worst time. These can be so overwhelming. How does a powerful Holy Spirit play into all of this? Romans 8:26 explains my favorite aspect of the Holy Spirit. The Spirit is our "translator." Those hard things that we have to deal with; the things that tend to bring fear and uncertainty into our lives. The Spirit can take that and turn it into a beautiful prayer. Whether it's pain, fear, or even doubt, we have a spiritual translator who understands our needs better than we do. I can't tell you how many times I've said "Okay, God. I don't know what to do. So... do whatever you do!" Simple? Yes. Silly? Probably. But it's a transfer of responsibility. You're giving the Spirit the opportunity to be your solution. You aren't strong enough to be your solution. Thank God for that! The burden isn't yours. Christ took that. He left the Holy Spirit for you. If you think you can't feel him in the moment, that's okay! Don't give up! Trust your translator! Day by day, step by step. Soon, you'll turn around and see how far He has brought you.

Notes:

Day 18

WISE

God grants wisdom in different ways: through His Word (the Bible), through prayer, through the Holy Spirit (our Helper), and through wise brothers and sisters in Christ. Today, we want to focus on the gift of the Spirit of Wisdom. Wisdom is a gift that allows a person to understand things from God's point of view. It allows a person to recognize truth. Someone with the gift of wisdom is able to take truth and use it to glorify God by choosing Godly solutions to problems.

What kind of wisdom comes from the Holy Spirit? James 3:17 says: *But the wisdom that comes from heaven is pure.* That's the most important thing about it. And that's not all. It also loves peace. It thinks about others. It obeys. It is full of mercy and good fruit. It is fair. It doesn't pretend to be what it is not.

Then, we need to be asking God this:

EPHESIANS 1:17-18 I pray to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is the glorious Father. I keep asking him to give you wisdom and understanding that comes from the Holy Spirit. I want you to know God better. I pray that you may understand more clearly. Then you will know the hope God has chosen you to receive. You'll know that what God gives to His holy people is rich and glorious. For the wise person, the wonders of nature, historical events, and ups and downs of our lives take on a deeper meaning. We discern the matters of judgment about the truth and see the whole image of God. We can then see God our Father and other people with dignity. We see God in everyone and everything, everywhere.

We value God's work in our lives and in the world. His wisdom surpasses all human understanding, and we want Him to live in us. According to the Bible, our body is the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:19)

Lastly, let us meditate on Ephesians 5:18: "Do not be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit because He will make you wise."

Notes:

Day 19

CONVICTING

And when he comes, he will convict (having been convicted) the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment. John 16:8 (ESV)

The Holy Spirit will convict the world. That means all of us, my friend! For some of us this means the moment we discover the overwhelming power of God's love through Jesus Christ when our hearts are awakened to the need of surrendering all to God. Hallelujah!

This is not a bad thing. In fact, it's empowering because it does the exact opposite of what one might think. It does not bring guilt, shame, or condemnation. Through His power, He focuses on the areas of our lives where sin takes hold of our attitude and behavior. In Titus 1:9, it is mentioned that the Holy Spirit convicts those contradicting the faithful word, which leads to repentance and grace.

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:1-2 (ESV). The Message version says it this way: "With the arrival of Jesus, the Messiah, that fateful dilemma is resolved. Those who enter into Christ's being-here-for-us no longer have to live under a continuous, low-lying black cloud. A new power is in operation. The Spirit of life in Christ, like a strong wind, has magnificently cleared the air, freeing you from a fated lifetime of brutal tyranny at the hands of sin and death." More good news!

Let us rest and rejoice in the fact that Holy Spirit is in us to convict us of our righteousness in Christ. When we fail, He is ever present to remind us that the Blood of Jesus Christ has made us totally forgiven and eternally righteous. Thank God He pours out His love and power on those who love Him in return.

Notes:

Day 20

REVIEW/REFLECT

This Holy Spirit is the same Spirit who raised Jesus from the dead. In the beginning He was hovering over the face of the waters. He lives in all believers, hovering over the earth, never ceasing to move within us. He imparts to us wisdom, truth, knowledge, and discernment. Through His supernatural power, we are convicted of our sin nature and our great need for a Savior. He is the one who moves us toward Jesus when we veer off course.

Omnipresent • Active • Powerful • Wise • Convicting

Isn't it comforting to know that we are never out of the sight of our Helper, Counselor, Advocate, and yes, Comforter? Holy Spirit never ceases to move among God's people. On the day of Pentecost, in Acts 2, He was described as a mighty wind... *"And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance"* (Acts 2:2-4). He is the One who raised Jesus from the dead, and He lives in you and me. Holy Spirit is full of God's wisdom, passing on to us discernment and the ability to make good, godly decisions. He does nothing outside of Father God's divine will. His convicting nature revealed to us our sin, which leads us to follow Jesus. Today, "we may not see the Holy Spirit in tongues of fire or feel Him in a strong wind, but His presence in our souls and in our lives is unmistakable, and if we let it be, incredibly empowering." (Deeper into the Word). Be filled with Him, family!

Notes:

Day 21

CATCH-UP/JOURNAL QUESTION

Read 1 Corinthians 2:6-16. What does verse 16 say we have? Now read 1 Corinthians 2:1-5. On what does our faith rest? In light of this chapter, do you believe God has provided you with all you need to live victoriously? How will you respond the next time you face a challenge? Do you believe Holy Spirit empowers you to face your challenges? Why or why not?

Notes:

NEXT STEPS

**Join the “Bible in 1 Year”
Plan**

**Attend Growth Track 1-Day
January 27**

**Join Us for Our Night of
Worship January 31**

**Join THV Groups & Classes
Launching February 4**

**God has great things in store
for you this year! This is just the
beginning...**

