

ALL CHURCH PRAYER + FASTING

January 26th - February 2nd, 2025



7 Prayer Points for 2025: A Year of Increase

1. Increase in Faith - Pray that Bethel Church would experience bold, courageous faith in 2025, believing God for more in every area of life—family, church, work, finances, and relationships. May our faith grow to trust God for greater things.

"Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." Matthew 6:33 (NLT)

2. Increase in Prayer - Pray that Bethel Church would grow as a praying church, developing deeper personal and corporate prayer lives. Ask God to help us seek Him first and make prayer central to everything we do.

"This, then, is how you should pray: 'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, 10 your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 11 Give us today our daily bread. 12 And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom, power, and glory forever, amen.'" Matthew 6:9-13 (NIV)

3. Increase in Generosity - Pray that Bethel Church would grow in giving—both financially and with time and resources. May our generosity reflect God's heart and help meet the needs of the community and beyond.

"Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 (NIV)

4. Increase in Serving - Pray for a spirit of servanthood to rise within the church. Ask God to inspire more people to actively serve both within the church and in the local community, reflecting the love of Jesus.

"Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. 45 For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:43-45 (NIV)

5. Increase in Witnessing - Pray for boldness in sharing the gospel. Ask God to give Bethel Church the courage to reach those far from Him and be a light in the Bay Area, representing Jesus well in every interaction.

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

6. Increase in Spiritual Growth and Maturity - Pray for personal and collective spiritual growth at Bethel Church. Ask God to help us grow in our understanding of His Word, His presence, and His calling, so we become spiritually mature disciples.

Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35 For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. Mark 8:34-35 (NIV)

7. Increase in Unity and Love - Pray for greater unity among the body of Christ. Ask God to strengthen relationships within the church, helping us love one another well and represent Jesus with grace, compassion, and truth.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. Acts 2:42-44 (NIV)

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; it hits the reset button of our soul and renews us from the inside out. It brings spiritual change in us and others we are praying for. It also enables us to celebrate the goodness and mercy of God and prepares our hearts for the 'next steps' God desires for our lives. 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. If this is new to you, seeking the advice of a mentor may also be wise. Fasting should not be a harmful process.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF FASTING

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. For example, cutting added sugar or caffeine.

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 am to 3:00 pm, or from sunup to sundown.

Soul Fast: Your soul reflects your whole life. This fast is a great option if you do not have much experience fasting food, have health issues that prevent you from fasting 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.

Scripture References:

Matthew 6:18; Matthew 9:14-15; Luke 18:9-14; Acts 27:33-37; Nehemiah 9:1-3