

# Fasting & Prayer

December 29, 2024

**Matthew 6:16-18** "And **when you fast**, don't make it obvious, as the hypocrites do, for they try to look miserable and disheveled so people will admire them for their fasting."

*fasting* : to abstain from all or some kinds of food or drink

**Leviticus 16:29-31** "On the tenth day of the appointed month in early autumn, you must deny yourselves (*shall fast*)... this is a permanent law for you"

Each year, the Israelites practiced *fasting*. But for what reason?

**Judges 20:26** "Then all the Israelites went up to Bethel and wept in the presence of the Lord and *fasted* until evening... the Israelites went up **seeking direction** from the Lord."

**Ezra 8:21** " Then I proclaimed a fast there, at the river Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God, **to seek from him a safe journey...**"

**2 Chronicles 20:3-4** "He also ordered everyone in Judah to begin fasting. So people from all the towns of Judah came to Jerusalem **to seek the Lord's help.**"

**Jonah 3:5** "The people of Nineveh believed God's message, and from the greatest to the least, they declared a fast and put on burlap **to show their sorrow.**"

**Matthew 4:1-4** "...People do not live by bread alone , but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." (Deut. 8:3)

Fasting isn't a lever that pull on to get God to do something... but it does center our reliance back on God's authority... which does something.

fasting = *renewed relationship* = humility, reliance, preparation breakthrough, direction, blessing, etc

**GET CONNECTED** **Fill out a Connect Card** Grab one from the seat-back in front of you, fill it out, and bring it back to the Connect Area in the lobby after the service where some folks would love to meet you.

**PRAYER AREA** **During the Service** Each week there are people in the back corner who would love to pray for any need you have.

**HOPE FOR THE HOMELESS** **On-Going Bottle Drive** Help us raise money and bring your cans/bottles out to Perrys Place on Rt #68. Tell them to credit it to NTC-Hope for the Homeless.Thank you for your generosity!

**TECH TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED** **See Greg of Gabe** We are looking for projection, video, and audio volunteers. If you have any interest please see Greg Hurlbut or Gabe Laramay.

*this week...*

**CROSS CURRENT NYE ALL NIGHTER** **Tuesday at 9pm in Massena** 7th-12th graders are invited to ring in the new year together with fun and games here at the church. Stay tuned for more information.

*coming up...*

**WATER BAPTISMS** **Next Sunday Dec. 29th** If you've never been baptized before and would like to follow Jesus into all He has for you then we encourage you to sign up at the info table and come out early next week for the 10 am class.

**RESTORE WEEKEND** **Jan. 31st - Feb. 1st in Massena** Want to learn more about Restore, NTC's inner healing ministry, and find freedom from life's hurts? We will gather on this Friday night and Saturday morning to encounter Jesus, who came to heal the brokenhearted and set the captives free! Register today on ChurchCenter or through the website.

**COMMISSIONING NIGHT** **Feb. 8th** We'll be kicking off the next semester of groups and classes with an evening of worship and prophetic ministry from Walter Madison from Portland, Oregon and our friend Gary Heyes.

**NYSUM WOMEN'S TRIP** **May 16th-18th** We will be sending another team to the Extreme Makeover Event in NYC to minister to women there. Find more information and a link to register on our website.

Open the ChurchCenter App or scan the QR Code to register for an Upcoming Event or find a Group to Connect to.

