

# PURSUING GOD: A 40-Day Guide to Personal Revival

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*Join the Movement: God Is Calling You to Change the World.* Kregel, 2007.

*Radically Unchurched: Who They Are and How to Reach Them.* Kregel, 2002.

*Raising the Bar: Ministry to Youth in the New Millennium.* Kregel, 2004. (with Mark Liederbach)

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## PURSUING GOD—A 40-Day Guide to Personal Revival<sup>1</sup>

“What a man is on his knees, that he is, and nothing more.” John Owen

“What the church needs today is not more or better machinery, not new organizations, or more novel methods; but men whom the Holy Spirit can use— men of prayer, men mighty in prayer.” E. M. Bounds

“God, make me as holy as a saved sinner can be.” Robert Murray McCheyne

Quotes like these have been used by God to inspire and convict me. But they do not compare to the encouragement I receive when reading Scriptures like these:

“Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.” Hebrews 4:14-16

Amazing. We who have tasted and seen that the Lord is good through salvation in Christ can come with confidence into the very presence of the Holy God of creation.

I define prayer as intimacy with God that leads to the fulfillment of His mission. Revival refers to those times when believers become renewed in their faith and their walk with Christ. We can have a growing, intimate fellowship with God. And, that fellowship not only encourages us in our personal life, it stirs us to be about His mission. I love the passage in Acts 4:23-31 when the early church had just faced her first instance of persecution. Peter and John gathered the church and they prayed. This is the first specific example of believers preaching the gospel to themselves, and they did so in their praying. Read the passage and note that although they faced real threats, the major part of their prayer asked God for nothing, but was a rehearsal of the gospel. They recognized God as the “sovereign Lord” in verse 24, and as the Creator. Then, they noted the effects of sin and the fall when they recount the nations’

rage and the specific plans of Pilate and the Jews. After that, they reference the work of Christ as central to God's plan of redemption as they note everything done by others was part of the greater purpose of God through Christ.

Creation. Fall. Rescue. All in the first prayer of the early church in a time of persecution.

They finally got around to asking God for something, and after such a beautiful rehearsal of gospel truth it is not surprise that their request had nothing to do with their own safety or comfort but everything to do with the mission of God, praying for boldness to speak the gospel (v. 31).

And thus should our praying be. Rehearsing the gospel. Rejoicing in the good news. Enjoying sweet fellowship at the table with the Most High God. Then asking him to send us out to a broken world to invite them to enjoy that same fellowship of worship.

If you know Christ, you know the forgiveness and peace made possible by the God of Creation through a sheer act of His grace. You have not earned the right to fellowship with Him; He has made the way through Christ. You now have the opportunity – indeed the responsibility -- to grow in intimacy with the Creator of the universe and the Savior of your soul. I call this eBook "Pursuing God" not because you have to pursue Him to have a relationship, as He has made that possible through faith in Christ's work. But as the Psalmist said, "As the deer pants for water, so my soul thirsts for you" (Psalm 42:1) our love for Christ leads us to a relentless pursuit of Him. Paul, who knew well the power of gospel change and described the difference between his life as a Pharisee and his life as a Christ-follower in Philippians 3, then utters a summary of his passion, "I press toward to the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (v. 14).

The following seeks to help you in a similar pursuit, to grow in intimacy with God through a repentant life of prayer. As a child of God, you need not worry about making yourself acceptable to God, for He has already accomplished that. But you now can enjoy the sweet intimacy of fellowship with God.

All other relationships flow out of this one, and the greater intimacy you have with God the more clarity you will have in relationships with others.

Let me be clear: although I have put this together, I am no expert. I am still learning to walk with God in brokenness. Even as I finish writing this I am personally going through it because I know I need a fresh, intimate walk with God.

Where you are in five years will be determined less by your accomplishments and more by your adoration of Christ. This comes through study of His Word, involvement in His church, faithful witness and service to others, and through personal, intimate times of prayer. This guide will take you deeper in your relationship with the Lord over the next twenty-eight days. Note: this is a simple, introductory guide, a primer of sorts.

As you follow this guide, remember:

1. Have a time of personal worship every day where you get alone with God. Don't set a legalistic time limit; just take time to sit at His table. For me, it helps to have a place and a generally repeatable time, but for you that may not be as vital. This should be a time when you focus your attention on reading the Bible, journaling, and praying. For the next forty days, use the following as a guide for your daily quiet time; if possible, be sure to be alone and do away with all distractions.
2. Keep a spiritual journal. Write your thoughts on the passages, your prayers, or your dreams. If you like, you may print this guide and use the journal space provided.
3. Be faithful to be involved in your local church, including small groups and the regularly scheduled weekly worship services. You discover God's will in the future by doing God's will right now.

4. Do not see this as a goal to achieve something so much as an opportunity to delight in God. See prayer less and less as asking and more and more as fellowship. You do not have to engage in spiritual activities to earn God's favor, but you can enjoy fellowship with one who loves you more than you can ever understand fully. This is not the warmup for activism as much as an opportunity to sit at His table.

## **Day 1: FOCUS ON GOD**

Read Psalm 100; Hebrews 1:1-4

Answer the following:

1. Do I sometimes forget how mighty and awesome God is?
2. Do I tend to put myself at the center of the Bible instead of recognizing God's supremacy?
3. Do I daily reflect on God as sovereign, provider, redeemer, and the lover of my soul?
4. Do I seek to glorify Him in all areas of my life?

Pray: praise God for Who He is, and thank Him for His goodness. Reflect on the amazing grace He has shown us in Christ. Trust Him to be faithful to His promises.

**Journal:**

## **Day 2: FOCUS ON GOD THE CREATOR**

Read Genesis 1-2; Psalm 24

Take time to reflect on the beauty of creation. Can you think of a place you have been where you were struck with the wonder of creation?

1. Do I often reflect on the beauty of God's creation?
2. Do I care for the earth in appropriate ways, as a steward of God's creation?
3. Do I see how the Creation shows the wonder of God (Romans 1:20)
4. Revival recognizes there is one God -- and you are not He.

Pray: thank God for giving us a vast, beautiful, harmonious world to enjoy. Perhaps take time today or this week to go somewhere in nature to enjoy God's bountiful creation.

**Journal:**

## **Day 3: FOCUS ON THE IMAGE OF GOD**

Read Genesis 1:26-28; Psalm 8

1. Do I think of the reality that I am unlike anything else in creation?
2. Do I thank God for creating me in His image? Does that thought ever fill me with wonder?
3. Do I recognize the image of God in all people, or do I put myself in a superior mindset toward those who do not believe? Have I forgotten the only difference between me and a lost person is the gift of salvation?
4. Do I seek to live out my life for Christ utilizing all the talents and gifts he has given me, the image bearer of God?

Revival rejoices in the wonder that God has created us in His image to worship Him. Revival brings a fresh focus to and passion for worship.

**Journal:**

## **Day 4: FOCUS ON THE FALL**

Read Genesis 3, Romans 1

1. Do I reflect on the evidence of the fall—natural disasters, disease, and my own sin?
2. Have I forgotten that although I am forgiven I still war with my flesh?
3. Is my heart broken by the fall and the evil of sin?
4. Do I thank God regularly for his grace in spite of my sin?
5. Do I serve God humbly in daily recognition of my wickedness and need for His grace?

Revival often comes when believers have a fresh awareness of their sin and a desire to repent and forsake sin.

**Journal:**

## **Day 5: FOCUS ON THE RESCUE**

Read Romans 3:21-31; II Corinthians 5:17-21

1. Do I reflect daily on the rescue God has provided in Christ?
2. Does my life reflect that impact of God's salvation in all areas?
3. Does the reality of the rescue by faith lead me to care for others who also need to know God's grace?
4. Can others see I am a new creation in Christ?
5. Has God's rescue led me to share the message of reconciliation to others?

A mark of a revived church is seen in numbers of souls born into the Kingdom of God. Pray for a harvest through your church.

**Journal:**

## **Day 6: FOCUS ON THE RESTORATION**

Read Romans 8:1-4, 18-30; Revelation 21:1-5

1. Do I daily reflect on the fact that this world is not my home?
2. Do I live daily in the hope of eternal life and the reality of being in the very presence of God forever?
3. Is there a specific area in my life I need to see from the perspective of the eternal love of God?
4. Do I place my hope more in the eternal God or in my finite things?

Thank God for the beauty and wonder of heaven. Thank Him for the great Story of the gospel that brings hope far surpassing the happy ending of a movie. Pray for opportunities to share this hope with others.

**Journal:**

## **Day 7: FOCUS ON THE GOSPEL**

Read Luke 24:44-48; I Corinthians 15:1-5

Reflect on your understanding of the gospel: the death and resurrection of Jesus for our sin. Have you seen it more as one biblical story out of many, or THE Story that is central to all the Scripture? In these passages Jesus and Paul relate the gospel to all the Bible, and we should as well.

1. Do you see Jesus as the hero of all Scripture?
2. Do you focus in your study and teaching of the Bible to show Jesus' work in the gospel throughout?
3. Does the gospel change everything in your life: your finances, your emotions, decisions, relationships. . . everything?
4. Do you speak to others in and out of the church about the gospel?

Praise God for His glorious gift! Daily reflect on the wonder of the gospel in terms of its greatness in all Scripture: Creation, Fall, Rescue, Restoration, and in its central reality, that God in Christ has made a way to worship Him (II Cor. 5:21).

### **Journal:**

## **Day 8: FOCUS ON THE GREAT COMMISSION**

Read Matthew 28:19-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:48; John 20:21; Acts 1:8

1. Do you live your life focused on the mission God has given His church?
2. Has the Great Commission become the Great Suggestion, something you can take or leave?
3. Do you think often about the lostness of people and the multitudes who have never heard of Christ?
4. Have you ever been out of the country to take the gospel to the nations?
5. Does your giving demonstrate a love for God's commission?

Thank God for the honor of being His ambassador. Pray God will give you an opportunity today to share Jesus, for the wisdom to see the opportunity, and for the courage to take it.

**Journal:**

## **Day 9: FOCUS ON ASSURANCE OF SALVATION**

Read I John 2.

1. Am I able to sin without feeling any conviction or concern over my actions (Hebrews 12:6-8)?
2. Do I love the things of this world above the things of God (I John 2:15)?
3. Do I fail to seek God's will in every area of my life (I John 2:16-17; Matthew 7:21)?
4. Do I habitually practice the same sin (I John 3:9)?
5. Do I genuinely love my brothers and sisters in the family of God?

Pray. Confess your sins to the Lord and ask Him to forgive you and to fill you with His Spirit. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church. (Revival is a turning of a Christian back to obedience.)

**Journal:**

## Day 10: FOCUS ON GOD'S WORD

Read Psalm chapter 119.

1. Do I love to read and meditate upon the Word of God?

2. Does the Bible change my life?

3. How much time do I average each day reading the Bible?

\_\_\_None \_\_\_5 Min. \_\_\_15 Min. \_\_\_30 Min. \_\_\_More

4. Are my personal devotions meaningful?

5. Am I growing to love and obey God's Word more each day?

Pray. Do you need to confess as sin your lack of reading and studying the Bible? Spend time thanking God for the Bible and make a commitment in prayer to read the Bible more faithfully on a consistent basis. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

**Journal:**

## Day 11: FOCUS ON PRAYER

Read Matthew 6:1-24. Read the following:

Life in the big city brought a hectic schedule. Although a time of economic prosperity and the “good life,” the specter of war loomed on the horizon. One man saw the city from a different perspective. Amidst the hustle and bustle, the laughter and the parties, this man saw the deep, spiritual needs of the people. Jeremiah felt God call him to be an instrument of change in this metropolitan city. Sensing a burden for prayer, Jeremiah took out a full-page ad in the paper advertising a weekly prayer meeting at noon, inviting all who could to come. The first prayer meeting was held on September 23, and for the first 30 minutes, he prayed alone. Then there were footsteps; the closing moments of this historic prayer meeting, six men knelt to pray for New York.

On the next Wednesday, they met again as planned, and the number grew to 20. When they met during the first week of October, the men felt they should begin to meet daily for prayer; and so they did. The Fulton Street prayer meetings were underway. What had started as a group of seven men on September 23, 1857, grew to over 10,000 meeting daily for prayer by February of 1858. A wave of revival spread from New York through the Ohio River Valley and on to the West. Thousands met for prayer in cities such as Cincinnati and Chicago. During the next two years, it is estimated that well over 1,000,000 converts were brought into the Kingdom, just before the beginning of the tragic Civil War. Although many were called to be a part of this prayer movement, one man, Jeremiah C. Lanphier, was used by God to begin the Fulton Street prayer meetings.

1. Do I pray with any consistency?

2. Are my prayers usually:

\_\_\_ Meaningful \_\_\_ Empty Words \_\_\_ Vain Repetitions

3. How much time do I spend in genuine heart-felt prayer every day?

\_\_\_ 5 . Min. \_\_\_ 10 Min. \_\_\_ 15 Min. \_\_\_ 30 Min. or More

4. Am I satisfied with my daily prayer life?

Do you need to confess as sin your lack of time in genuine prayer? Spend time thanking God for the privilege of prayer and for what He did for you on the cross to make prayer possible.

**Journal:**

## **Day 12: FOCUS ON PRIDE**

Read Proverbs 8:13, 16:18; and James 4:6

1. Do I find it hard to ask forgiveness from people I offend?
2. Is it hard for me to admit when I am wrong?
3. Do I have a tendency to want credit for accomplishments?
4. Do I defend myself when a fault or sin is pointed out in my life?
5. Do you need to confess “pride” as a sin problem in your life?

Ask God to help you see that your self-esteem is not found in yourself or your abilities, but in God’s love for you already provide through Christ. As Robert Murray McCheyne said, “God does not bless great talent. He blesses great likeness to Jesus.” Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

### **Journal:**

## DAY 13: FOCUS ON PRIORITIES

Read Luke 12:15-34; Colossians 3:1-2; and I Peter 2:11-12.

1. Do I value highly the things that God values (integrity of life, giving, studying the Bible, prayer, witnessing, etc.)?

2. Do I routinely focus on life from a heavenly perspective?

3. Number the following in the order of which gets the most of my time on a daily basis:

\_\_\_ Recreation \_\_\_ Reading the Bible \_\_\_ Watching T.V. \_\_\_ Eating \_\_\_ Prayer \_\_\_ Video Games

4. Do you need to confess any sins that were revealed to you from today's Scripture reading?

Ask God to help you to stay focused on His purposes for your life. Pray especially today for there to be a spiritual awakening among the unsaved in your community. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

**Journal:**

## **DAY 14: FOCUS ON OBEDIENCE**

Read I Samuel 15:1-23 and Romans 13:1-7.

1. Am I quick to obey what God's Word teaches?
2. Do I obey authorities that God has placed in my life?
3. Do I have a rebellious attitude at times?
4. Do I believe that partial obedience pleases God?
5. Can God trust me to do whatever He says?

Confess as sin any spirit of rebelliousness towards God or towards authorities in your life. Thank God that you are already accepted by Him and forgiven, and let that motivate you to obey. Tell the Lord that you honestly desire to obey Him in every area of your life. Pray today for revival in the church in America. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

**Journal:**

## DAY 15: FOCUS ON FASTING

Read Jonah 3, Nehemiah 1, and Matthew 6:16-18.

1. Does the Bible teach that Christians should “fast”?
2. Do I routinely practice the spiritual discipline of fasting?
3. Should I brag to others about my fasting?
4. Should I routinely practice the discipline of fasting?

If God is convicting you of the lack of regular times of fasting in your past, confess it as sin. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

Note: You are asked to choose one day this week and abstain from all foods for at least a meal, and if possible for a 24-hour period of time. You will be asked to do this once every week until this prayer guide ends. During the time that you would normally be eating, you are requested to spend time praying for revival in your life, in your family, and in the church.

Please write the period during which you will plan to fast: \_\_\_\_\_

Write also the day each week you will fast for the next several weeks: \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal:**

## **DAY 16: FOCUS ON GRATITUDE**

Read Psalm 100; Luke 17:11-19; and I Thessalonians 5:18.

1. Would those who know me best consider me to be a thankful person?
2. Do I spend time most everyday thanking God for specific blessings in my life?
3. Do I thank God daily for my salvation?
4. Do I find myself routinely complaining about things?
5. Do I regularly express “thanks” to others including those who are in my family?

Confess as sin a lack of being as thankful to God and to others as you should be. Spend time thanking God for specific blessings. Ask God to help you to become more thankful and less critical. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

**Journal:**

## **DAY 17: FOCUS ON BEING SPIRIT-FILLED**

Read Ephesians 5:18, Acts 4:8-13. (To be “filled” is to be “controlled” by the Spirit.)

1. Do I daily ask God to fill me (control me) with His Spirit?
2. Do my attitudes and actions consistently demonstrate to others that I am a Spirit-filled Christian?
3. Do I display the fruit of the Spirit? (Galatians 5:22-23)

Confess as sin whatever the Holy Spirit convicts you of from today’s study. Sincerely ask God to fill you (control you) with His Spirit. Ask Him to remind you to do this every day! Pray that the Holy Spirit would move in great power upon the church where you worship. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

### **Journal:**

## Day 18: FOCUS ON FORSAKING SIN

Read Psalm 51; I John 1:8-10.

1. Do I regularly thank God for His forgiveness of my sin in the work of Christ on the cross?
2. Do I regularly reflect on my own sin and depravity?
3. Is it difficult to confess my sin to God? *Yes or No*
4. Do I sometimes try to justify certain sins? *Yes or No*
5. Do I:  
\_\_\_ Enjoy Sin \_\_\_ Hate Sin \_\_\_ Not Care
6. Is there a particular sin that I keep habitually committing? *Yes or No*
7. Do I sometimes blame others for my sin? *Yes or No*

Honestly ask God to bring to your attention any sin in your life that is displeasing to Him. The Holy Spirit will be faithful to convict of all sin. Confess (agree with God) all sins that come to mind and purpose to turn away from them today! Ask God to remove the desire to commit specific sins from your life. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

### Journal:

## Day 19: FOCUS ON FORGIVENESS

Read Matthew 5:23-24, 6:7-15; Luke 23: 24-34.

1. What is Matthew 6:14-15 saying about how our willingness to forgive others affects our praying?
2. Do I have an unforgiving attitude toward anyone?
3. Is there anyone who has something against me whom I have not approached to seek reconciliation?
4. Do I forgive an offender before he or she asks to be forgiven?
5. Do I have a grudge against anyone?

Forgiving others is often hard, and cannot be done without God's help. Ask God to help you forgive others as Jesus forgave you. If God brings someone to your mind you have not yet forgiven, ask the Lord for forgiveness and for the strength to purpose to seek reconciliation. Ask God to convict you promptly whenever you might be tempted to be unforgiving in the future. Pray today especially for a spirit of unity within the church body. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

### Journal:

## **Day 20: FOCUS ON CONTROLLING SEXUAL PASSIONS**

Read Proverbs 5:1-14; 6:20-29; 7:1-27; Matthew 5:27-30; and I Corinthians 6:18-20.

This area is literally destroying the spiritual life of our churches and keeping multitudes of men from a fresh touch from God.

1. Am I honest about my struggles with lust or other sexual sin?
2. Am I careful not to look at anything that could cause me to lust? (T.V. programs, magazines, the Internet, etc.)
3. Do I honestly need an Internet filter and accountability to guard my life from secret sin?
4. Have I dedicated my eyes, ears, and thought-life totally to Christ? Is my affection for Christ greater than my affection for sexual passion?

If you struggle in this area, confess your sin to God. Sometimes it is helpful to share your struggle with a more mature Christian who can pray with you about your struggle. Ask the Lord to give you wisdom about how best to deal with this issue in your life. Recommit your body to Christ and to His purposes. Ask God to help you to remove areas of temptation from your life. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

### **Journal:**

## **Day 21: FOCUS ON YOUR WORDS**

Read Proverbs 10:19; 15:28; 17:27; 18:21; Matthew 12:33-37; and James 3:1-12.

1. Do I often hurt people with my words?
2. Do I ever gossip?
3. Do I ever speak unkindly about people when they are not present?
4. Do my words always please Christ?
5. Do my words consistently reflect gospel change in my life?

Confess as sin whatever words God brings to your mind that you should never have said. Ask God to tame your tongue and to help you speak words that would always please Him. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

### **Journal:**

## Day 22: FOCUS ON THE FEAR OF THE LORD

Read Proverbs 1:7; Acts 5:1-11.

1. Do I have a healthy fear of God in my life?
2. Do I fear the consequences of my sin?
3. Am I continually aware of God's presence in my life?
4. Do I often realize that God sees my every action?
5. Do I often realize that God hears my every word?
6. Do I routinely think about standing before Christ one day to give an account of my life?

Ask God to help you to walk in the fear of the Lord every day. Ask Him to remind you often that you are being held accountable for all of your actions, attitudes, and words. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church. Pray that the church would also experience a healthy dosage of the fear of God! Note: You are once again asked to choose one day this week to fast from all foods for at least a meal, or for a 24-hour period of time. During the time that you would normally be eating, you are requested to spend extra time praying for revival in your life, in your family, and in the church.

Please write the period during which you will plan to fast: \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal:**

## **Day 23: FOCUS ON TRUST OVER WORRY**

Read Matthew 6:25-34; and Philippians 4:6-7.

1. Do I often worry about things in my life?
2. According to the Bible, is it a sin to worry?
3. Can “worrying” ever make matters better?
4. Can I trust God and worry at the same time?
5. Does God want me to worry?

Confess as sin your proneness to oftentimes “worry” if that is a problem area in your life. Ask God to help you to trust Him for every need (Phil. 4:19). Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church. Begin to thank God for His desire to bring revival to your life!

**Journal:**

## **Day 24: FOCUS ON REJECTING MATERIALISM**

Read Proverbs 23:4-5; Luke 12:15-21; and I Timothy 6:6-10.

1. Do I spend a lot of time each day wishing I had more possessions (cars, clothes, jewelry, etc.)?
2. Do I believe fulfillment comes from having more possessions?
3. Am I content with what I have?
4. Do I thank God often for what I have?
5. Am I “storing up treasures in heaven”?

Do you need to confess “materialism” as a sin to God today? Thank God for what you have; be specific! Ask God to help you to become more content by focusing on what God has blessed you with rather than what you wish you had. Continue to pray with thanksgiving for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

**Journal:**

## **Day 25: FOCUS ON AVOIDING HYPOCRISY**

Read Matthew 23:1-28.

A hypocrite is a play-actor, a fake.

1. Does what I say about Jesus match how I live each day?
2. Do I give the appearance sometimes of being “godly” but inwardly I know my heart is far from God?
3. Does my mind “wander” while I pray or worship?
4. Do I talk and act differently when I am away from church than I do when I am at church?

If the Holy Spirit is convicting you of any hypocrisy, confess it as sin before God. Ask God to fill you with His Spirit and to help you to be real in your Christian walk. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church. Pray especially that there would be openness in the church for people to be honest with God and with one another.

**Journal:**

## **Day 26: FOCUS ON BEING A SERVANT**

Read Matthew 20:25-28; John 13:1-17.

1. Do I prefer serving others rather than having others serve me?
2. Do I have to be asked or told to serve someone before I usually do?
3. Is helping other people a way of life for me?
4. Do I ever look for ways that God can use me to be a servant at church?

The way to know if you have a servant's heart is to see how you act when others treat you like one. If the Holy Spirit is convicting you about your lack of service to others, confess your sin to God. Ask Him to remind you daily that you are His servant. Thank Jesus for what He did for you on the cross. Continue to pray with thanksgiving for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

### **Journal:**

## **Day 27: FOCUS ON LOVE**

Read Matthew 22:37-39; John 15:9-11; and Revelation 2:1-7.

1. Do I love Jesus first in my life?
2. Do I show my love for Jesus by my obedience?
3. Do I tell Jesus that I love Him?
4. Would those who know me best be able to testify that they know I love Jesus sincerely?
5. Do I love my neighbor as myself?

Tell Jesus that you love Him today. Ask Him to remind you to tell Him that you love Him every day!  
Continue to pray with thanksgiving for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

**Journal:**

## **Day 28: FOCUS ON WITNESSING**

Read Matthew 4:18-19, 28:18-20; and Acts 8:26-40.

1. Does the Lord expect me to be a witness for Him?
2. Can I truthfully say that I am following Jesus as I ought if I never witness to others?
3. Have I attempted to witness to at least one lost person within the last week?
4. Do I remind myself that the Gospel is GOOD NEWS, and something so wonderful I cannot keep it to myself?

If you have failed to witness to others as you should, confess it as sin to God. Ask Him to make you more sensitive to the opportunities He gives to you to be His witness. Ask Him to make you more compassionate towards those who are lost. Ask Him to remind you often about the reality of hell. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church. Ask God to burden the church for lost souls and to convict the church to become more active in witnessing.

### **Journal:**

## Day 29: FOCUS ON AVOIDING TEMPTATION

Read Proverbs 4:14-15, 23-27, 22:3, 27:12; Romans 13:14; I Corinthians 10:113; and Galatians 5:16.

1. Do I make a conscious effort to avoid being in situations where I know I will face temptation?
2. Does God want me to get as close to areas of temptation as possible?
3. Do I consistently experience victory in my life over temptations?
4. Do I need to have someone in my life to hold me accountable in certain areas?

Confess as sin any area of temptation in your life where you keep falling. Ask God to give you wisdom to be able to see the “warning signs” that flash before you when you approach areas of temptation. Ask God to help you to stay as far away from tempting situations as possible! Thank the Lord for always providing a door of escape in every temptation. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

Note: Once again you are asked to choose one day this week to “fast” from all foods for at least a meal or a 24-hour period of time. Please write the period during which you will plan to fast:\_\_\_\_\_.

### Journal:

## **Day 30: FOCUS ON HELL**

Read Luke 16:19-31 and Revelation 20:11-15.

1. Is hell a real place of awful pain and suffering? Yes or No
2. Do all people who go to hell remain there forever with no way possible of ever getting out?
3. Will all the unsaved spend eternity in hell?
4. Does my life reflect concern for others, knowing that unless people I know and love repent of their sins and receive Christ, they will spend eternity in hell?

Jesus spent much of His time warning people about hell. Thank God (if you are saved) that you don't have to fear going to hell! Ask God to give you a greater vision of how real hell is. Ask God really to burden your heart for those whom you know that are bound for hell unless they repent and receive Christ! Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church. Pray that God would impress the reality of hell upon the hearts of all of the people who need Jesus.

### **Journal:**

## **Day 31: FOCUS ON THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST**

Read II Corinthians 5:9-11; Romans 14:12.

1. Does the Bible teach that all Christians will stand individually before “The Judgment Seat of Christ”?
2. Will I stand before Christ and be held accountable as to how well I did or did not live faithfully for Christ?
3. Do I think often about giving an account of my faithfulness to Christ?

Thank God that if you are saved, you will never be condemned for your sins -- Jesus has already paid the full price! However, ask God to help you remember every day that you are being held accountable for how faithfully you serve Christ -- and that you will give an account before Him one day soon. Ask God to forgive you for wasting time being unfaithful at times to Him. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

**Journal:**

## **Day 32: FOCUS ON REPENTANCE**

*Repentance is turning away from sinful behavior and attitudes, and turning back to God in complete obedience. For revival to occur in your life, repentance is essential!*

Read II Chronicles 7:13-22 and Revelation 3:14-19.

1. Can I have personal revival without repentance?
2. Can I embrace sin and walk closely with Jesus at the same time?
3. Are there some areas of sin in my life of which I am now willing to repent?

Confess whatever sin(s) to God that He is now bringing to your mind and repent! Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

**Journal:**

## **Day 33: FOCUS ON THE PRIZE**

Read Philippians 3:10-14; II Timothy 4:7-8; Hebrew 12:1-3.

1. Do I try to do “just enough to get by” as a Christian, or am I daily seeking to abandon all for Jesus?
2. Do I discipline my life spiritually just like an athlete prepares for a contest?
3. Does my physical life (eating, exercise, etc.) and my intellectual life (time given to study, etc.) reflect a relentless pursuit of Christ?
4. Do I need to remove some things in my life that hinder me from serving Christ with my whole heart?
5. Do I need to forget some things in my past that Satan uses to keep me from living for Jesus?

Ask God to give you a growing passion to live for Him. Daily seek to remove anything that hinders you from living a life totally abandoned to God.

**Journal:**

## **Day 34: FOCUS ON ENCOURAGEMENT**

Read Acts 11:19-26.

1. Did God use Barnabas as an encourager to the new church in Antioch and to the man Saul (later known as the Apostle Paul)?
2. Do I appreciate and thank those who have encouraged me in my walk with Christ?
3. Am I known as an encourager?

If the Holy Spirit so convicts, ask God to help you to encourage more and criticize less. We may not all be a Paul, but we can all be a Barnabas. Continue to pray for revival in your life, for revival in your family, and for revival in the church.

**Journal:**

## **Day 35: FOCUS ON REVIVAL**

*Revival means a return to our first love, Jesus. It means loving Jesus with all of your heart, soul, strength, and mind. Revival is returning back to complete devotedness and obedience to Christ. Revival happens when God's Spirit breaks your heart over your sin, and you thoroughly repent and humble yourself willingly before Christ.*

Read I Kings 18:20-40.

1. Am I hungry for personal revival?
2. Am I hungry to see revival in my family?
3. Am I hungry to see revival in the church?

Do I know of anything in my life (any sin or area of disobedience) that would cause God to choose not to send revival to my life, to my family, or to the church?

**Journal:**

## Day 36: FOCUS ON MENTORING

Read II Timothy 2:1-2

1. Do you have a mentor? If not, have there been times someone mentored you?
2. Do you currently mentor someone else? Is there someone you could help grow in Christ by mentoring him or her?
3. Do you see the value you investing in someone who has much to learn spiritually as Moses did with Joshua, or Jesus with the 12, or Paul with Timothy?

Ask God to help you to invest in another person, and to learn from the example of Jesus that our greatest impact most likely will come from the individuals we influence for Christ, not the crowds all around us.

Note: You are once again asked to choose one day this week to fast from all foods for at least a meal, or for a 24-hour period of time. During the time that you would normally be eating, you are requested to spend extra time praying for revival in your life, in your family, and in the church. Please write the period during which you will plan to fast: \_\_\_\_\_

**Journal:**

## **Day 37: FOCUS ON SUFFERING**

Read Acts 5:27-42

1. Do I understand that suffering for Christ is a mark of His followers consistently in the Bible?
2. What have I suffered for His name?
3. What am I willing to give up for Jesus?
4. Am I aware of the persecuted church, that about every 2.5 minutes someone dies as a martyr for Christ? Do I pray for them?

Go to [www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com) to learn more. Thank God for those who suffer for righteousness. Ask God to give you a willingness to suffer for His name while at the same time thanking God for the freedom to worship Him that many do not enjoy.

**Journal:**

## **Day 38: FOCUS ON THE CHURCH**

Read Hebrews 10:19-25; Matthew 16:13-20

1. Do I value the local church?
2. Am I actively engaged in the life of a local body of believers?
3. Do I see the church of which I am a part to be as essential to my life as my family?
4. Am I a spectator only or intimately involved in my local church?
5. Am I involved in a small group for accountability, growth, and encouragement?

Thank God for giving us the local church. No church is perfect, but the church is God's plan for reaching the world and training disciples.

### **Journal:**

## **Day 39: FOCUS ON DISCIPLINE**

Read I Corinthians 9:24-27; I Timothy 4:7; I Corinthians 10:31

1. Do I regard discipline as a vital part of my spirituality?
2. Do I prioritize spiritual disciplines (prayer, Bible study, fasting, solitude, etc.)?
3. Am I disciplined in some areas but very undisciplined in others?
4. Does my diet and physical fitness demonstrate a life surrendered to Christ? Do I glorify God in my body (I Cor. 6:20)?

Ask God to help you be consistent in discipline, and to see discipline as a blessing more than a burden.

### **Journal:**

## **DAY 40: FOCUS ON CONTENTMENT**

Read Philippians 4.

1. Is my life marked more by contentment or anxiety?
2. Do I believe Christ is sufficient for me?
3. Do I tend to be satisfied with where I am spiritually but fail to be content with what I have materially?
4. Does focusing on the gospel help me to be content?

Pray that God will give you a love for contentment over consumption. Ask Him to help you be satisfied only in Jesus.

### **Spiritual Journal:**