



# A DAY OF FASTING & PRAYER

**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 6  
6:00 AM – 6:00 PM**

The New Year can often bring a mixed bag of emotions and memories for many of us. The events of 2020 including a pandemic, racial tensions, joblessness, and political battles created an unprecedented time of unrest and anxiety. While some may have just experienced the best year ever and look forward to an even greater one looming ahead, others may have just trudged through one deep struggle after another. The fresh calendar year brings desperate hope for things to be better, with an ache for the still-fresh wounds to slowly begin their process of healing. Praying at the start of the New Year doesn't always bring immediate change but it begins the opening of our hearts to God's Words of hope and peace.

Revelation 21:5 says, *“And he who was seated on the throne said, ‘Behold, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.’”* As this new year begins, instead of fearing the unknown let's choose to hope in the known. So what is known about new? What do we know to be true that we can securely place our hope in? We know this - that God is the author of new. And since He authors every good and perfect thing, we can trust that this new year will bring good with it. Join us in fasting and praying for the New Year.

**In place of your first meal of the day, spend time praying in these specific ways...**

- **Pray for God's Spirit to lead us each step of 2021.** Ask that God will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire Him above all else. Pray for doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight. Ask Him to help us release our grip on the things to which we've said “no,” “not yet,” or “wait.” Pray for help to pursue God first, above every dream and desire we've put within our hearts.
- **Pray for hope after a hard year.** Thank God that He has carried us through the uncertainty of deep waters, through the flames of trials, and through the pain of hard losses. Ask to be constantly aware of how much we need Him, His grace, His strength, and His power working through even the toughest days.
- **Pray for blessings in the new year.** Thank God for His great love and blessing over our lives. Thank Him that His favor has no end, but it lasts for our entire lifetime. Ask forgiveness for sometimes forgetting

that He is intimately acquainted with all of our ways, that He knows what concerns us, and He covers us as with a shield. Ask that we would walk in His blessing and goodness today. That His face would shine on us. That He would open the right doors for our lives and for our loved ones. That He would close the wrong doors and protect us from those we need to walk away from. Pray that God will make our way purposeful and our footsteps firm out of His goodness and love.

### **In place of your second meal of the day, spend time praying in these specific ways...**

- **Pray for faith in the new year.** Pray to listen for God's voice above everything else. Ask forgiveness for not trusting Him enough. Ask forgiveness for trying to work everything out all on your own. Pray to truly let go of what God has asked you to release to Him and to believe that He is at work in ways we can't fully see. Ask for help me in your unbelief.
- **Pray for wisdom in the new year.** Ask for wisdom from God's truths, and to be filled with a desire to faithfully follow after Him more than any other thing. Thank Him that He is far greater than whatever you may face in the day. Thank Him that His presence goes with you, and that your joy is never dependent on circumstances, but it is His true and lasting strength. Ask for God's peace to lead you and for His grace and goodness to cover your life every day.
- **Pray for provision in the new year.** Thank God that no situation is too far out of His control to provide. Acknowledge He is Jehovah-Jireh, the God who provides. Thank God that He owns it all, and holds everything in His hands. Thank Him that He know your needs before you even ask. Acknowledge He is aware of all that concerns you, and He has a plan. Ask for God's answers, in His timing, in His plan, to be given for every need that weighs our hearts down.

### **In place of your third meal of the day, spend time praying in these specific ways...**

- **Pray for peace in the new year.** Acknowledge God is all-powerful, that He is Sovereign, and that nothing is too difficult for Him. Ask for help as you struggle with worry and fear, still carrying the same burdens leftover from yesterday. Ask God to lift all the things that are weighing you down, and give you the peace that only He can provide. Acknowledge that God understands your struggles, and He sees right where you are, even on the days you feel that no one notices. Pray to guard your heart and mind in Him every day, as you meditate on His words and truth.
- **Pray for God's presence and hope in the new year.** Ask God to help you to remember that He will never leave you, that He is our Refuge and our Strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Ask Him to remind you that the battle belongs to Him, and whatever you're up against can be taken down in one fail swoop by His Mighty Hand. Ask for help to trust Him more, to never waste time spinning your wheels and wrestling or fighting in your own strength. As forgiveness for the times you've failed to lift your hands to God, for the days you've forgotten to come to Him first. Ask to be filled with the Power of His Holy Spirit this year. Ask to be filled with His joy, to be filled with His wisdom and discernment, and to be filled with constant reminders that His Presence will go with you, and He will give you rest.
- **Pray for spiritual awakening in the new year.** Pray for a powerful spiritual awakening to grip our nation, our churches, and Christians, as well as unbelievers. Pray for revival to sweep the hearts of every believer. Pray for spiritual growth and revival in your own life and in the life of your family/friends. Pray for opportunities to share Christ with friends, family, and neighbors during the year. Pray that you would hunger for God's Word and long to spend time in fellowship with Him.