



22 Then Jesus said to the disciples, "Have faith in God. 23 I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. 24 I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours.

~ Mark 11:22-24

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### DEAR WEST LAKE FAMILY,

When Jesus ascended, He left His disciples with an overwhelming and seemingly impossible task to take the Gospel to the ends of the earth. He left them with one promise, 'I will be with you'. God knew that they would only be able to accomplish His work if they were filled with the power of His presence, and He knew that His presence was all they needed.

God has given our church family a unique and exciting, but seemingly impossible opportunity. He has placed us strategically in a growing community and we desire to see a great movement from God right here in the Lake Houston community. Every great movement of God has been preceded by times of intentional prayer and fasting. So, over the next 28 days, I want to ask you to seek the Lord, individually, as families, in community groups and as we gather on Sundays. Because God has entrusted this important assignment to us, we will pray, fast, listen to, and obey everything He calls us to do. We will believe Him for as many people as possible.

For His Glory,

**CAMERON WHITLEY** 

# DAILY PRAYER INSTRUCTIONS

### READ

the selected scripture several times. All Bible verses are printed in this booklet.

### REFLECT

on the truths that relate to each day's study. Take time to meditate on the meaning and implications of these truths for yourself, your family, and our church.

### PRAY

the prayer provided each day. Then, using this as a guide, continue to pray what the Holy Spirit lays on your heart and mind.

### RESPOND

to the reflection questions in the space provided. Use this time to write out specific calls to action God prompts in you. Each day seek to both apply the truth in specific ways and then also talk with someone about what the Lord has shown you.

### FRIDAY FASTS

On Fridays we are asking everyone to fast from sun-up to sun-down. Fasting is a Biblical practice that draws us closer to God and His will as we deny ourselves things like food, social media, or watching t.v., Netflix, or Prime Video. Instead of eating, scrolling, or watching, we can spend time with God through some specific prayers.

Let's humbly join together in genuine prayer and earnest obedience believing that God is able and willing to do far more through us than we could ever ask, think, or imagine!

# WEEK 1 APRIL 21-25

# DAY OI PREPARE US WITH A PURE HEART

### **READ** | Psalm 24:3-5

"Who may climb the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? Only those whose hands and hearts are pure, who do not worship idols and never tell lies. They will receive the Lord's blessing and have a right relationship with God their savior."

### REFLECT

The basis of our relationship with God is His grace demonstrated through Jesus Christ. However, our intimacy with God and His blessing toward us is directly related to the purity of our hearts.

### PRAY

Father, by Your grace reveal to me the state of my heart. Expose areas of impurity. Give me the grace of genuine repentance. Forgive me of worldliness. Create in me a clean heart that I may know You more and be used by You according to Your will...

As you're praying, are their areas of impurity God is bringing to your mind? What changes is this prompting you to make? Talk with someone else about them. Make these changes by His grace.

# DAY 02 PREPARE US WITH A HUNGRY HEART

**READ** | Matthew 5:6

"God blesses those who hunger and thirst for justice, for they will be satisfied."

### **REFLECT**

Genuine satisfaction in life is not dependent upon circumstances, possessions, or our social position. It depends upon a heart that hungers for God and His purposes because God is the only one who cannot fail. He will satisfy you completely, unlike the promises made by things of this world.

### PRAY

Father, guard my heart from desiring the things of this world more than I desire You. Give me a heart that hungers and thirsts for You and Your Kingdom, not the kingdom of me. Reveal areas in my heart where I am more passionate about myself than You...

A good way to know what is most important to us in life is to look at how we spend our time and money. Considering these things, what do you hunger for the most each day? Does this need to change?

# DAY 03 PREPARE US WITH A HUMBLE HEART

### **READ** | James 4:6

"And He gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, 'God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.'"

### **REFLECT**

It's not that God merely moves His hand off the proud, He directly opposes them. God's ultimate goal is to magnify His own name. So, when we seek our own glory we are actually standing directly against God's Kingdom and desire in this world. Humility is a requirement to being used by God.

### PRAY

Father, I must decrease; You must increase. Guard me from pride and selfish ambition, and an attitude of self-sufficiency. Help me to realize I am completely dependent upon You. Demonstrate Your power through my weakness...

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# DAY 04 PREPARE US WITH A BELIEVING HEART

### **READ** | Mark 9:24

"The father instantly cried out, "I do believe, but help me overcome my unbelief!"

### **REFLECT**

A Christian is someone who believes Jesus Christ is The Son of God; our Savior, The Messiah. But being honest for a moment, are you ever tempted with unbelief? Although we cannot lose our salvation through Jesus, we do see that the degree to which God chooses to use us is often dependent upon our level of belief. Without faith it is impossible to please God.

### **PRAY**

Father, help my unbelief. I do not want unbelief to be a hindrance to what You want to do through me and our church family. Expose any unbelief that exists in my heart...

In what areas or specific circumstances are you struggling with unbeli Are you making decisions that flow out of confidence in you or God? What unbelief is defeated with God's promises today?	ef?

# DAY 05 FRIDAY FAST

**READ** | 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. I tell you the truth, that is the only reward they will ever get. But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in private. And your Father, who sees everything, will reward you."

### **REFLECT**

Which would require the most discipline to fast from today? Food, social media, or watching t.v., Netflix, and Prime Video? Whichever one you think would be the most impossible to fast from is the exact one you need to deny. As you deny yourself one of these from sun-up to sun-down, seek God in its place.

### **PRAY**

Father, help me to hunger after you more than I hunger for food, recognition, or entertainment. I desire you more than the desires of my flesh.

RESPOND What has God revealed to you through fasting?	

# WEEK 2 APRIL 28-MAY 2

# DAY OI HELP US TO SEE THE MULTITUDES AROUND US

### **READ** | Matthew 9:36-37

"When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were confused and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. He said to his disciples, 'The harvest is great, but the workers are few.'"

### **REFLECT**

Jesus saw the world in light of it's actual depravity, it's sinfulness. He saw the helplessness of people, and the eternal future for the unbeliever. This not only stirred His compassion, but also clarified His mission to those who believe.

### PRAY

Father, help me to be aware of my own depravity, sinfulness, and unbelief. Help me to see people the way Jesus did. Help me to live with the perspective of both the here and now and eternity in my community. Guard me from distractions and laziness, and help me to share the Gospel with those that surround me...

How often do I consider the great spiritual need of those around me? Am I guiding myself, my children, my friends, in all truth? Do see people in light of eternity? How can I walk in obedience todo	I

# DAY 02 HELP US TO SEE WITH YOUR PASSION

### **READ** | Luke 15:4-7

"If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them gets lost, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness and go search for the one that is lost until he finds it? And when he finds it, he will joyfully carry it home on his shoulders. When he arrives, he will call together his friends and neighbors, saying, 'Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep.' In the same way, there is more joy in heaven over one lost sinner who repents and returns to God than over ninety-nine others who are righteous and haven't strayed away!"

### REFLECT

God passionately pursues sinners. Think of God's love for the world as a continual search and rescue mission. Therefore, He rejoices over every sinner who repents and are rescued. Because of His great compassion for all men, women, and children, there is hope for all to be saved.

### **PRAY**

Father, give me a heart that is as focused on lost people and as passionate about saving them as You are. Help me to be as compassionate towards my community as You are. Help me to set my eyes on the eternal rather than the temporal...

Do I have genuine compassion for my lost family, friends, and co-workers?
Am I compassionately praying for, investing in, and inviting them?
How can I do this today?

# DAY 03 HELP US TO SEE YOUR PLAN

### **READ** | Ephesians 3:8-10, 21

"Though I am the least deserving of all God's people, he graciously gave me the privilege of telling the Gentiles about the endless treasures available to them in Christ. I was chosen to explain to everyone this mysterious plan that God, the Creator of all things, had kept secret from the beginning. God's purpose in all this was to use the church to display his wisdom in its rich variety to all the unseen rulers and authorities in the heavenly places...Glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen."

### REFLECT

The eternal plan of God is to bring His name glory and to make His Kingdom known. This is not just happening within and for individuals, but also for and through His church. We are not just children of God, we are also a church family that has been saved, redeemed, and sent on mission by God for His glory and kingdom.

### **PRAY**

Father, help me to see how my life plays a role in your glory and in your church. Help me to walk in obedience wherever you are calling me to serve your kingdom.

Do you recognize how central our church family is to the plan of
God? How active are you in the mission of God's glory, His kingdom
and our church? How can you make it a priority today?

# DAY 04 HELP US TO SEE OUR ROLE

### READ | Ephesians 4:15-16

"Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love."

### REFLECT

The Apostle Paul illustrates a church family as a body. Just like every part of a human body plays a unique role, so it is with every individual within the body of Christ and our church family. If you are a part of the West Lake family, you play an essential role in the mission God has given us as a church.

### **PRAY**

Father, help me discern what my role in the mission of Your kingdom and my church family. Based on the gifts, opportunities, and experiences You've given me, show me how best to use them within our church family, community, and for Your glory.

#### PESPOND

How has God gifted you to serve His kingdom and our church family? What opportunities has He given to you to use them in?

## DAY 05 FRIDAY FAST

### **READ** | 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. I tell you the truth, that is the only reward they will ever get. But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in private. And your Father, who sees everything, will reward you."

### REFLECT

Which would require the most discipline to fast from today? Food, social media, or watching t.v., Netflix, and Prime Video? Whichever one you think would be the most impossible to fast from is the exact one you need to deny. As you deny yourself one of these from sun-up to sun-down, seek God in its place.

### **PRAY**

Father, help me to hunger after you more than I hunger for food, recognition, or entertainment. I desire you more than the desires of my flesh.

What has God revealed to you through fasting?	

# **WEEK 3** | MAY 5-9

# DAY OI GIVE US THE RESOLVE TO PARTICIPATE

### **READ** | Matthew 16:18

"Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means 'rock'), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it."

### **REFLECT**

Jesus is the one who builds His church and nothing will stop Him. So, the question is not, "Will He build it?" The question is, "Will you commit yourself to Him and join in on what He is doing?"

### PRAY

Father, thank you for the work You're doing in and through West Lake Church. I don't want to just hear about others being used by You, but desire to be used by You, as well. I believe in Your purpose, plan, and mission for the Church and want to participate in what You are doing...

Are you determined to participate in our church family? Today, respond with a genuine resolve to participate in the future of West Lake Church. Write down specific ways you can participate, share them with someone, and then follow through on them.

# DAY 02 GIVE US THE RESOLVE TO STEWARD FAITHFULLY

### **READ** | Matthew 25:20-21

"The servant to whom he entrusted the five bags of silver came forward with five more and said, 'Master, you gave me five bags of silver to invest, and I have earned five more.' "The master was full of praise. 'Well done, my good and faithful servant. You have been faithful in handling this small amount, so now I will give you many more responsibilities. Let's celebrate together!"

### REFLECT

Everything God has entrusted to us must be stewarded faithfully. This includes our time, energy, and gifts, to our financial resources, vocational expertise, and hobbies. The message Jesus is getting across here in this parable (Matthew 25:14-30) applies to every area of our life. All we are and all we have is a gift from God that we are commanded as disciples of Jesus to stewarded faithfully.

### **PRAY**

Father, guard my heart from greed, selfishness, and an unwillingness to use my talents for You and your kingdom. Guard me from the love of money and keep possessions from becoming idols in my life. Give me wisdom to steward everything faithfully...

### **RESPOND**

Our Believe campaign is more than a fundraising campaign. It will demand all of us to steward all we have faithfully. Are you stewarding your time, talents, and money faithfully? Are you disciplined in your spending? Do you have a budget to avoid unnecessary debt? What changes need to be made in order to be a faithful steward of God's resources?

# DAY 03 GIVE US THE RESOLVE TO GIVE SACRIFICIALLY

**READ** | 2 Corinthians 8:3, 9

"For I can testify that they gave not only what they could afford, but far more. And they did it of their own free will. ... You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich."

### **REFLECT**

What is key to know is that God does not need your money. He wants your heart. As Christians, we're commanded to follow the example of Jesus who, for our sake, sacrificed everything for the glory of God. That's why giving generously is the giving that honors God. For some, giving 10% is as generous as they can give. While for some, giving 10% requires no sacrifice.

### **PRAY**

Father, help me to be a generous giver. Help me to be more devoted to You than to wealth. Show me what sacrificial giving looks like for me. 1%, 10%, 50%, show me how You want me to be generous to the Believe vision...

What does being generous mean to you? Are you currently giving sacrificially? What does the habit of your giving reveal about your heart? How does God want you to give to this vision?

# DAY 04 GIVE US THE RESOLVE TO GIVE CHEERFULLY

### **READ** | 2 Corinthians 9:6-7

"Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. You must each decide in your heart how much to give. Don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. "For God loves a person who gives cheerfully."

### REFLECT

God loves those who give cheerfully. What does this mean? Giving is worship. Just like heart-less and joy-less singing is not genuine worship, neither is heart-less and joy-less giving. Remember, God doesn't need or want you money. He wants your heart. We don't give out of duty, guilt, or pressure. We give out of a response to what we have been given in Jesus. If your greatest desire is for God's Kingdom to be known and grown, then giving towards that will always bring you great joy.

### **PRAY**

Father, make my heart joyful when giving to Your work. Help my joy to be found in Jesus rather than possessions. Help me to give with a pure heart, not from guilt or pressure...

Why do you	give? When	ı you give, i	s it joyful or	saddening? V	Vhat
does this say	about your	heart? Hov	v can you g	give cheerfully	/today?

## DAY 05 FRIDAY FAST

READ | 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. I tell you the truth, that is the only reward they will ever get. But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in private. And your Father, who sees everything, will reward you."

### REFLECT

Which would require the most discipline to fast from today? Food, social media, or watching t.v., Netflix, and Prime Video? Whichever one you think would be the most impossible to fast from is the exact one you need to deny. As you deny yourself one of these from sun-up to sun-down, seek God in its place.

#### PRAY

Father, help me to hunger after you more than I hunger for food, recognition, or entertainment. I desire you more than the desires of my flesh.

# RESPOND What has God revealed to you through fasting?

# WEEK 4 | MAY 12-16

# DAY 01 HELP US TO BELIEVE THERE IS GREATER BLESSING FOR US

### **READ** | Psalm 67

"May God be merciful and bless us. May his face smile with favor on us. May your ways be known throughout the earth, your saving power among people everywhere. May the nations praise you, O God. Yes, may all the nations praise you. Let the whole world sing for joy, because you govern the nations with justice and guide the people of the whole world. May the nations praise you, O God. Yes, may all the nations praise you. Then the earth will yield its harvests, and God, our God, will richly bless us. Yes, God will bless us, and people all over the world will fear him."

### REFLECT

As God's people, we must remember that we are dependent upon God's blessing in order to be a blessing to this community. Therefore, we must believe that God is able and willing to give a greater blessing than what we can attain and achieve on our own.

### **PRAY**

Father, be gracious to us and bless us. Look on us with favor. Make Your way known to our community, Your saving power among all nations, through our devotion to You. I believe You are able and willing to provide for me so that I can be a blessing to others.

How has God blessed you? How are you currently using those blessings to bless others for God's glory? How can you intentionally bless someone today?

# DAY 02 HELP US TO BELIEVE THERE IS GREATER MINISTRY FOR US

### **READ** | John 15:7-8

"But if you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask for anything you want, and it will be granted! When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. This brings great glory to my Father."

### REFLECT

Those who are devoted to Jesus will become passionate about living like Jesus. And among many things, this includes passionate prayer. Just like Jesus demonstrated. When our lives are centered on Jesus, so will our prayers. This means we can believe God to answer our prayers that our centered on His will.

### **PRAY**

Father, help me to remain in Christ. To desire what You desire. To be passionate about Your name and Your glory. Give me opportunities to serve others that will bring You glory. Help me believe that this ministry is possible to those who abide in Christ...

RESPOND How does God desire further His kingdom through your home and through our church family? Do you believe that you are a part of the ministry that can be done here? Remaining in Jesus, recognizing the opportunities He's placed before you, and then responding obediently is our calling. Believe God to answer your prayers.	
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# ${f DAY}$ ${f O3}$ help us to believe there is greater growth for us

### **READ** | Peter 2:2-3

"Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment, now that you have had a taste of the Lord's kindness."

### REFLECT

Every person who believes in and trusts Jesus Christ as their Savior, has been called to reflect the image of Jesus Christ. Christ-likeness is a result of remaining in Christ. Which is God's plan. Spiritual growth and maturity is guaranteed if you remain in Jesus Christ.

### **PRAY**

Father, I am aware of my weaknesses and inadequacies, but I believe You are able to redeem my deficiencies. I believe You have saved me from the power of sin. Now, by Your grace, help me to grow like Jesus today and every day as I trust in Him.

What are the areas where you need spiritual maturity and growth? What changes need to be made today in your life to grow in these areas? Do you believe God is able to produce the growth in these areas?	

# DAY 04 HELP US BELIEVE THERE IS GREATER IMPACT TO BE MADE THROUGH US

### READ | Acts 1:8

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere — in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

### REFLECT

Jesus proclaims that His disciples are to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth. What gave Him the confidence to do that? The ability of the disciples? No. The power of the Holy Spirit. The impact West Lake Church has and can have in our community is directly related to the faith and trust in the Holy Spirit's power in and through us. A church full of people living out the power of the Holy Spirit will impact everyone. Believe the impact that you can make in this community comes from God's power and not yours. Believe that He is able!

### **PRAY**

Father, help me to recognize the power available to those in Christ. Help me not to trust not in my own abilities, but to trust in the power of your Spirit in me. Help me to believe for a greater impact through our church family, by the power of your Spirit...

### **RESPOND**

Do you believe the Holy Spirit has the power to transform this community? Do you believe there is greater impact to be made locally and globally through us? What is one way God is calling you to impact our community and world today?

# DAY 05 FRIDAY FAST

### **READ** | 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. I tell you the truth, that is the only reward they will ever get. But when you fast, comb your hair and wash your face. Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in private. And your Father, who sees everything, will reward you."

### **REFLECT**

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### **PRAY**

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RESPOND What has God revealed to you through fasting?						

