



# **Pre Easter 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting**

**1<sup>st</sup> March – 9<sup>th</sup> April 2009**  
**Prayer & Bible Study Programme**

**Seven days** of self-recognition and examination

**Five days** of repentance

**Seven days** of consecration

**Thirteen days** of renewal

**Seven days** of praise and worship

**One final day** for recollection

Day	Text/task	Key passages
<p><b>Seven Days of self-recognition and examination.</b></p> <p>This is a time in our fasting for each of us to look at ourselves. It may perhaps be painful or unpleasant at times. On the other hand you could be pleasantly surprised. But it is good for us to examine ourselves and then with sincerity, present who we are to the Lord. I believe that by the end of this fasting period we would have heard from the Lord. He will tell us areas we must change but we must be willing.</p> <p>Psalm 51 is our umbrella passage for the first two periods of this fasting, that is 'looking at ourselves' and then a period of 'repentance.' Learn some of the verses by heart, or if you can, learn the whole chapter by heart, it makes for a great prayer.</p>		
1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Who are you?</b></p> <p>What do you think about yourself? Who do you really think you are? What do you think other peoples opinion is about you? Consider who you are today and ask the Lord to highlight areas He specifically want you to take notice of. Be submissive, open and honest with Him.</p>	Psalm 139
2	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Where are you most vulnerable to fall?</b></p> <p>What are your weakness and greatest personal challenge you face as a Christian? What is the most difficult temptation that you have to deal with? Where do you think you are most vulnerable? Know this – His grace is able to keep you</p>	2 Corinthians.12:2-10; Romans 7:21-25; 1 Corinthians 10:13.
3	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Things that hurt</b></p> <p>What things really hurt and upset you? Is there any one you struggle to forgive? Do you struggle at times to forgive yourself? Do you like who you are? Are you happy with your life? Sometimes our reactions are rooted within our deepest personal hurts from the past. Are you fearful? Are you anxious when night approaches? Do you feel lonely? Do you suffer with depression? Be sure that God will never forsake you, He shall bring you through. Speak very frankly with the Lord today.</p>	Psalm 56; Proverbs 12:25; Psalm 23; 2 Corinthians 4:8-10
4	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What are your strengths?</b></p> <p>Think about the good things God has done in and through your life. What aspects of your life are you pleased with? What are your strengths? What are your gifts? Both spiritual and natural?</p>	Matthew 5:16; Ephesians 2:10; 1 Timothy 5:1-10; Psalm 34;
5	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Being Connected with the Holy God of Heaven</b></p> <p>What have been some of the highlights in your life regarding your relationship with God, has there ever been a time when you were so close to God and powerfully used by Him? What was the reason for</p>	Exodus 33:17-23; Job 42; Luke 5:16;

	those most successful periods in your life? It's amazing that God would honour us, but I believe that this is His desire. It's important to list some of the key things that caused the greatest and most memorable connection in your relationship with God. Pray into those things today.	
6	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Transformed for service</b></p> <p>Think about the many lives God has touched through you. What do you really think God's opinion is regarding you? Is it very different from the one you have of yourself? Thank God that this year will be a year when everyone connected to this fellowship will be disciplined and be a discipler. This will radically change lives for God's glory, are you ready to be radically used by God. Remember, it's not about you, its all about Him. Ask God to help you make more time to be available for Him.</p>	Acts 2:36-47; Acts 5:12-16 compare this with Mark 14:66-72. what a transformation
7	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Recollection</b></p> <p>A day for writing down and reading through the things God has showed you during this first period. A day for contemplation and meditation. Try to spend long periods in silence, waiting on the Lord Let this Psalm be your prayer Psalm 143. Let it also be your declaration of praise.</p>	Psalm 143
<p><b>5 Days of repentance {Psalm 51}</b></p> <p>The Greek word for repentance is <i>metanoia</i> which means "change of mind." How can a person truly know that they have been saved? Or what physical proof do you have that you are saved? It has been said that repentance and faith are two sides of the same coin. In repentance we turn away from sin and in faith we turn to God.</p> <p>Repentance is about turning around or changing direction. Take these 5 days to really come to terms with how your life should be, think about and imagine the things you need to do in order to work through these changes. There may be things that God has been calling you to, He may have been calling you to ministry, acts of service, faith, acts of love or submission to name but a few. If you have not responded as He would like. Then let your prayer at this point be for His will to be done in your life.</p> <p>Three things to consider on the subject of repentance: (1) we need to sense the heart of God which leads to being sorrowful about The things He does not want in our lives (2 Cor 7:9-10; Ps 51:1). (2) We need to acquire an inward hatred to sin, which leads then to its removal. (Matt 3:8; Acts 26:20; Heb 6:1); (3) Change our minds and change our practices and a humbly submit to God's will (Acts 9:6).</p>		
8 Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	<p><b>Godly sorrow leads to repentance. 2 Corinthians 7:8-11</b></p> <p><sup>9</sup> <i>yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us.</i> <sup>10</sup> <b>Godly sorrow brings</b></p>	2 Corinthians 7:8-11 (for further reading 2 Tim 2:22-26)

	<p><b>repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret...NIV</b></p> <p>In your prayers today,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pray for a genuine sense of godly sorrow.</li> <li>• And pray that it will lead to an appropriate response – repentance.</li> <li>• Ask the Lord that He opens your heart, so that you might see things from His perspective</li> <li>• Consider and ask God that He breaks those areas that seems stubborn.</li> <li>• Pray that our church repents for not serving as we could have. For missing the mark</li> </ul>	
9	<p><b>Repent so that Jesus is Lord</b></p> <p>Hebrews 6:4-6 is a very challenging passage, what do you think it means? What do you think your response should be? One thing we can be sure of is that this is a clear warning to all of us. We are being warned to make sure we protect our faith at all cost. Therefore, it is imperative that Jesus is not just our saviour (the one who saves us), but that He is also Lord of our lives (our ruler). In Matthew 4:17 it says “<i>Repent for the kingdom is at hand.</i>” This means, we have to turn around and away from any thing that might exclude us from God’s Kingdom.</p> <p>In your prayers today</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ask God to help you identify any pockets of rebellion within your heart, thoughts, dreams, desires, associates and activities that have not yet been submitted to Him and which you struggle to hand over to Him.</li> <li>• Ask God to help you as you make the necessary changes</li> <li>• Ask God to bless you with a sense of peace as you submit to His Lordship.</li> </ul>	<p>Heb 6:4-6  Matthew 4:17;  Romans 10:9;           1  Corinthians. 12:3</p>
10	<p><b>Repent from pride</b></p> <p>The bible teaches us that God resist the proud but gives favour and blessing and help to those who are humble. To be humble, is to not over estimate oneself above others (Romans 12:3 &amp; 10). The humble person in the spiritual sense realises that all they are, and all they have achieved, is because of God. Humility is an essential attribute of the disciple as Matthew 18:3-5 shows us. The actions of a proud person are unmistakable. The core root is an inappropriately elevated self-awareness. God wants us to believe in Him and trust Him for EVERYTHING.</p>	<p>1 Peter 5:5-11; James 4:6-10  Matt 18:3-5  Daniel 4:29-37</p>

	<p>Could it be that God resist the proud person, because the proud person is resisting Him (Psalm 25:9)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✠ Ask God to help you follow the example of Jesus with regards to being humble (Matt 11:29; Mark 10:45; John 13:4-17; Phil 2:5-8),</li> <li>✠ Ask God to help you to humble yourself (reason being, when God humbles a person, its not so nice, look at Daniel 4:29-37 for example)</li> <li>✠ Senior Pastor has often said, “when a person says they are humble, they have just stopped being humble.” Consider the way you think about yourself today, do you think your self perception pleases the Lord? Let us therefore in our prayers, repent from any wrong self- estimation.</li> </ul>	
11	<p><b>The Fruit of repentance Luke 3:7-9</b></p> <p>How do you know that you are saved? Well, we have God’s word and His word is totally dependable. His word states that we are saved by Grace through faith and not by our works (Ephesians 2:8-9). But there should be evidence of salvation by the works we do. Let it be clearly understood. The good works of Christ which we do cannot save us. But they assure us that we have been saved. Study Ephesians 2: 8-10 but especially consider verse 10</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pray especially in light and in line with the truth found in the following passages (John 13:35; John 15:8; 1 John 2:3-6; 1 John 3:16).</li> </ul>	<p>Luke 3:7-9 see also Acts 26:20 and Romans 2:4</p>
12	<p><b>Day of recollection. Let this day be a day of recollection, let it also be a day of thanksgiving regarding the work God has already started in you Acts 2:38</b></p> <p>Repentance along with Baptism, and evidence of being filled with the Holy Spirit, was seen as the prerequisite of salvation throughout the book of Acts. People will know that we are Christians by our Spirit filled and transformed way of living.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✠ Thank God this day for the transformation in your life, for those areas He has changed</li> <li>✠ Ask God to fill you with the Holy Spirit and that others might be challenged to follow Christ, by the witness and workings of the Holy Spirit within you (Eph. 5:18-21)</li> <li>✠ Ask God to make evident the fruit of the Spirit within you (Galatians 5:22-25)</li> <li>✠ Pray for others as they battle through their challenges</li> <li>✠ Thank God today for the gift of repentance (Acts</li> </ul>	<p>Recollection day Acts 2:38</p> <p>How are you doing with remembering Psalm 51 by heart?</p>

	<p>5:31; 11:18; Rom 2:4).  ✠ Thank God for demolishing strongholds in your life  (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)</p>	
<p><b>7 days of anointing/Consecration and washing. Be ye holy... (1 Peter 1:16)</b>  I am fascinated by the book of Leviticus and the carefully detailed instruction placed therein regarding the way God was to be worshiped by His people. One of the most seriously important things that had to be done was the consecration of everything which would be used in the ritual of worship.</p> <p>Consecration is when something is set aside exclusively for God’s purpose. Something which is consecrated becomes then a Holy object and must have no other function than in the things of God. All Christians are being made Holy through the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit (1 Thessalonians 4:3-8 ;). Plus, we have been consecrated already through Christ Jesus (1 Peter 2:9; Hebrews 10:10; John 17:17-19).</p> <p>We have a new life (2 Corinthians 5:17) – and it is His gift to us – the Christian belongs to Christ already. So our looking back into the Old Testament is with this understanding. Still however, there maybe significant things that God wants us to be aware of as we consider both Old and New Testament passages which relate to the subject of consecration and Holiness. Let there be no contradiction in respects to <b>who we are</b>, and <b>how we act</b>.</p> <p>Look at the scripture passages over the next seven days and make your own notes about the things God is saying to you.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Read and re-read using different translations and bible commentaries if possible. Take time and read carefully so that you don’t miss anything.</li> <li>2. Pray before and while you read.</li> <li>3. Pause when you feel prompted to by the Lord and consider what He is telling you.</li> <li>4. There are no directed prayer points over these seven days so please make your own prayer points and prayers of dedication.</li> <li><b>5. Pray in line with the things God is revealing to you in your readings</b></li> <li>6. If possible share something’s you have learnt from the Lord with others. If you are able, discuss these things in your discipleship meetings</li> </ol>		
13	<p>Read Exodus 29 and consider the <b>Consecration of the priest</b>. Some things to note in this chapter... <i>The sin offering here was dealing with purification (verse 14).</i><sup>1</sup> <i>In verses 15-18, the burnt offering dealt with atoning for their sin. In verses 19-21 the Blood or oil on the toe, ear and thumb indicate that the whole person was dedicated to the Lord. Ears consecrated to listen to a Holy God, consecrated hands to do holy deeds and consecrated feet to walk in holiness.</i><sup>2</sup>  <u>Re-dedicate your whole self to the Lord today.</u> “<i>All to Jesus I surrender, all to Him I freely give...</i>”</p>	Exodus 29
14	<p><b>The consecrations of our thinking or thoughts.</b>  2 Corinthians 10:3-5 the way we think must come</p>	Romans 12:1-3; Mark 7:21-23

<sup>1</sup> New bible commentary, 21<sup>st</sup> Century IVP. Pg 115

<sup>2</sup> New bible commentary, 21<sup>st</sup> Century IVP. Pg 115

	<p>in line with Christ will as verse 5 shows. In Romans 1:18-32, why did peoples thinking result in such a devastating reaction from God? <i>Pray for the mind, it must come in line with the mind of our Lord.</i></p>	
<p>15 Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> march 2009</p>	<p><b>The consecration of our home</b> Joshua 24:1-28. Give special attention to verse 15. (I wonder if the Lord would have the men note something specific from this passage.) <i>Praying for our household</i></p>	<p>Joshua 24:1-28</p>
<p>16</p>	<p><b>Living a Holy life.</b> 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 key verses are verse 7 and 8. What do you think they really mean? If you can, please discuss this in your discipleship groups, Sunday school class or with some other believers. This is very important for our understanding about who the Christian is.</p>	<p>1 Thessalonians 4:1-12; 1 Peter 1:13-23</p>
<p>17</p>	<p><b>The consecration of and results of acceptable worship.</b> Today you have a task. You should learn the following passage off by heart, including where it is found in the bible. And then, put it into practice throughout the day. And that's it! The passage is 1 Chronicles 16:29 (if you can make the time read also Exodus 39:30-43; Ex 40:1-38 which relates to the dedication of the Holy place of worship, the obedience to divine instructions and the way in which God's presence was manifested, so much so that even Moses - who was used to being in the presence of God - could not enter). <i>Pray concerning our worship.</i></p>	<p>1 Chronicles 16:29; for further reading 2 Chronicles 20:1-30;</p>
<p>18</p>	<p><b>A holy and consecrated people who belong to God.</b> 1 Peter 2:1-12 Thanks be to God that this is our new status, this is who we are in Christ. Remember day 13 and the consecration of the priest. They were a people who were dedicated to God's work and service. They were wholly His. Now these verses are informing us that we are the NT priestly nation. Hallelujah we belong to God, we are totally and wholly His. Let us rejoice but seek also to reach others who may still be in darkness.</p>	<p>1 Peter 2:1-12</p>
<p>19</p>	<p><b>Day of recollection,</b> re-consider the things the Lord has spoken to you about over the last 6 days. I really believe that this day we should renew our vows to Him. See also Deuteronomy 23:21; Num 3:12-13; Leviticus 27:26;</p>	<p>Day of recollection Deuteronomy 23:21; Num 3:12-13; Leviticus 27:26</p>

### 13 Days of renewal

New Covenant. The word 'New' in relation to the covenant should not cause us to think that the Mosaic covenant (that is the first covenant God made with the entire nation of Israel Exodus 19-24 see esp. 19:1-6 ) should be totally discarded. The thing about the Mosaic covenant was that people kept on breaking it (especially committing the sin of idolatry and rejecting God's Words), they just couldn't be faithful.

The significant thing about the New Covenant is that we fulfil it in Christ Jesus. God would write His law and standard on the hearts of those who are His. They would evidence their reception of Him and His covenant, through faithfully devoting themselves to His will as led by the Holy Spirit. No need for a priest or intermediary anymore, for now, God's Spirit would reveal truth to the worshippers, and they would respond in a pleasing manner. We can now enjoy a special intimate relationship with God the Father in the New Covenant. And our sins are forgiven forever – Christ did it once for all.

20	<p><b>God promises a New Covenant</b> in Jeremiah 31:31-34; Jesus fulfilled it in Luke 22:14-20 (Matt 26:27-28). God is totally pleased and satisfied with Jesus' obedience, and now we share in the New Covenant through Him); Hebrews 8:7-13; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; What is the biblical meaning of a covenant and what does it mean to you that God makes one with you?</p> <p>✠ Thank God for His faithfulness in keeping His side of the agreement.</p> <p>✠ Pray for faithfulness</p>	Jeremiah 31:31-34; Luke 22:14-20. Luke 1:67-80 regarding John the Baptist
21	<p>Discuss the significance of this glorious New Covenant with someone. Consider especially 2 Corinthians 3:7-18.</p> <p>✠ Centre your prayers and praise around 2 Corinthians 3:18</p>	2 Corinthians 3:7-18
22 Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March 2009	<p><b>New High Priest.</b> Under the Old Covenant, the Priest conducted the worship of God. They were the ones who orchestrated the various sacrificial practices. The Levitical code as found in the book of Leviticus is detailed with serious intensity. It shows that God desires and will dwell with His people but only when things are done in such a way that satisfies Him. The high priest was the only person (after days of purification and consecration) who could enter the most Holy Place and that, only once a year. Their role was one of representation; they represented the people before God and in a way, God before the people. But now, we have Jesus who fulfils the role as Chief High priest. Jesus the God-man is the perfect worshipper. And we now are blessed to be able to worship and have access to the presence of God through Jesus the Christ.</p> <p>Study passages Hebrews 4:14-5:10. Try learning Hebrews 4:16 by heart then put it into practice.</p> <p>✠ What is mercy and what is grace</p>	Hebrews 4:14-5:10
23	<b>How is Jesus a more superior High priest?</b> And how	Hebrews 7:11- 8: 6

	<p>does His superiority help you? Did we need a new High Priest? Hebrews 7:11-28; 8:1-6</p> <p>Today if you have not done it already, ask God for a special revelation, a heavenly vision. Ask the Lord to open your heart and understanding to perceive the heavenly sanctuary, call out to the Lord the High Priest in faith – Bless the Lord</p>	
24	<p><b>New Law.</b></p> <p>The answer to the question regarding whether we should obey the OT law or some of them, cannot be addressed fully at this point, but some things which should be considered are the following: The OT Law was not given to procure salvation. Deliverance and redemption occurred for the Israelites, prior to the giving of the Law in Exodus 20:1-17. The Law was given to God's people because they were His specially chosen people whom He had delivered from the bondage of slavery (by His choice and His grace), and so, it was right and proper for them in appreciation, to obey His every command. So the law especially the 10 commandments points us in the right direction (Galatians 3:19-25).<sup>3</sup> What is the meaning of verses 24 and 25? Shouldn't we still observe the 10 commandments? Refresh your memory on the 10 commandments and memorise them in order,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✠ Pray especially that He be God alone in your life and that no other thing might rise up and challenge His Lordship.</li> <li>✠ Pray that His name be hallowed and not taken in vain.</li> <li>✠ Pray that people learn to respect God because of the witness of our lives</li> </ul>	Exodus 20:1-17; Galatians 3:19-25
25	<p><b>Observing the Law of Christ</b></p> <p>Read Matthew 5:17-48. In a sentence, state how Jesus would like us to comply with the law?</p> <p>How do you deal with Exodus 21:24 compared with Matthew 5:38-39?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✠ Let your prayers today be that the Lord grants you strength to apply Christ's standard of application to His law.</li> </ul>	Matthew 5:17-48; Exodus 21:24
26	<p><b>Our Great commandment Matt 22:36-40.</b></p> <p><b>Our New Commandment John 13:34-35</b></p> <p>If this commandment is so important, let us ask God for a special revelation regarding it. Let us seek to put it into practice. For the observing of this commandment is the greatest testimony of our faith in Jesus. We should love God with everything because of who He is, we should love each other because He created each of us</p>	Matt 22:36-40. John 13:34-35

<sup>3</sup> R. C. Sproul Tabletalk February 2009. pg 45

	in His image.	
27	<p><b>The New man.</b> By 'New' it is not meaning 'new' in terms of time, but to the quality or nature of the Christian's character. In Ephesians chapter 4, the context (see Ephesians 2:14, 15) is that the new man encapsulates the united church, that is both Jew and Gentile in Christ Jesus. So there are characteristics that the body of Christ must portray. What do you think they are? The final verses of this chapter give us the answer (verses 25-32).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✠ Your prayer points could include some of the points you highlight.</li> <li>✠ Pray for unity in PCF (John 17:21)</li> <li>✠ Pray for the church worldwide, especially those being persecuted</li> </ul>	Ephesians 4:17-32
28	<p><b>Consider the character of the New Man</b> in Colossians 3: 8-17. The 'New man' in this passage relates to each individual believer. Write this passage out in your note book. If there are any words that you do not understand the meaning of, look it up in a bible dictionary or commentary. Sometimes it's easy to fit negative characteristics on other people, but it might be beneficial to look at ourselves and identify any of these traits that need banishing. There is also a clear description of what the character of the 'New man,' should be like. If this passage were a mirror, would the reflection be true of you? Also pay special attention to verse 10, its key to the model and patent of the 'New man,' how would you summarize it? Let your prayers today be that we be more like Jesus the Christ.</p>	Colossians 3: 8-17
29 Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2009	<p><b>The New birth</b> – John 3:1-21. The bible teaches us in Ephesians 2:1-3 that before we received Christ in our lives we were spiritually dead. The reality of this then is that it was impossible for any of us in that spiritual state to respond to God. The 'New birth' Jesus talks about in this passage is our spiritual birth. Once we have received this spiritual rebirth (born again spiritually that is), we can respond to God appropriately. What does the word 'believe' mean in John 3:16? Compare it with James 2:18-24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Let us pray that as we approach Easter, many would begin to believe in Jesus.</li> <li>▪ Let us pray that this church be a place that fosters new disciples.</li> <li>▪ Pray also that the discipleship framework will produce fruit in great abundance.</li> </ul>	John 3:1-21;

30	<p><b>New Hope</b> – read Ephesians 2:1-13. One of the most distressing states to be in is a state of hopelessness. At one time we were spiritually dead without hope and without God but NOW hallelujah we have this great hope. We who were once kept at a distance from God, because we were totally unworthy and full of sin, are now bought near to Him in Christ – praise the Lord. What does it mean to you to be in Christ? Try memorising one or two of these passages which use the ‘in Christ’ phrase: Romans 8:1; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Ephesians 1:3.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Pray that people would recognise something special and different about you.</li> <li>▪ Pray that their enquiry might give you an opportunity to share your faith so that they may realise the eternal hope in Christ Jesus</li> </ul>	Ephesians 2:1-13
31	<p><b>New Heavens and New Earth</b> – read 2 Peter 3:10-13. In which way does this passage motivate you? Does it make you think that you need to acquire more material things?</p> <p>Let us pray for a new revelation of our eternal home. Pray also that God make the things that are spiritual take on greater meaning in our lives.</p>	2 Peter 3:10-13; Revelation 21:1-8
32	<p><b>New name</b> – Read Revelation 2:17. The bible teaches us that we have a new name which will be written on a white stone. When someone was found not guilty in a court case in times of antiquity, they were given a white stone that symbolised their acquittal. Also, the winner of athletic games or gladiatorial battles, and who pleased the crowds, was given a stone which symbolised the fact they didn’t need to risk their lives in the amphitheatre of death anymore – “<i>job well done, go and enjoy your life.</i>” This really relates to us, furthermore the stone the Lord will give us will have our special name on it. Ask the Lord to reveal the name that He calls you by, your parents may have named you, but God has another one for you. What is His pet name for you? His opinion of you is the one that really counts. What do you think He thinks about you?</p>	Revelation 2:17
<p><b>Seven Days of praise and worship.</b></p> <p>Let us make the next seven days of our fast be a period where we worship and praise the King of kings and Lord of Lords. Let us exalt His name together, let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord let us write new songs and give Him praise for the Lord is good. Church, let us come and adore Him. Let us bend the knee in submission, prostrate ourselves before His presence. He alone is God and there is none like Him in all the earth. <i>Great is the Lord...</i></p>		
33	<p><b>Let your praises go first.</b> 2 Chronicles 20: 1-30 make note of the verses that relate to the statements below.</p>	2 Chronicles 20: 1-30

	<p>Vast armies came up to make war against the people of God. Found in Verse _____</p> <p>A fast was proclaimed. Verse _____</p> <p>They sought the Lord. Verse _____</p> <p>They were going to be driven away from the possession God gave them. Verse _____</p> <p>Israel didn't know what to do but kept their eyes on the Lord. Verse _____</p> <p>The battle was not theirs but God's. Verse _____</p> <p>Some Levites praised God very loudly. Verse _____</p> <p>They sang about His love and mercy enduring forever. Verse _____</p> <p>It took 3 days to collect the plunder. Verse _____</p> <p>They returned joyfully to Jerusalem. Verse _____</p> <p>Despite any challenges you might be facing, choose to give God praises. This is a sign of faith, to praise Him in adversity.</p>	
34	<p>Read 2 Chronicles 20:1-30 several times again today. Do you have some situations that are threatening to rob you of God's purpose for your life? Are you being confronted by some challenging situations? Does today's reading give you some strategies which can be applied to your present conflicts? Has the work that God has called you to, become stagnant? Have you lost direction and run out of ideas? Ask God to ignite a passion for Him once again Psalm 34:8-10</p>	(For further reading Psalm 34)
35	<p><b>The Hallelujah Psalm.</b> Psalm 135 in the Hebrew text begins and ends with the greatest word of praise – Hallelujah. Note the text in-between these great exclamations of praise. The text is declarative of God's greatness and is also full of recollections of God's salvation and deliverance in times past. Recount situations where the Lord has delivered you. As you begin to express them, begin with a hallelujah and end also, with a hallelujah. Spend time telling God how Great He is and lace your praises with ecstatic Hallelujah's. Don't worry if people hear you, we are approaching the greatest time, when we celebrate Easter, and it might be an opportunity to witness. Hallelujah Jesus did it "instead of me."</p>	Psalm 135
36 Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> April 2009	<p><b>We praise Him with the Angels and the heavenly creatures</b> which represent creation. Let us realise that our worship syncs with the worship which is going on in the presence of the Father constantly. Read today Revelation 4. I think you will agree with me that our God is truly awesome. (For further reading Nehemiah 9:6; Psalm 103:20-22; Psalm 148. do you recognise a common thread in all these passages)</p> <p>Take time to worship God in line with the revelation of His word.</p>	Revelation 4.

37	<p><b>At the birth of Jesus the wise men bowed and worshipped</b> Matthew 2:7-11 .</p> <p>When you adore someone it means you have an intense respect and admiration for that person. That feeling has to be expressed some how. It might be in the things you say about that person, it could be expressed in the way you act towards that person. God is worthy to be adored just for who He is (Psalm. 150:2). How will you express your adoration to Him today?</p> <p>Gen 17:3; Josh 5:15; Ps 95:6; Ezra 9:5; Luke 7:38.</p>	Matthew 2:7-11
38	<p>We praise God for the things He has done (Psalm 136). When we think about all He has done we have to tell Him thank you. 2 Corinthians 9:15. The threat of being mauled by lions didn't phase Daniel he still gave thanks to the Lord as per usual (Daniel 6:10). 1Thes 5:18; Col 3:17. As we approach Easter, let us especially thank God for the Blood of Christ which was shed on the cross at Calvary on our behalf. See also Psalm 107:1-2; 2 Chronicles 5:13-14.</p>	Psalm 136
39	<p>Thank God for who you are in Christ Jesus, you are God's special child with purpose victory and honour.</p>	John 15:1-8; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 2 Corinthians 5:17; 1 John 5:12-13
40	<p>Recollection, Think about the journey God has taken you on for these 40 days. What are the differences? What things have changed? Do you see yourself in a different way? Are you more appreciative of the covenant relationship you have with Him?</p> <p>Is there a passage of scripture which really ministered to you on this fast? Why not share it with someone.</p> <p>We are one body, the body of Christ, let us endeavour to build each other up in Jesus Name.</p>	

## Pre Easter 40 Days of Prayer and Fasting 2009