

The Heights 21 Days of Fasting & Prayer

2025

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 1:13 (ESV)

INTRODUCTION FROM OUR PASTOR



Dr. Randall T. Hahn, Senior Pastor

Happy New Year! Happy 2025!

A new year brings new hope, new ideas, and new good habits. A new year brings a new calendar and the events we already anticipate. Maybe a new year brings new promises, new commitments. It doesn't seem to take long before we are over all that and the realities of today settle in for good or bad. Why is that such a universal experience? Perhaps because there is no actual way to live a year. All we can live is today. I don't know if I am going to lose 25 pounds, but I can eat right today. I don't know if I am going to read my Bible or pray every day this year, but I can do that today. I don't know if I am going to be a better this year, but I can be better today. Perhaps this is why the Lord suggests instead of rejoicing over a year, rejoice over today. "This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." (Psalm 118:24) A day is good. A day is important. It's been said that all we have is today. I can't think of a better way to take on such an important thing like a day, than to start with God in prayer and in His Word. We pray this 21 Day Prayer Guide and these

21 days of prayer will be a great tool in helping you rejoice each day in our Lord. It can be a great tool in helping you set an agenda for 2025, but even more so an agenda for each day. Handle the day right and the year will come together as it should. I am praying each day we experience God's presence, provision, and guidance. I am praying we are greatly strengthened as His followers to follow Him into a year we know nothing about, but He knows everything about. I am praying we are burdened not just with our own challenges and problems, but with who we can help follow Jesus in their challenges and problems. I am praying these 21 days will have a great impact on us growing in our relationship with the Lord and helping others do the same. There is so much that can happen in these 21 days that is beyond what we would even think to pray for or ask. Do we believe that? O Lord, help our unbelief. I pray each of these 21 days sets up our whole 2025 as individuals and as a church. Thank you for joining me, joining your church family, in such a lofty task.

PRAYER AT THE CHURCH

During the 21 Days of Prayer & Fasting, the church will be open for prayer Monday through Friday, from 6:30 to 7:15am.

PREPARATION

Personal Quiet Time:

- 1. Bible or Bible app
- 2. Pen or pencil

Personal Quiet Time:

Take a minute to think about the technology you can employ to come together and pray during family prayer time. For some of us, our entire family is local and we are able to pray together in one location. Some of us may have family spread all over the country or world. In that case, we suggest utilizing tech such as: phone, FaceTime, Zoom, Teams, or WhatsApp.

12 REASONS TO FAST

You may have never considered fasting. It is not easy; it denies the flesh, but God has given us His Spirit to help when we choose to fast according to Isaiah 58. Here are twelve reasons from scripture for why you should fast:

- 1. To receive instruction, wisdom, and direction from God. *Exodus 34:28: Mark 4:1-2*
- 2. To plead for God's mercy. 2 Samuel 12:16
- 3. To gain understanding. Daniel 10:1-3. 10-14
- 4. To seek favor from God and people. *Esther 4:15-17*
- 5. For supernatural protection and deliverance. *Ezra* 8:21-23: 2 Chronicles 20:3
- 6. For God's direction and insight *Acts 13:1-5; Acts 14:23*

- 7. To confess and repent of sins and to humble yourself.

 1 Kings 21:27-29; Nehemiah 9:1-3; Daniel 9:3-5; Jonah 3:5-9
- 8. For God's intervention in situations. *Daniel 6:18*
- 9. To abstain from physical and spiritual contamination.

 Daniel 1:8
- 10. For a lifestyle of worship. Luke 2:36-37
- 11. In response to mourning. 2 Samuel 1:12; Nehemiah 1:4; Psalm 69:10
- 12. As a spiritual discipline.

 Matthew 9:14-15

FASTING TIPS



People ask what type of fasting I do. My answer to the question is always this: I ask the Holy Spirit what kind of fasting I should do. The Holy Spirit knows us. He knows our schedule and what burdens we carry during our fasting season, so He can help us with that decision. There are diverse types of fasts that I have in my fasting toolbox. I use the best for me in the season I find myself. The best thing you can do is answer the two questions below to develop a fasting plan:

- 1. What type of fast will you do?
 - a. Dry fasting no food, no water (for the purposes of very short-term fasting)
 - b. Liquid fasting water, broth, tea, or juice.
 - c. Partial fasting excluding breakfast, lunch, or dinner.
 - d. Restricted diet fasting restricting yourself to certain foods like a Daniel fast.
 - e. Combination fasting fasting from food & activities/things (TV, social media, etc.)
- 2. What will be my fasting schedule?
 - a. What day(s) are you going to fast?
 - b. When are you going to start/end your fast? (ex: 6am-12pm, 6am-3pm, 6am-6pm)
 - c. How long are you going to fast?(a day, several days, weeks, months short/long term)
 - d. How often are you going to fast?

Ask the Holy Spirit to strengthen you and help you with your fasting plan. If you have never fasted before, please take small steps. If you have medical concerns, speak to your doctor before fasting. Let us start this year with a focus on the Word of God through prayer and fasting.

MY FASTING PLAN

Type of Fasting:		
Fasting Schedule:		

DAY 1: JANUARY 6

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. God inspires all Scripture, it is helpful to teach me what is true and to make me realize what is wrong in my life. It corrects me when I am wrong and leads me to do what is right. 2 Timothy 3:16

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- Making me fearfully and wonderfully in Your image.
- The Holy Spirit who leads me into all truth.
- The power of the Gospel which continues to change me.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 4 Scripture Focus: Genesis 4:1-16

Devotional

Angela Spade, Worship Associate

In Genesis Chapter 4, we learn about the consequence of sin and gain understanding about the character of God through the story of Cain and Abel. In this true story, the brothers were to present an offering before the Lord. God was pleased with Abel's sacrifice, but He rejected Cain's offering. For centuries there have been multiple theories as to why God rejected Cain's offering. What we do know is Cain's offering did not please the Lord. In Genesis 4:5 it says Cain became "very angry and his countenance fell". He not only disobeyed God, but he allowed bitterness, envy, and anger to consume him to the point where he murdered his brother Abel. Cain did not escape the consequences for living outside of God's

way. Cain's life was forever changed because of his decisions. Although Cain sinned, we get to witness how God extended mercy and grace to him. Just as Cain had a choice to reject sin, so do we. In Genesis 4:7 (NIV), it describes sin as "crouching at the door, it desires to have you". Do not let sin consume you. If you ask the Lord for His help, He can give you the strength to fight the temptation to sin. If you have sinned, ask the Lord for His forgiveness, and experience the same grace and mercy extended to Cain. Psalm 46:1 says, "God is our refuge and strength, ever present in times of trouble." Let the Lord be your refuge and strength.

What does this passage say about me? What do I need to do to apply it to my life? Morning Prayer Points: 1. Lord, You are holy, righteous, just, faithful, and good. 2. Lord, thank You for being my refuge and strength. 3. Thank You for constantly refining me into the image of Your Son and not giving up on me. 4. Father, I need Your help, so that sin does not consume me. 5. Please forgive me for the sin that I have allowed in my life. Spend a few minutes confessing those sins. 6. Lord, I ask that You give me clean hands and a pure heart. Psalm 4:6	Scrip	oture Engaging Questions: What does	this passage say about God?
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Pray for Our Missionaries & Mission Teams

- 1. Pray for God's grace and peace over them and their family members.
- 2. Pray for their spiritual, emotional, and physical health.
- 3. Pray for God's protection over them as they travel.
- 4. Pray for open doors to connect and to share the Gospel effectively.
- 5. Pray for God's provision and the release of resources so that they are successful in their mission.
- 6. Pray for divine appointments and opportunities to strengthen the believers in their region.

DAY 2: JANUARY 7

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. It is active and alive, quick and powerful. It is the sharpest two-edged sword I must use to defend and protect. Hebrews 4:12

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- Your grace and love that continue to lead me to repentance.
- The victory I have in the name and the blood of Jesus.
- Every good work that Your Spirit is working in me.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 6 Scripture Focus: Genesis 6:5-6

Devotional

Randall T. Hahn, Senior Pastor

"The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great on the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And the Lord regretted that He had made man on the earth, and it grieved Him to His heart."

- Genesis 6:5-6

Wow! We are but a few pages into the Bible and this is the summation of creation. We are a long way from Genesis 1 and God saying that making man was "very good." What happened!? Sin. What we see here is that sin is not just breaking God's rule. Sin corrupts. It sets our heart, our life in opposition to God, our Creator, which in effect sets our heart and life in opposition to our own well-being. Our well-being is attached to our respect and love and worship of our

Creator. That's a good thing. Satan got us to believe otherwise, and everything is so corrupted now that God can only grieve. This chapter brings out so many questions. What is the Nephilim? How can God regret? Does that mean He did not know, that things turned out in a way that surprised Him? Is there really going to be a flood of the whole earth, everyone dies? These are all good questions, and a good study should deal with all of them, but when we are all done with the

answers, we can still miss the main point: sin corrupts and sets us in opposition to our Creator.

Unbelievers will mock this story with statements like, "What kind of God kills everyone, kills His own creation?" The Church is so pro-life, but it was their God that drowned babies?" Those comments might leave us feeling like we cannot defend God, can't answer for Him. These comments have no understanding of holiness and yes even, goodness. They have no understanding of sin. The comments imply that we have a greater understanding of love and justice and since this doesn't meet our

understanding, God needs to explain Himself. Well, we do not love more than God. There is literally no evidence to how faithfully and rightly we love, or execute justice. We have no standard apart from God and have kept no legitimate standard. There is not one person who would ask this that has even kept their own definition of love and justice.

God is love and justice and when we connect to Him, live in Him, we will most and best experience love and justice. Those comments have a great awe of self, but there is no life in awe of self. Life is found when our greatest awe is God.

"But the Lord of hosts, Him you shall honor as holy. Let Him be your fear, let Him be your dread."

- Isaiah 8:13

Scripture Engaging Questions: What does this passage say about God?		
What does this passage say about me?		
What do I need to do to apply it to my life?		

Morning Prayer Points:

- 1. Ask the Lord for you to be grieved over your sin, as He is. Pray we see sin as evidence of our brokenness and our broken ways, places we will not trust the Lord. May we see sin as rebellion against the very One who loves us the most.

 Psalm 51:1-4
- 2. Ask the Lord to reveal the sins in your life that need to be confessed and confess them.

 Psalm 32:1-3
- 3. Thank the Lord for His forgiveness, that you always have it.

 1 John 1:8-9: Romans 8:1
- 4. Pray our nation would be broken over sin. Pray we would stop trusting in our broken ways to find life and peace and happiness. Pray we would stop applauding and approving of sin. As we read Romans 1:26-32, confess the sins of our nation, and personalize or localize where needed. Confess where in our own lives we are actually a part of approving of sin. Let us not just see this as something "those people" do.
- Pray we can find that balance of truth and grace where we call sin, sin, but can hold out God's love and forgiveness to the sinner.

Reflection & More Prayers:

Evening Prayer Points:

Pray for Mission Partner: Love804 Builders

- 1. Pray for the safety of the volunteers.
- 2. Pray we can show the love of God to the recipients and their neighbors.
- 3. Pray for more volunteers with willing hearts to join the builders.

DAY 3: JANUARY 8

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. It is a lamp unto my path. It illuminates the darkness and keeps me from stumbling. Psalm 119:105

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- Connecting me to The Heights and the body of believers there.
- · Calling us to a season of prayer and fasting.
- The advancement of the Gospel in our communities.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 7 Scripture Focus: Genesis 7:1, 5, 16

Devotional

Joel Eguiluz, Hispanic Ministry Pastor

Judgment is here! It is sobering to read the story of Noah and the flood where "all flesh died" (v. 21). Indeed, all died except one family. How was Noah different than the rest? Many things could be said about his character, he was righteous, blameless, faithful, diligent; but one thing stands out, perhaps more than the rest in this chapter, he was obedient. The Lord would speak; Noah would do. The commands of the Lord were diligently carried out: he practiced immediate obedience. When the time came for the flood to come over all creation, Noah and his family found safety in obedience. They found their protection in being right where God had asked them to be and in doing what God had told them to do. It was the Lord Himself who closed the

door of the ark, securing their escape from judgement. They were safe as they walked in obedience. Have we built the discipline of immediate obedience? As we hear the Lord speak into our lives, through our daily devotional, life group, or sermon, do we take immediate action? Depending on the command, it can understandably feel daunting at times, but let us not fool ourselves that we would be better off ignoring and disobeying the Lord. With the Lord's help, let us work towards building the habit of immediate obedience. As the Lord speaks, I'll obey, and let God take care of the rest.

Scripture Engaging Questions: What does this passage say about God?		
Wha	t does this passage say about me?	
Wha	t do I need to do to apply it to my life?	
Mor	ning Prayer Points:	Reflection & More Prayers:
1.	Lord, thank You that there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ.	
2.	Lord, thank You that I do not have to fear the coming judgment over the earth beause Christ has paid the price of my sin.	
3.	I confess that there are areas of my life where I am not walking in obedience.	
4.	Help me see those areas if they are not obvious to me.	
5.	Help me to act and make any change necessary to walk in obedience.	
6.	Help me walk in obedience and trust that You will take care of the rest.	

Pray for Mission Partner: The Grace Project

- 1. Pray for the ministry of The Grace Project (formerly Grace Home Ministries), serving teen moms in Chester and Hopewell. Thank God for the work being done to communicate the immense value of each young woman and her child.
- 2. Pray for mentors and childcare volunteers and their work in local middle and high schools. Pray for the spiritual, emotional, and physical health.
- 3. Pray for wisdom, knowledge, and understanding for those who lead this ministry. Pray for encouragement and spiritual growth for those they serve.
- 4. Pray for community support for The Grace Project.
- 5. Pray for for opportunities for the Gospel to be shared.

DAY 4: JANUARY 9

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. God's instructions are perfect; they revive my soul and are trustworthy for making me wise. Psalm 19:7

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- The talents, gifts, and calling you deposited in me.
- The local church in which to develop and use my talents, gifts, and calling.
- · The opportunity to assemble so that we can encourage and edify one another.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 8 Scripture Focus: Genesis 8:1

Devotional

Wes Rose, Missions & Outreach Pastor

But God remembered Noah! That sounds like such an easy and obvious phrase that just rolls off our tongue so quickly and almost without thought. It is a powerful statement when it's read in the context of where Noah was in his life and physical situation. Remember, Noah was given the task of building the ark and spent years building it and, I imagine, was ridiculed for years until everyone had just written him off as "Crazy Noah" building his giant boat. I am sure the jeers and laughs continued as the animals were being gathered and loaded two by two in the ark. The crowds gathered as Noah and his family loaded themselves into the ark and watched as the ark doors slammed shut. Then the rains began. It is not recorded as to what the people on

the outside were saying or thinking, but I imagine the laughs began to guiet and as the waters began to rise the knocks began to pound on the door for Noah's neighbors, friends and acquaintances realized that what Noah said was actually taking place. In the boat with his family and animals, Noah must have felt alone and realized that the world and everything in it would die. Although alone, Hebrews 11 records Noah's faith in building the ark and being obedient to what God had asked him to do. Which brings us back to Genesis 8 where it reads "But God remembered Noah..." I think we must not forget that when God calls us to join Him in His work and purpose that obedience is the only response. Things may take longer than we thought, it may cost us

more than we expect, but God is always faithful, true and just. He is the original "promise keeper" and we can thank Him and trust in Him for that.

Scripture Engaging Questions: What does this passage say about God?		
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	t does this passage say about me?	
 Wha	t do I need to do to apply it to my life?	
Mor	ning Prayer Points:	Reflection & More Prayers:
1.	Pray that I will have the courage to fully surrender my life to God and that I want to know His purpose for me.	
2.	Pray that God will reveal His will and purpose for my life.	
3.	Pray I will be obedient in pursuing that purpose and plan He has for me.	
4.	Pray that I will be faithful and keep my eyes on Him as I am living out His plan in my life, especially when times are hard and doubt creeps in.	
5.	Let me remember His faithfulness and continually give Him thanks for giving me strength and joy.	

Pray for Mission Partner: Beacon Hill Church

- 1. Pray for Michael Moore as he leads that church in taking the Gospel to the people of Hopewell and the neighboring areas.
- 2. Pray for the weekly Free Food Friday events. Pray that meeting physical needs would lead to meeting spiritual needs.
- 3. Pray that the influence and impact of the church would continue to grow with local government, first responders, and education leadership.
- 4. Pray that support continues to grow and that more churches will grow in their understanding of what it means to move from "missions" to "missional."
- 5. Pray that the backpack ministry continues to grow and, not only impact our area, but ministers to the unsheltered in hard to reach locations.

DAY 5: **JANUARY 10**

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. God's commands are clear and proper; they give me insight into living and bring joy to my soul. Psalm 19:8

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- Using The Heights to help me grow in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- The mission and vision of The Heights and how it involves my family and me.
- The unity and peace we enjoy at The Heights.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 9

Scripture Focus: Genesis 9:1; 12-17

Devotional

Ronnie West, Education Pastor

And God blessed Noah... Boy, it had been a long time! Noah was 500 years old and God led him to build the ark. The flood came 100 years later when he was 600. God had made a covenant with Noah and during those long years, Noah did all that he was commanded. He must have endured terrible hardship at the hands of all the ungodly people who I am sure thought he had lost his mind. But God found him to be blameless. Not sinless. Yet. Noah did walk in holiness. Eventually the floods came and he and his family were all that was left. And the Bible tells us that God blessed him. God's blessings were not contingent on Noah, rather they were contingent on God's faithfulness! We also see this in 2 Timothy 2:13, where it tells us that God remains

faithful even when we are faithless because He cannot deny Himself. He was in a covenant relationship with Noah, just as we are in with Him today. That's great news! And the rainbow! Every time we see it we are reminded of His faithfulness. Do you need encouragement today? Look up! He is near and loves you faithfully. He will not leave you when everything around you seems to be going all wrong. Noah endured and came out blessed. Trust in the Lord today!

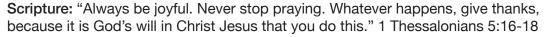
Scri	pture Engaging Questions: What does	this passage say about God?
Wha	at does this passage say about me?	
 	at do I need to do to apply it to my life?	
Mor	ning Prayer Points:	Reflection & More Prayers:
1.	Praise and thank the Lord for His faithfulness.	
2.	Ask God for wisdom in decision making today.	
3.	Pray for God to increase your faith and ability to trust Him in difficult times.	
4.	Ask Christ for forgiveness in any area of your life where you have allowed the enemy to have victory.	

Pray for Mission Partner: Bulawayo Baptist Church, Zimbabwe

- 1. Pray for Jeff & Tammy Scorziel as they team-lead Bulawayo Baptist Church (BBC) in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.
- 2. Pray that their egg program nourishes those who receive the eggs and that this program gives them hope and an openness to the Gospel.
- 3. Pray that the livestock being raised to support the churches and pastors in Bulawayo will flourish and be protected from disease.
- 4. Pray that Bulawayo Baptist will continue to be a light in the darkness and that the church will produce strong leaders to expand the impact of their ministry in the area.
- 5. Pray for the country of Zimbabwe. Pray that there would be Christian leaders in areas of influence and that the country would prosper and God would receive the glory.
- 6. Pray for rain to fall in this current drought. Pray that the Lord will use this drought to increase the influence of BBC to reach the farmers and communities with the Gospel.







Direction: Those of us who have local friends and family may be able to pray together in one location. Some of us have family spread all over the country/world. Take a minute to think about the technology you may employ in order to come together and pray.

Technology: Phone, FaceTime, Zoom, Teams, and WhatsApp

X

Coordinate with your family/friends a good time you can pray together. This prayer quide is flexible, so if the weekend is not good and a weekday works better, you can swap out or move the day you pray together.

Have something to write down prayer requests so you can continue to pray for them during the week.

Invite someone to share a scripture passage or verse that spoke to them this week:

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. I know that God's word will not return to Him empty. It will accomplish His desire in my life. Isaiah 55:11

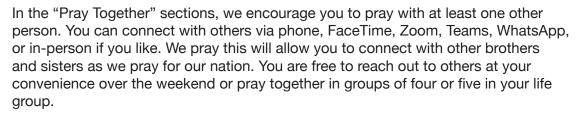
Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- The significant and beautiful plans for me and my family this year.
- Your Word and how it will accomplish its purpose in my life, family, and community.
- Preparing and giving me the boldness to share the Gospel with my family and friends.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Have each person share. A praise report or one or two things for which they are thankful:		

ave each person share.		
ne or two prayer requests:		

JANUARY 12 *Pray Together



Pray for Our Nation

Scripture: "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. I will continue to study this instruction book. I will meditate on it day and night and obey everything written in it so I can succeed in everything I do. Joshua 1:8

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- The whole armor of God provided for me to stand against the devil's schemes.
- The weapons of our warfare are not carnal; they are mighty through God.
- Thank you for how You will glorify Your name through Your church this year.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Prayer Points:

X

- 1. Cry out on behalf of our nation. Ask God to show us mercy as we repent and turn from our wicked ways.
- 2. Pray for God-fearing men and women to occupy the different offices in our nation.
- 3. Pray for Godly men and women with integrity who will do what is right according to God's Word.
- 4. Pray for our nation's leaders to serve with godly wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- 5. Pray for our president, vice president, cabinet members, governors, and those leading our nation to exercise their office with integrity.
- 6. Pray for our leaders to have the courage to do what is right, not to lean on their understanding, but to acknowledge God in all their ways.

- 7. Pray for God's blessing on every office and every person occupying the office. Ask for God's grace to serve the people and do their job well.
- 8. Pray for revival in our hearts, homes, communities, and nation.
- 9. Pray against outbreaks of plagues and diseases in our nation.
- 10. Pray against bloodshed and destructive activities in our nation.
- 11. Pray against internal conflicts, rioting, and violence.
- 12. Pray for peace in our nation and unity for the branches of the government to work together.
- 13. Pray for God's mercy over the innocent blood crying against our nation.
- 14. Pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to convict of sin, judgment, and righteousness.
- 15. Pray against evil agendas, programs, and laws that destroy our liberty, freedom, peace, and resources.
- 16. Pray that evil promoted as good, and good promoted as evil in our nation be reversed.
- 17. Pray against corruption, lawlessness, immorality, and abuse of authority in every office in this nation.
- 18. Pray for the exposure of agencies and leaders abusing their power and authority.
- 19. Pray for revoking every national ordinance designed to limit our ability to proclaim the Gospel in this nation.
- 20. Pray for the healing of our nation from sin, disease, violence, greed, racism, and disunity.
- 21. Pray that the Church be an instrument of healing in our land.

DAY 8: **JANUARY 13**

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. God inspires all Scripture and is helpful to teach me what is true and to make me realize what is wrong in my life. It corrects me when I am wrong and leads me to do what is right. 2 Timothy 3:16

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- Making me fearfully and wonderfully in Your image.
- The Holy Spirit who leads me into all truth.
- The power of the Gospel which continue to change me.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan & Scripture Focus: Genesis 11

Devotional

Dale Wilbur, Worship Arts Pastor

In Genesis 11, we read the story of the Tower of Babel. This account does not fall after chapter 10 chronologically, but actually occurs during chapter 10 with the mention of Peleg. The people of the earth were growing at a rapid pace. obedient to the command to "be fruitful and multiply". But as their population grew, their hearts moved further and further from God. This story serves as a powerful reminder of the consequences of human pride and disobedience. The people of Babel sought to build a tower that reached the heavens, a symbol of their desire to defy God and make a name for themselves. However, God saw their actions and, in his divine wisdom. decided to scatter them and confuse their languages. Think, God just sent the flood to wipe out mankind because of their sin.

He left Noah and his family to repopulate the earth. And what does mankind do with this new lease on life? They begin to defy God, again. Their dispersion was a humbling moment for humanity, a reminder that no matter how powerful we may think we are, we are ultimately subject to the will of God. As we reflect on this story and our own actions towards God, let us remember to approach our lives with humility and obedience. Let us not be consumed by pride and selfish ambition, but instead seek to serve God and glorify His name. May we learn from the mistakes of those at Babel and as we move into this new year, striving to align ourselves with God's will, trusting in his plan for our lives.

Scripture Engaging Questions: What does this passage say about God?		
Wha	t does this passage say about me?	
Wha	at do I need to do to apply it to my life?	
Mor	ning Prayer Points:	Reflection & More Prayers:
1.	Help me to realize that You have a perfect plan for my life.	
2.	In what areas of my life am I building towers that separate me from You?	
3.	How can I serve Your purpose and plan today?	
4.	Help me to draw closer to You today.	

Pray for Mission Partner: Feed More, Meals on Wheels

- 1. Pray for Feed More as they collect, prepare, and distribute meals to neighbors across twenty-nine counties and five cities.
- 2. Pray the volunteers will not grow weary of doing good and that their love for those they serve will continue to grow. Pray for their health and safety.
- 3. Pray for the neighbors this organization serves. Pray they will feel care for and valued that the love of Christ is communicated to them.

DAY 9: **JANUARY 14**

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, can separate me from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:38-39

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- The gift of prayer and Your promise to always hear our calls to You.
- Your constant presence in my life that guides and comforts me.
- The countless opportunities that come with a new day.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 12 Scripture Focus: Genesis 12:1-9

Devotional

Dylan Aarum, Middle School Pastor

It is often difficult to move forward when we don't know the full plan or have the whole picture. The fear of the unknown can paralyze us, even when we know that the best thing for us is to move. Abram presents a powerful example of faith and obedience for us. When God called Abram to leave behind everything he knew, his country, his people, and his father's house, he responded with remarkable trust. He stepped into the unknown, relying on God's promises to guide him. Abram's famous journey helps us understand that faith often requires us to let go of the things we find security in and the comfort that comes with familiarity so that we can learn to depend solely on the Lord and His plan

for our lives. Abram's story reminds us that God's promises are often fulfilled through our commitment to trust Him and our willingness to move forward when the destination remains unclear. As you reflect on your own life, do your thoughts and actions reflect a committed trust in the Lord? Are you willing to move forward in faith when God has not revealed the full plan? If the answer is yes, keep saying yes to the Lord each day. If it's no, ask yourself what is keeping you from being able to say yes, and then decide what needs to change so that you can have the kind of faith and obedience that Abram exemplified in this passage.

Scripture Engaging Questions: What does this passage say about God?			
Wha	at does this passage say about me?		
	at do I need to do to apply it to my life?		
Mor	ning Prayer Points:	Reflection & More Prayers:	
1.	Lord, help me to have the faith to trust in Your direction for my life, even when the path ahead is unclear.		
2.	Lord, give me the strength to respond obediently to Your calling on my life.		
3.	Lord, help me to seek Your help in holding onto Your promises with confidence, trusting that You are faithful to fulfill what You have spoken, no matter the circumstances.		
4.	Lord, thank You for the plan You have divinely appointed over my life, help me to live in step with it each and every day.		
5.	Lord, as Abram was called to be a blessing to all nations, help me to find opportunities to be a blessing to those around me.		

Pray for Mission Partner: Gideons International

- 1. Pray that Gideons International can continue to get Scripture into the hands of millions of lost people here and around the world.
- 2. Pray that people are supernaturally drawn to the Scriptures they are given.
- 3. Pray that the Gideons would continue to grow in financial support as they provide the Scriptures free of charge.
- 4. Pray for the Scriptures to be placed in closed countries and areas of the world that are hard to reach. Pray that the hearts of those who receive them are open to the Gospel and fertile soil in which the Word will grow.

DAY 10: JANUARY 15

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. It is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. It illuminates the darkness and keeps me from stumbling. Psalm 119:105

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- Connecting me to The Heights and the body of believers there.
- Calling us to a season of prayer and fasting.
- The advancement of the Gospel in our communities.
- · Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 15 Scripture Focus: Genesis 15:1-6

Devotional

Eric Heatherly, Children's Pastor

Whether we like to admit it or not, each of us has experienced doubt. Doubt in ourselves and doubt in what God has in store. Our lack of sovereignty can get in the way of the reality that our Heavenly Father alone is sovereign, meaning He is in control and powerful over all things. One truth that we circle back to often in the children's ministry is this: God always keeps His promises. Abram, the man who uprooted his family in the pursuit of God, at times struggled with doubt. God says to "fear not" and what follows is "But Abram said...". Abram was struggling to see God's promises and provision beyond his immediate situation. With one look upward to the vastness of the sky and stars God reminded Abram that

His promises could be trusted. With that, Abram believed. And in God's eyes that was credited to Abram as righteous. What about you? What's got your focus off the promises of God? Where do you need to remember that God is sovereign? Whatever it is, believe; and remember that God always keeps His promises.

Scripture Engaging Questions: What does this passage say about God?		
Wha	t does this passage say about me?	
Wha	t do I need to do to apply it to my life?	
Mor	ning Prayer Points:	Reflection & More Prayers:
1.	Father, help me to see the areas of my life that You are working in what may seem to be small but will produce great results.	
2.	Father, let Your Word take root deep in my heart so that it will impact every area of my life.	
3.	Father, help me to see the growth in others so that I may encourage them to persevere in the faith.	
4.	Father, help me to be patient to wait on your Holy Spirit to work in me so that I do not try to force things in my own power.	
5.	Father, thank You for Your providence in my life. Help me to trust that You are working even when I do not see the results as quickly as I would like.	

Pray for Mission Partner: ReGenesis

- 1. Pray that ReGenesis will significantly impact the communities it serves through its recovery programs and thrift stores.
- 2. Pray for the salvation and spiritual growth of the people in the communities ReGenesis serves. Pray for wisdom and discernment for the ministry leaders.
- 3. Pray specifically for the James, Esther, and Varina recovery homes. Pray the students can find respite from the strongholds on their lives. Pray they find their hope in Jesus and take the next steps in discipleship.
- 4. Pray for the new "Hannah's Home" opening soon. This 12-month recovery program will serve mothers and their babies, allowing babies to stay with their mothers from day one.
- 5. Pray for the safety, spiritual, emotional, and physical health of those serving and supporting all the ministries and programs under the ReGenesis umbrella.

DAY 11: JANUARY 16

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. God's instructions are perfect; they revive my soul and are trustworthy for making me wise. Psalm 19:7

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- The talents, gifts, and calling You deposited in me.
- · The local church to develop and use my talents, gifts, and calling.
- The opportunity to assemble so that we can encourage and edify one another.
- · Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 16 Scripture Focus: Genesis 16:1-6

Devotional

Rico Patterson, Assistant Preaching Pastor

Have you ever been in a situation where it didn't seem like God was working fast enough? I think we all have experienced tdifficult times and we wished Jesus would fix our problem right now. The temptation is that if God doesn't fix my problem right now, then I will do whatever it takes to fix it myself. But just as Sarah and Abraham made a mistake when they decided to create a child on their own. we are also making a mistake anytime we don't wait on the Lord. For even though we may be sincerely trying to do what is right, we need to learn that God does not want or need our fleshly help (Isaiah 44:24). For God made the heavens, the earth, you and me, and everything in this world all by Himself, therefore, He doesn't need our fleshly help to accomplish

His will. All He wants us to do is simply believe, trust and wait on Him. Therefore, no matter what you're going through, trust and wait on the Lord for God's way is the only way (Isaiah 40:28-31).

Scripture Engaging Questions: What does this passage say about God?		
Wha	t does this passage say about me?	
Wha	t do I need to do to apply it to my life?	
Morning Prayer Points:		Reflection & More Prayers:
1.	Lord, help me to be patient and wait on You.	
2.	God, give me the wisdom to not go out and do things on my own.	
3.	Just like Jesus, help me to realize that Your blessings often come through suffering.	
4.	Father, teach me that true strength comes by waiting and depending on You.	
5.	Thank You, Lord, for using me and blessing me despite the many times I have tried to fix things on my own.	

Pray for Mission Partner: Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA)

- 1. Pray for Alan Thompson, that he finds favor with local school administration, athletic directors, and coaches.
- 2. Pray that the student athlete leaders are standing for what is right among their peers.
- 3. Pray that the FCA continues to encourage and minister to the coaches who have had incredible impact and influence in the lives of their athletes.
- 4. Pray that our partnership with FCA and Richard Bland College continues to provide opportunities for service and to bring the Gospel to students there.

DAY 12: JANUARY 17

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. God's commands are clear and proper; they give me insight into living and bring joy to my soul. Psalm 19:8

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- Using The Heights to help me grow in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- The mission and vision of The Heights and how it involves my family and me.
- The unity and peace we enjoy at The Heights
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan & Scripture Focus: Genesis 17

Devotional

Ryan Flug, Music Associate

Can God do the impossible? Do we trust, pray, and believe for God to move in what might seem unlikely? Genesis 17 follows Abraham and Sarah's sinful decision to use Sarah's servant Hagar to continue their family lineage. Despite their shortcoming, the Lord later appears to Abraham, detailing an everlasting covenant He wanted to make with Abraham. This covenant promised many blessings, including the land of Canaan and generations of descendants within Abraham's lineage. As part of the covenant, the Lord told Abraham that his wife Sarah would bear a son - at the age of ninety. This seemed illogical and, to be frank, quite funny to Abraham! Reacting to what the Lord said, Abraham "fell facedown; he laughed." How could Sarah have a child? At ninety?

Abraham knew that God promised him descendants - but could it be possible like this? Nonetheless, the Lord assured Abraham that this was true, changed their names from Abram and Sarai to Abraham and Sarah, and required all males to be circumcised, which Abraham and his household obeyed. God not only gave Abraham his son Isaac through a seemingly impossible circumstance, but through his lineage, brought the Savior, Jesus, into the world. God operates in ways we may not understand and uses methods that might not make sense to us, but we are called to trust that He knows best, and that He ultimately works everything for His good and glory (Romans 8:28). When we are faced with a seemingly impossible situation, we need to have a bold faith, rely on God's

character and faithfulness in the past, and trust that He will provide for us. In James, we are encouraged to "believe and not doubt" when we come before Him in prayer (James 1:6). Just like Abraham, even if we never see the complete result of our faith in our lifetime, we can choose

to trust that God will move and work despite our weaknesses or shortcomings. When we operate in bold faith in a merciful and omniscient Savior, it's impossible to predict the work God will do in and through us.

Scri	pture Engaging Questions: What does	this passage say about God?	
Wha	at does this passage say about me?		
Wha	at do I need to do to apply it to my life?		
Mor	ning Prayer Points:	Reflection & More Prayers:	
1.	Pray and believe for what might seem impossible (James 1:6). What person or situation do you need to bring boldly before the Lord?		
2.	Thank God for His ability to save, heal, and provide (Mark 10:27).		
3.	Thank God for His sovereignty over each step of your life and pray for faith to trust in His plan (Proverbs 3:5-6).		
4.	Pray for others to see the hope and faith you have in God through the life you live and through your testimony.		
5.	Worship God for His presence and nearness to you in each step along life's journey.		

Pray for Mission Partner: Vidrozhenya Church, Ukraine

- 1. Pray for Pastor Leonid and his wife, Anna, as they minister to the believers in Kalynivka, Ukraine.
- 2. Pray for those who are directly affected by the war in Ukraine. Many have lost loved ones and have friends and family in harm's way.
- 3. Pray that the Gospel flourishes amid chaos and despair and that the hearts of the Ukrainian people will be open to receive it.
- 4. Pray for Todd & Veronika Gallagher and their family as they minister to all those around them, both in the church and the community.
- 5. Pray for the protection of the Church in Ukraine and for the believers there to be encouraged even as the war continues.
- 6. Pray for peace in the region so that we can send teams to help them rebuild physically, emotionally, and spiritually.



JANUARY 18 Family Prayer Time,



Scripture: "Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Whatever happens, give thanks, because it is God's will in Christ Jesus that you do this." 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Direction: Those of us who have local friends and family may be able to pray together in one location. Some of us have family spread all over the country/world. Take a minute to think about the technology you may employ in order to come together and pray.

Technology: Phone, FaceTime, Zoom, Teams, and WhatsApp

X

Coordinate with your family/friends a good time you can pray together. This prayer guide is flexible, so if the weekend is not good and a weekday works better, you can swap out or move the day you pray together.

Have something to write down prayer requests so you can continue to pray for them during the week.

Invite someone to share a scripture passage or verse that spoke to them this week:

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. I know that God's word will not return to Him empty. It will accomplish His desire in my life. Isaiah 55:11

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- The significant and beautiful plans for me and my family this year.
- Your Word and how it will accomplish its purpose in my life, family, and community.
- Preparing and giving me the boldness to share the Gospel with my family and friends.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Have each person share.						
A praise report or one or two things for which they are thankful:						
	_					

ave each person share.		
ne or two prayer requests:		
, , ,		

DAY 14:

JANUARY 19 *Pray Together*



In the "Pray Together" sections, we encourage you to pray with at least one other person. You can connect with others via phone, FaceTime, Zoom, Teams, WhatsApp, or in-person if you like. We pray this will allow you to connect with other brothers and sisters as we pray for our nation. You are free to reach out to others at your convenience over the weekend or pray together in groups of four or five in your life group.

Pray for Our Community

Scripture: "And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare." Jeremiah 29:7 (NLT)

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. I will continue to study this instruction book. I will meditate on it day and night and obey everything written in it so I can succeed in everything I do. Joshua 1:8

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- The whole armor of God provided for me to stand against the devil's schemes.
- The weapons of our warfare are not carnal; they are mighty through God.
- Thank you for how You will glorify Your name through Your church this year.
- · Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Prayer Points:

X

- 1. Pray that the light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ shines in our community.
- 2. Pray against every anti-Gospel agenda in our community.
- 3. Pray for new and innovative ways to advance the Gospel in our community.
- 4. Pray for favor, open doors, and excellent opportunities to advance the gospel.
- 5. Pray for the reversal of bad rules, regulations, and laws which have negative results in our community.
- 6. Pray that the Lord gives our community leaders the grace to lead and serve excellently.
- 7. Pray that our community leaders serve with Godly wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- 8. Pray for our community leaders to have the grace to do what is right.

- 9. Pray for God's wisdom and protection over our university presidents, school board members, superintendents, principals, and teachers.
- 10. Pray that God will give our governor, city mayors, county supervisors, and elected officials' wisdom to serve our communities.
- 11. Pray for the release of souls of men and women, boys, and girls, young and old, in our communities to the hearing of the Gospel.
- 12. Pray for the shutdown of drug dens, crack houses, pill mills, human trafficking centers, and any other place where wickedness and sin operate in our communities.
- 13. Pray for the heavens to open over our communities so that the Holy Spirit can convict of sin, judgment, and righteousness.
- 14. Pray for the removal of local ordinance designed to frustrate our ability to proclaim the gospel in our communities.
- 15. Pray against the spread of sickness, diseases, and viruses in our community and state.
- 16. Pray against the enemy's desires, expectations, and plans, to kill, steal, and destroy.
- 17. Pray that our communities will accept and embrace God's desires, expectations, plans, and agenda.
- 18. Pray that all the churches in our communities will be empowered to reach the lost.
- 19. Pray for revival in (Insert the town/city/county you live in).
- 20. Pray for a harvest of souls into God's kingdom all over our communities this year in Jesus' name.

DAY 15: JANUARY 20

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. God inspires all Scripture and is helpful to teach me what is true and to make me realize what is wrong in my life. It corrects me when I am wrong and leads me to do what is right. 2 Timothy 3:16

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- Making me fearfully and wonderfully in Your image.
- The Holy Spirit who leads me into all truth.
- The power of the Gospel which continues to change me.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan & Scripture Focus: Genesis 18

Devotional

Jordan West, Young Adults Pastor

Abraham praying on behalf of the people of Sodom, pleading with God to spare the city if even a few righteous individuals can be found, is striking and challenging. Sodom is known as one of the most wicked and evil cities, and yet we see the godly praying for their salvation. This passage invites us to reflect on our own hearts: Do we find ourselves delighting more in the destruction of the wicked or in their salvation? Abraham's example, combined with the profound truth that Christ loved us even while we were still His enemies (Romans 5:8), challenges us to cultivate a heart that desires mercy over judgment. When we struggle to delight in the salvation of our enemies, we fundamentally misunderstand the gravity of our own sin and the depth of

gratitude we should feel for the grace we've received. As followers of Christ, let us ask God to align our hearts with His, delighting in the salvation of the lost and recognizing that His grace is extended to all, including ourselves.

Scripture Engaging Questions: What does this passage say about God?
What does this passage say about me?
What do I need to do to apply it to my life?

Morning Prayer Points:

- 1. Pray for a heart of compassion:
 Lord, give us hearts of compassion
 like Christ, who looked upon the lost
 with love and concern.
 Matthew 9:36 "When he saw the
 crowds, he had compassion for
 them, because they were harassed
 and helpless, like sheep without a
 shepherd."
- Pray for boldness in sharing the gospel: Lord, grant us the boldness of the early church to speak Your Word without fear, even in the face of opposition. Empower us to share the gospel with those around us, trusting in Your strength. Acts 4:29 - "And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness."

- Father, we lift up our community to You, asking for peace, healing, and a hunger for Your truth. Help us to intercede faithfully for our neighbors and leaders, trusting that You hear our prayers.
 - 1 Timothy 2:1-2 "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way."
- God, we ask that You open doors for us to reach out to those who do not know You. Provide opportunities for us to serve, love, and share the gospel in our community and beyond.

Colossians 4:3 - "At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ..."

Reflection & More Prayers:							

Pray for Mission Partner: Prison Fellowship

- 1. Pray for the safety of the volunteers leading this ministry.
- 2. Pray unsaved inmates and staff would come to Christ.
- 3. Pray that, once released, the inmates would go out into the world and share the Gospel with others.

DAY 16: JANUARY 21

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. It is the sharpest two-edged sword I must use to defend and protect. Hebrews 4:12

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- Your grace and love that continue to lead me to repentance.
- The victory I have in the name and the blood of Jesus.
- Every good work that Your Spirit is working in me.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 19 Scripture Focus: Genesis 19:26

Devotional

Shay Osborne, Discipleship Pastor

"But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt."

There's so much we could talk about in Genesis 19 but the thing we want to focus on today is the seriousness of one sin before God. One sin that we might even think is kind of small, not that big a deal. There are worse things that Lot's wife could have done than just look back. There may have been more going on here, but the text just says all she did was turn her head and look back. But, in that moment her heart was turned to the things that her life in Sodom offered. In that moment she disobeyed and looked back. And in that moment, she was gone.

So far in Genesis we have seen lots of God's judgment against sin. Some of the

sin may have seemed big to us and some, like perhaps Lot's wife's sin, doesn't seem like that big of a deal. This account of Lot's wife reminds us of the seriousness of even the "little" sins. No matter how small we might think a sin is we should remember, that it is an offense before the infinitely holy God of the universe. This can be overwhelming when you look at your life and my life, and we've committed thousands of them, thousands of sins against the infinitely holy God of the universe. Indeed, we all deserve infinite judgment.

BUT...this makes what Jesus did on the cross all the more glorious, infinitely glorious, because at the cross he paid the full price for all of our sin, big and small. All of the judgment we deserve, he took it all upon Himself, for all who trust in him. So let's praise Jesus today in a fresh way for taking the full judgment we deserve

upon himself. And in the process, let's pray that God would help us to avoid any sin today, that we would not classify sin as small "in any way" before a holy God.

Scripture Engaging Questions: What does this passage say about God?
What does this passage say about me?
What do I need to do to apply it to my life?

Morning Prayer Points:

- 1. Take time to confess sin, even the small ones, to God.
- 2. Praise Jesus for covering our sins, both "great" and "small".
- 3. Praise God for His mercy, without which we would be separated from Him forever, enduring the judgment we deserve.
- Praise God, for loving us, the world, so much that You have sent Your son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins.
- 5. Praise Jesus, the one who bore the wrath we deserve in order that we

- might experience righteousness and eternal life, we could never earn.
- Pray that God would help you to turn from every temptation, that He would keep you from classifying any sin as small.
- 7. Pray for help to live in righteousness and holiness, that you might not glance the wrong way, that your every thought, your every desire, your every word, your every action would be pure and pleasing to God.

Reflection & More Prayers:					

Pray for Mission Partner: SBC of Virginia - Disaster Relief & English as a Second Language (ESL)

- 1. Pray for our local convention which provides leadership, support, and resources to local churches.
- 2. Pray for the Disaster Relief volunteers serving immediately following a crisis.
- 3. Pray for those who lead ESL, teaching English and supporting those who benefit, not only from the lessons but from making new connections in the community.

DAY 17: JANUARY 22

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. It is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. It illuminates the darkness and keeps me from stumbling. Psalm 119:105

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- Connecting me to The Heights and the body of believers there.
- Calling us to a season of prayer and fasting.
- The advancement of the Gospel in our communities.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 20 Scripture Focus: Genesis 20:3

Devotional

Jerry Witte, Next Generation Pastor

"But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night and said to him, 'Behold, you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife."

Genesis 20 tells a remarkable story of God's unwavering grace and protection. Driven by fear, Abraham tells King Abimelech that Sarah is his sister. While this is a half-truth, it conceals the most crucial fact—Sarah is his wife. Abraham's fear nearly jeopardized God's promise, but God's faithfulness prevailed.

What makes this story so powerful is not just Abraham's failure but God's incredible intervention. Even when Abraham's fear led him astray, God stepped in to protect Sarah and uphold His promise. He spoke directly to Abimelech in a dream,

safeguarding Sarah's purity and ensuring His plan would not be derailed by human error.

This is a beautiful reminder that our mistakes never hinder God's purposes. Just as He redeemed Abraham's missteps, God can work through our own weaknesses and failures. We may stumble, make decisions out of fear, or feel like we've gone too far off track, but God's grace is greater. His plans are sovereign, and He is constantly working to bring about good in our lives, even when we falter.

Let this story inspire you to trust in God's unfailing faithfulness. No mistake is too great for Him to redeem. When fear clouds your judgment, remember that His

oture Engaging Questions: What does	this passage say about God?
t does this passage say about me?	
t do I need to do to apply it to my life?	
Gratitude for God's Faithfulness: Thank God for His unwavering	Reflection & More Prayers:
Trust in God's Protection and Plan: Ask God to help you trust in His protection and plan when fear attempts to control you.	
Courage to Live in Faith: Ask God to give you the courage to live by faith,	
knowing that He is always with you, guiding and protecting the course of your life.	
	faithfulness in your life. Trust in God's Protection and Plan: Ask God to help you trust in His protection and plan when fear attempts to control you. Courage to Live in Faith: Ask God to

Pray for Mission Partner: Colonial Heights Food Pantry (CHFP)

- 1. The Colonial Heights Food Pantry provided over 483,000 meals in 2023. Pray for the people and communities it serves. Pray for opportunities for the Gospel. We want their souls to be fed in addition to their physical bodies.
- 2. Thank God for the staff and volunteers. Pray for wisdom, knowledge, and understanding for those who lead this ministry.
- 3. Pray for the needed support and resources to be provided for the CHFP.
- 4. Pray for the safety and needs of those who serve in/with this ministry.

DAY 18: JANUARY 23

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice. Song recommendation: *Goodness of God* by CeCe Winans

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. God's instructions are perfect, and He keeps His promises. His Word revives my soul and are trustworthy for making me wise. Psalm 19:7

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- The talents, gifts, and calling You deposited in me.
- The local church to develop and use my talents, gifts, and calling.
- The opportunity to assemble so that we can encourage and edify one another.
- · Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 21 Scripture Focus: Genesis 21:1-8

Devotional

Ethan Meadows, High School Pastor

Have you ever experienced a broken promise or a time when someone didn't keep their word? How did that make you feel? You probably felt angry, frustrated, sad, upset, or a host of other emotions. Situations like this change how we interact with others, and it affects our relationship with God as well. Notice in Genesis 21:1 there are three words repeated two separate times - "as he had" - these words hold significant value, and we need to be reminded of a simple truth. God keeps His word and keeps His promises. God promised Abraham and Sarah they would have a son, but it wasn't until the ages of 100 and 90 they became parents. I don't know about you, but I have yet to wait triple-digit years for

God to answer a promise in my life and I doubt you have either. However, what if you did have to wait? Would you be okay with that? Would that change how you view and trust God's plan for your life? The question isn't so much about whether God is faithful or not (He most certainly is), the better question to ask is this: are we patient in waiting for Him to do what He said He is going to do? He can and He will keep every promise! You can hold on to that today, and every day for the rest of your life.

Scri _l	pture Engaging Questions: What does	this passage say about God?
	t does this passage say about me?	
Wha	t do I need to do to apply it to my life?	
Mor	ning Prayer Points:	Reflection & More Prayers:
1.	Thank the Lord that He has called you to repentance and that, no matter where you are, He sees you.	
2.	Ask the Lord, "What are ways I am not being patient in my life?"	
3.	Father, how can I use what you have blessed me with to serve others?	
4.	Lord, may I never live my life for man's approval, but only for Yours!	
5.	Ask God to give you faith to trust Him when circumstances are difficult and don't make sense.	
6.	Praise the Lord that He does not look on your size or stature and that you can be used for the Kingdom no matter your past.	

Pray for those connecting to The Heights.

- 1. Pray for God's grace and peace on them and their family.
- 2. Pray they feel God's love and presence.
- 3. Pray whatever connects them to The Heights will lead them to the next steps in following Jesus.
- 4. Pray they feel at home and welcomed at The Heights.
- 5. Pray they connect with other brothers and sisters.
- 6. Pray they come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.
- 7. Pray they have a heart ready for the Word of God.

DAY 19: JANUARY 24

Praise & Worship: Take some time to sing praises to the Lord. He longs to hear your voice.

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. God's commands are clear and proper; they give me insight into living and bring joy to my soul. Psalm 19:8

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- Using The Heights to help me grow in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- The mission and vision of The Heights and how it involves my family and me.
- The unity and peace we enjoy at The Heights.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Bible Reading Plan: Genesis 22 Scripture Focus: Genesis 22:1-14

Devotional

Mike Osborne, Executive Pastor

Genesis 22 is a story of faithfulness, trust, and obedience. It is the story of God calling Abraham to sacrifice his son Isaac. In verse 1, we read "God tested Abraham." In this experience, the genuineness of Abraham's obedience to God is tested. It is not an occasion in which God is trying to show Abraham's failure but rather providing him the opportunity to express the fullness of his faith. The depth of Abraham's love of God as shown in his willingness to sacrifice his son is also an amazing picture of God's greater love revealed in sending His Son to be our sacrifice.

God tells Abraham to go to the Land of Moriah and offer Isaac as a burnt offering. In verses 3 and 4, we see part of Abraham's response. "So, Abraham rose early in the morning..." (verse 3) "On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar." (verse 4) God tested Abraham's obedience, and his response was both immediate (rose early) and sustained (third day). That obedience was also shown to be complete as verses 9 and 10 record Abraham placing Isaac on the altar and raising the knife. Then, we see God's response in verse 12 – "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know you fear God seeing as you have not withheld your son."

Through his expression of obedience and God's faithful provision of a ram, Abraham discovers a new name for God, Jehovah-Jireh, which we translate "God will provide" (verse 14) but which could also

provided, may we also ask ourselves, be translated "The Lord will be seen." As we reflect on this event in the life of "How is the Lord being seen in our lives and obedience?" Abraham and remember all that God has Scripture Engaging Questions: What does this passage say about God? What does this passage say about me? What do I need to do to apply it to my life? **Morning Prayer Points:** Reflection & More Prayers: 1. Lord, help me not to be distracted and to be able to focus on what Your word teaches me today. 2. Father, thank You for giving us the Bible and for its trustworthiness. 3. Lord, I delight in Your word. I will not forget it. I will store it in my heart. 4. Lord, today I thank You for my afflictions that have led me to Your Word.

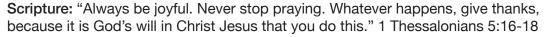
Pray for Mission Partner: Chosen Children Ministries, Nicaragua

- 1. Pray for Chosen Children Ministries and their staff, both here in the U.S. and in Nicaragua. Pray specifically for the 25 churches and their pastors that have been planted in barrios throughout Nicaragua.
- 2. Pray for the salvation of Nicaraguans who have not yet accepted Christ as their Savior. Pray for hearts to be softened and minds opened. Lord, protect them from the confusion of the false teachers that go into these same neighborhoods and teach false doctrine or other religions.
- 3. Pray for their physical needs. Unemployment is as high as 80% in many of these barrios. Wages can be as little as \$2.00/day. Healthcare and access to good food, medicine, and life-saving treatment is not easily available.
- 4. Pray for those struggling with alcohol or drug addiction. Pray that these addictions would no longer have a hold on them.
- 5. Be in prayer for the children of the area. Many cannot attend school because they do not have the funds to purchase uniforms, clothing, and supplies.
- 6. Pray for the three teams from The Heights that travel to Nicaragua in the winter, summer, and fall. Pray for all the other U.S. teams that travel to Nicaragua and work with Chosen Children throughout the year. Pray for their safety, that they work diligently, and that they take advantage of every opportunity for the Gospel.
- 7. Pray for the government in Nicaragua. Pray they continue to allow teams into the country and do not interfere with the work of the ministry.



JANUARY 25 Family Prayer Time.





Direction: Those of us who have local friends and family may be able to pray together in one location. Some of us have family spread all over the country/world. Take a minute to think about the technology you may employ in order to come together and pray.

Technology: Phone, FaceTime, Zoom, Teams, and WhatsApp

X

Coordinate with your family/friends a good time you can pray together. This prayer quide is flexible, so if the weekend is not good and a weekday works better, you can swap out or move the day you pray together.

Have something to write down prayer requests so you can continue to pray for them during the week.

Invite someone to share a scripture passage or verse that spoke to them this week:

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. I know that God's word will not return to Him empty. It will accomplish His desire in my life. Isaiah 55:11

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- The significant and beautiful plans for me and my family this year.
- Your Word and how it will accomplish its purpose in my life, family, and community.
- Preparing and giving me the boldness to share the Gospel with my family and friends.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Have each person share. A praise report or one or two things for which they are thankful:	
	_

ave each person share.		
ne or two prayer requests:		

DAY 21:

JANUARY 26 **Pray Together**



In the "Pray Together" sections, we encourage you to pray with at least one other person. You can connect with others via phone, FaceTime, Zoom, Teams, WhatsApp, or in-person if you like. We pray this will allow you to connect with other brothers and sisters as we pray for our nation. You are free to reach out to others at your convenience over the weekend or pray together in groups of four or five in your life group.

Pray for Our Church

Scripture: "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14

Daily Confession: The Bible is the infallible Word of God. I will continue to study this instruction book. I will meditate on it day and night and obey everything written in it so I can succeed in everything I do. Joshua 1:8

Thanksgiving & Praise: Heavenly Father, Thank You for:

- The whole armor of God provided for me to stand against the devil's schemes.
- The weapons of our warfare are not carnal; they are mighty through God.
- Thank you for how You will glorify Your name through Your church this year.
- Write one thing for which you thank or praise God:

Prayer Points:

X

- 1. Pray that the body of Christ is attentive to the Holy Spirit.
- 2. Pray that a spirit of repentance will fall on us as individuals and as a church.
- 3. Pray for a greater release of holiness, righteousness, peace, and unity at The Heights.
- 4. Pray against the spirit of disobedience among the saints. Pray for a spirit of obedience to God's Word.
- 5. Pray against the spirit of slumber and tiredness on the saints. Pray for energy and passion for the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- 6. Pray against the spirit of oppression and heaviness on God's people. Pray for the spirit of gladness and thanksgiving on God's people.
- 7. Pray against every spirit opposing the church, giving it a bad name in the

community.

- 8. Pray against confusion and division in the body of Christ. Let unity and oneness prevail for the sake of the Gospel.
- 9. Pray that the church moves from eloquent words to the demonstration of the power of the Holy Spirit.
- 10. Ask God to deliver the church from prayerlessness and empower us to pray like never before.
- 11. Pray against the spirit of deception, error, and heresy in the church. Let the Bible be the guideline that we live by, not what is politically correct.
- 12. Pray that the heavens open over our church for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit to convict of sin, judgment, and righteousness in the church.
- 13. Pray for heavenly assistance to resist all wicked principalities, powers, and wicked spirits in high places working against The Heights and every church that names Jesus as Lord.
- 14. Pray that our church leaders operate with godly wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- 15. Pray that the heavens open over our church to make Jesus' name known. Pray God's kingdom come, and His will be done at The Heights.
- 16. Pray that revival starts in me. Pray that revival moves into my home. Pray that revival floods The Heights. Pray revival sweeps our communities, state, and nation.
- 17. Pray for favor and open doors with our local agency leaders. Pray for favor with the police, fire departments, school boards, school principals, city, and county officials.
- 18. Pray against every wicked agenda to silence the church from sharing the Gospel.
- 19. Pray for the release of souls from every nationality into our church.
- 20. Pray for The Heights to be a place of restoration and healing for our community.

Reflection & More Prayers:							



DO YOU HAVE A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD?

Seven things you should know to have a relationship with God:

- 1. We are all born into sin. Romans 3:23 says that "All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God."
- 2. According to Isiah 64:6, all our righteousness is as filthy rags before God.
- 3. Sin leads to death, but we can have life in Christ Jesus. Romans 6:23 says, "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ our Lord."
- 4. We can exchange the wages of sin for life by believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who came in human flesh to pay for our sins and reconcile us to the Father.
- 5. Romans 5:8 states that God demonstrated His love towards us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.
- 6. John 3:16 helps us understand that God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten son. That whosoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life.
- 7. A restored relationship with God can become your reality just by confessing with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believing in your heart that God raised Him from the dead. God's promise in Romans 10:9 is that you will be saved.

If you have not accepted Jesus Christ as your savior and want to do so now, please say this prayer:

Lord Jesus, I acknowledge my sin. I ask you to come into my heart. Please be my Savior and Lord. I surrender all of me to you. I repent of my sin and ask you to take control of my life in Jesus' name. Amen.

Turning your life over to Jesus gives you the power to become a son/daughter of God. That is what John 1:12 promises you. You will reign with Him for eternity.

Next Steps:

We are so excited that you chose to follow Jesus. We would love to know that you decided to follow Him and help you with your next steps.

Please scan the QR code or text "Hello" to 844.504.1002 to connect and let us know you accepted Jesus as Lord. You can also request prayer, find out more information about The Heights, and download our church app.

