



Seeking God – Divine Directions Pastor Dave Patterson 01.07.2023

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Jeremiah 29:11]

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

[Jeremiah 29:12-13, AMP]

You will call on Me and you will come and pray to Me, and I will hear your voice and I will listen to you. Then [with a deep longing] you will seek Me and require Me [as a vital necessity] and you will find Me when you search for Me with all your heart.

[Jeremiah 29:13]

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart."

[Hebrews 11:6]

And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly (diligently) seek him.

[2 Corinthians 10:4]

The weapons of our warfare are not physical [weapons of flesh and blood]. Our weapons are divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.

[Mark 2:18-22]

Once when John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting, some people came to Jesus and asked, "Why don't your disciples fast like John's disciples and the Pharisees do? Jesus replied, "Do wedding guests fast while celebrating with the groom? Of course not. They can't fast while the groom is with them. But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them, and then they will fast.

RESULTS OF BIBLICAL FASTING:

- Deliverance and the breaking of demonic powers (Matthew 17:20- 21 NKJV)
- Spiritual protection from the attacks of the enemy (1 Samuel 7:1-8)
- The breaking of oppression and spiritual bondage (Isaiah 58:6)
- Favor, influence and authority (Daniel 1:12-20)
- Physical healing (Isaiah 58:8)
- Humility which leads to promotion (Psalm 35:13, 1 Peter 5:6)
- The overthrowing of the enemies' plans (Esther 4:16)
- The rescue and healing of a nation (2 Chronicles 7:14)
- An increase of the power of God in our lives (Luke 4:1, 14)
- New open doors of ministry (Acts 13:1-3)
- Clear direction for our future (Ezra 8:21, 23)

[Proverbs 14:12]

There is a path before each person that seems right to them, but it leads to death.

[Jeremiah 17:9]

"The human heart is the most deceitful of all things, and desperately wicked. Who really knows how bad it is?

1. Fast and pray before you attempt to navigate this next season of your life.

[Ezra 8:21 & 23]

Then I proclaimed a fast there at the river of Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God, to seek from Him the right way for us and our little ones to go....
"For, the hand of our God is upon all those who seek Him, but His power and His wrath are against all those who forsake Him." So we fasted and earnestly prayed that our God would take care of us , and He answered our prayer.

2. Lose your agenda and wait in the presence of God until he reveals His plan.

[Acts 13:1-3]

Now in the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul. While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, "Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." So after they had fasted and prayed, they placed their hands on them and sent them off.

3. Use your weapons of fasting and prayer to fight for those who cannot fight for themselves ("the littles")

[Nehemiah 4:14]

Then as I looked over the situation, I called together the nobles and the rest of the people and said to them, "Don't be afraid of the enemy! Remember the Lord, who is great and glorious, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes!"

Key Points:

1. Fast and pray before you attempt to navigate this next season of your life
2. Lose your agenda and wait in the presence of God until he reveals His plan
3. Use your weapons of fasting and prayer to fight for those who cannot fight for themselves ("the littles")

Application for the Week:

This week, take up the challenge to Seek God at a deeper level through fasting and prayer. Push the plate back to spend time with God, to read your Bible and spend extended times of pray for your family, friends and yourself. Click [HERE](#) for the Guide to Fasting and Prayer written by Pastor Dave.

Discussion Questions

1. Each year, many make "New Year's Resolutions". Share a couple goals or resolutions you are endeavoring to establish in your life in 2024.
2. Have you looked really hard for something around your house but couldn't find it, then later it was in the very spot you looked several times or a place that you never thought to look? Why was that?
3. Pastor Dave talked about "Divine Directions". Is the path that you are on right now going to take you to the best life that God has for your life? Do you think any changes need to be made?
4. For what reasons do so many people believe they know what's best for their own lives?
5. How does fasting help us get ourselves out of the way? (Discuss the 3 Key Points of Pastor Dave's message).
6. Pastor Dave gave a long list of the benefits of Biblical Fasting. Which ones on this list are you needing or believing for?
7. How can we tangibly set the direction for your children and the future generation through fasting?
8. Through fasting and prayer, who can you fight for that cannot fight for themselves?