



*Seeing Through  
God's Eyes*

Prayer and Fasting Journal

*Bishop Kevin K. Dickerson*



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## **Prayer & Fasting Journal**

**Bishop Kevin K. Dickerson**

***Prayer and Fasting***

***Bible Study***

# ***The Right Way To Fast***

## ***Matthew 6:16-18***

### **Fasting**

- Fasting is more than not eating for a period of time
- Fasting is abstaining from natural food for a **spiritual purpose**
- The issue is so **consuming** that it becomes more important than food
- I'm willing to deny myself the "daily bread" I need
- Set food aside to **concentrate** on seeking God about the matter
- The objective of fasting is to concentrate upon God and **His answer** about a matter
- Jesus expects believers to fast
- Any ordinance or spiritual discipline can be abused or done with the wrong motive or spirit

### **Fasting The Wrong Way**

***16 Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.***

- Fasting without God as the center of the fast is hypocritical ***Isaiah 58:5 Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes, and an acceptable day to the LORD?***
- Fasting for recognition
  - o We want others to think we are **"super spiritual"**
  - o We want others to think this is the look of those who fast
  - o We take the **glory** that belong to God and shine it on ourselves
  - o We want to share our fasting experiences with others so they can be in awe of us
  - o We change how we behave and look so others will know it's "fast day"
- Fasting the wrong way has its own rewards
- All you get is the **applause** and **recognition** of men
- You may even gain control and discipline of your body, but the prideful show before men will cost you your reward that **only God** can give ***Hosea 4:7 As they were increased, so they sinned against me: therefore will I change their glory into shame.***

### **Fasting The Right Way**

***But thou, when thou fastest, ...***

- We are expected to fast
- Fasting is a duty of all disciples
- The objective of our fasting as disciples of Christ is seeking His presence
- There is no prescribed **frequency** of fasting

- But we fast when:
  - o There is a **special pull** of the Spirit to be alone with God
  - o Special **needs** arise
  - o We want to **humble** ourselves before God
  - o Before making **major decisions**
- o Fasting the right way makes the disciple “dead” to the:
  - o **Applause** of men
  - o **Criticism** of men

***Fast without drawing attention to yourself***

***...anoint thine head, and wash thy face; 18 That thou appear not unto men to fast,***

- Keep your physical appearance up
- You should look like you always look
- Your **behavior** should not change
- Your **attitude** should not change
- No one should know you are on a fast
- You don't want people to notice you, your fast is unto God
- Remember you are on a **private** fast, but you operate in a **public** world

***Fasting is between you and God alone***

***...but unto thy Father which is in secret:***

- God is the object of the fast
- Your fast is between you and God
- All your **attention** is toward God
- It is a secret, and secrets are not discussed because:
  1. What God has said or shown you is for you
  2. That's your reward
  3. God may not be finished “talking” to you
- Desiring to fast is to get in the presence of the Lord regarding a special issue

***Benefits of Fasting the Right Way***

***...and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.***

- Fasting the right way has its rewards, God rewards our “secret time” openly
- His rewards are always greater than recognition of men
- God honors proper and sincere motives
- Fasting keeps us in the presence of the Lord
- Fasting **humbles** us before the Lord
- Fasting teaches us to be **dependent** on God for the answer
- Fasting teaches us **discipline** and **control** over our bodies
- Fasting keeps us from being a **slave** to any food or habit

# ***Prayer and Fasting***

## ***Daily Journal***

# Day 1

## Vision

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading: Proverbs 29:18 (KJV) 18** *Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.*

**Reflection:** "Vision" can be described as *spiritual understanding* or divine revelation. It is the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives to give us understanding of the Word of God. Vision literally means to see by *revelation* of God. Where there is no vision or revelation of God, the people *perish*. The word *perish* here means to "let go" or "let loose" or to live without moral restraints. Therefore, this passage could be rendered: *Where there is no divine revelation, people cast off moral restraints; but when people obey God's word they are blessed.* There is a direct correlation between our moral condition and our knowing and submitting to God's *divine revelation*, the Bible. On a scale of 1 to 10 (with 10 being the highest) how consistently are you obeying the Word of God? What specific areas are you having trouble obeying? What connection do you see between your obedience and God's blessings in your personal life?

### **My Action Steps:**

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

## *Day 2*

### *I Am Who God Says I Am*

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading: Psalm 139:14 (KJV) 14** *I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvellous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.*

**Reflection:** Many people including some Christians suffer from low self-esteem. They do not feel they are worthy of success, love, or the enemy keeps telling them that they are not really saved. All that does is keep you from becoming what God wants you to become. To defeat the lies you, others, and the devil have told you remind yourself of what God has said about you. That's what David did, he praised God for making him special, complex, anointed, etc. and he saw himself as God saw him. He *agreed with God* that he was fearfully and wonderfully made. David was speaking to Himself what God said about him. What lies have you, others or the devil said about you? What are some of the ways you can list that celebrate how God has made you? Write this verse out and place it somewhere prominent where you can see it to remind yourself to agree with God's view of you.

#### **My Action Steps:**

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

## Day 3

### *Seeing Our Unseen Resources*

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *2 Kings 6:15-17 (KJV) 15 And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do? 16 And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. 17 And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.*

**Reflection:** When we are faced with unexpected problems in our lives, we often respond like Elisha's servant and say, "What shall we do?" But instead of only seeing problems that have no answers, let's pray and ask God to show us the resources He has already made available to us to overcome any problem, defeat any enemy and be victorious in any situation. We must see them through the eyes of faith. God's help is there even if you can't see it. God knows the issues we face, and He proactively gives us what we need to succeed. When the Lord opened Elisha's servant's eyes, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire to defeat the enemy. What are the problem areas of your life that you need the Lord to open your eyes so that you can see your unseen resources God has provided for you?

#### **My Action Steps:**

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

## *Day 4*

### *I See Victory!*

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading: Joshua 6:1-5 (KJV)** *1 Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in. 2 And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour. 3 And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days. 4 And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets. 5 And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.*

**Reflection:** Life is often filled with roadblocks, obstacles, and dead ends. Do you accept these hindrances as just a part of life? Do we throw in the towel and give up? Or do we decide to see our lives the way God sees them? God agreed with Joshua that Jericho was a fortified city with a strong army and a powerful king. Even with the fortified walls and military might, God also saw victory for Joshua and Israel. God saw the king and the army being defeated and the mighty walls of Jericho coming down! God wanted Joshua to see Jericho from His perspective; a defeated enemy. God then gave Joshua a plan of action that would cause the enemies to be defeated and the walls blocking their occupation of the Promised Land to come down. What obstacles are blocking your spiritual progress? What is God saying for you to do? Do you see victory and how are you pursuing it?

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

# Day 5

## God is Watching

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading: Proverbs 15:3 (KJV) 3 The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good.**

**Reflection:** God sees all and knows all. Nothing escapes God's all-seeing eyes. Even though it may seem like evil in the world is going unchecked and unchallenged, God still sees. He is not a silent observer; God is active in our lives and in our world. God hears our kind words, sees our acts of service, listens as we share our faith. God is watching and keeping a record of all we say and do. God will one day reward us for the righteous deeds that were seen in many cases only by His eyes. Express how it makes you feel knowing that God is watching over your life and seeing all you do.

### My Action Steps:

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

## Day 6

### Seeing in God's Word

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *Psalm 119:18 (KJV) 18 Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.*

**Reflection:** For many, the Bible is a book that collects dust on bookshelves, on coffee tables, hidden in cars and only used on Sundays. The Word of God is a treasure trove of truth, wisdom and help directly from the mouth of God. Unfortunately, it is a treasure hiding in plain sight. The psalmist prayer for us is to open our Bibles and see the wealth of instruction that is available to us in God's Word. The Bible is not just for crises in our lives, it to be read, studied, and used every day of our lives. Do you have a daily devotion in the Word? If not, why not? Set a goal of reading through the Bible this year.

#### **My Action Steps:**

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

## Day 7

### God Sees You Differently

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *1 Samuel 16:6-7 (KJV) 6 And it came to pass, when they were come, that he looked on Eliab, and said, Surely the LORD'S anointed is before him. 7 But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.*

**Reflection:** God sent Samuel the priest to Jesse's house to anoint the next king of Israel to replace Saul. Jesse had seven sons and they all possessed the physical characteristics that would make for a great king. They were tall, strong, and had military experience; except one – David. He was not tall, or strong, nor did he have military experience. David was a lowly shepherd boy tending his father's sheep. What David did have was a heart for God. David was anointed king over his brothers because of his heart for God. God uses a different measurement for promotion than the world. There's nothing wrong with education, skill, and experience, but God views the condition of our heart as extremely important. When God looks at your heart, what does He see? Based on what God sees, are you someone God can promote? If not, what do you need to do to improve the condition of your heart?

#### **My Action Steps:**

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

## Day 8

### ***We Are God's Oaks of Righteousness***

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *Isaiah 61:3 (KJV) 3 To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified.*

**Reflection:** The prophet Isaiah says that the wounded, and the hurt would be comforted and consoled. The prophesy of comfort and consolation was fulfilled in Jesus' ministry (Luke 4:18). Jesus promised to comfort all who turned to Him in their pain and suffering. Isaiah also said that believers would be called *oaks of righteousness*. Why "oaks" of righteousness? Oak trees are known for their strength, longevity, and growth with other oak trees. God sees believers as oaks of righteousness when we live in community with other believers. Our strength, longevity, and growth as a Christian is directly related to being in fellowship with other Christians at church, home, work, etc. Other believers help us keep our commitment to God. Christianity was never meant to be lived in isolation. Name the "oaks" of righteousness in your life. How have they helped in your walk with God?

#### **My Action Steps:**

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

## Day 9

### **Mirror, Mirror...**

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *James 1:22-24 (KJV) 22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. 23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: 24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.*

**Reflection:** Mirrors don't lie. They reflect *exactly* what they see. The Word of God is like a mirror and when we hear and live by the Word of God, our lives become a reflection of Jesus who saved us. To be the *reflection* I'm talking about requires us to be hearers *and* doers of the Word. If we are hearers and not doers, we have no recollection how we are to live; our lives are a "reflection" of the world; not Jesus Christ. Looking at your life right now, what are you doing to maintaining Jesus' reflection in your life? What are you doing to keep the influences of the world from hindering you obeying the Word of God?

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

# Day 10

## Divine Revelation

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *1 Corinthians 2:9-10 (KJV) 9 But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.*

**Reflection:** We can't always understand everything with our natural eye or our natural hearing. Some things God *reveals* by His Spirit. It's called *divine revelation*. This is when the Holy Spirit lifts the veil that has obscured your view of God's plans for your life. You will be able to see in the Spirit and understand truths that you could not perceive with your natural mind. If there are answers you seek that can't be obtained through natural means, ask God and open your heart in faith so that the Holy Spirit can speak to you. The Holy Spirit wants to reveal to you God's awesome plans for your life! What revelation are you seeking regarding your life, family, ministry, business, etc.? Make this a matter of prayer expecting God through the Holy Spirit to speak His revelation to you.

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**Closing Prayer:** *Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.*

# Day 11

## Write the Vision

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *Habakkuk 2:2 (KJV) 2 And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it.*

**Reflection:** When God gives us vision, it is His divine revelation for our lives. It is God's revelation of what He wants to do through us. God reveals His will to those who wait on Him and who are willing to obey. What God says is so valuable, we must write it down. What God wants to do through you needs to be written down so others can read it. God's vision for our lives is not just for us. It's for future generations. The written vision serves as a road map for others to follow. A God-given vision will help us know where we are going. What's God's vision for your life? Your family? Your career? Your ministry? Write it down today.

### My Action Steps:

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**Closing Prayer:** *Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.*

## Day 12

### Open the Eyes of My Heart

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *Ephesians 1:18 (KJV) 18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,*

**Reflection:** Do you understand all that you have when God gave you Jesus Christ? Most believers don't know and that was the basis for Paul's prayer for the Ephesian church. His prayer for them was that the eyes of their understanding, or their heart be enlightened. Scripturally, the heart represents the center or core of life. Paul wanted the Ephesians and us to *know* three important things:

1. *The hope of His calling* – God has a specific calling on your life to fulfill *now* and the *future hope* of eternal life with Jesus
2. *The riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints* – In Christ, you are an inheritance to God, and you are *spiritually wealthy*. Unfortunately, many believers live spiritual poor lives, even though they have access to spiritual wealth. This spiritual wealth is available to you now to fulfill God's purpose for your life and to experience in eternity.
3. *The exceeding greatness of His power toward those who believe* - We need to know there is no limit to the power of God and there is no limit to what God's power will do for those who believe.

How are you fulfilling God's call on your life? In what ways have you tapped into your spiritual wealth? Name some instances where you've seen God's immeasurable power at work in your life?

#### **My Action Steps:**

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

# *Day 13*

## *Spiritual Vision*

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:22-24 (KJV)** 22 *The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.* 23 *But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness!* 24 *No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*

**Reflection:** Spiritual vision is our capacity to see clearly what God wants us to do and to see the world from his point of view. A "good" eye is one that is fixed on God, but this spiritual insight can be easily clouded. Believers can suffer from spiritual "double vision". Spiritual "double vision" occurs when we have plans, self-serving desires, interests, and goals that compete with or block God's vision for our lives. The way to restore our spiritual vision is identifying and repenting of those competing desires and making a commitment to serving God with our whole heart. What are the areas of your life where there is "a vision" competing with God's plan for your life? What do you plan to do about it?

### **My Action Steps:**

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

# Day 14

## **Blinded by Other Gods**

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *2 Corinthians 4:3-4 (KJV) 3 But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: 4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.*

**Reflection:** When people reject the Gospel, it is hidden or blocked from their view. This spiritual darkness is the work of the devil whose primary goal is to keep people in spiritual darkness. The devil has blinded them who don't believe. The allure of power, fame, money, pleasure, etc. has blinded many people to the light of the Gospel, and the good news of Jesus Christ. If people continue in spiritual darkness, they are lost, they are perishing; some eternally. They completely miss out on the life-saving message of Jesus Christ. What is your role as a Christian to help sinners see the light? How can you as an individual believer spread the Gospel?

### **My Action Steps:**

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

# Day 15

## Seeing God in Us

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *Matthew 5:14-16 (KJV) 14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. 15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

**Reflection:** Jesus describes Christians as the light of the world and light has only one job: to shine. We are the ones who shine the light of Christ in a dark and sinful world. We have no value to God if we are “undercover Christians” that privately live for Christ. Hiding our Christianity defeats the purpose of being the light of the world. We are to let our light shine everywhere we go. Letting our light shine means we are to let our good works be seen. We do good works not to be seen, but so the world can see we are different and glorify God. Our good works are designed to stir people to glorify God and point people to God. How brightly is your light shining at work, in your neighborhood, on vacation, and when you think no one is watching? Do you think people see God in you when you interact with them, handle problems, or are out having fun? Have you ever been tempted to dim or turn off your light? How did you handle it?

### My Action Steps:

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

## Day 16

### What Does God Want to See?

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *1 Peter 3:10-12 (KJV) 10 For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: 11 Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it. 12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.*

**Reflection:** God sees all we do. But what does God really want to see in the lives of believers? If we are to live lives that are enjoyable and pleasing to God, we are to 1) manage our mouths by not speaking evil to or about others and consistently telling the truth; 2) turn from evil thoughts and behaviors and do what is good and right in the eyes of God; and 3) seek peace and be a peace maker. Peace is not merely the absence of conflict, but it is the practice of building good relationships, it's anticipating problems and dealing with them before they occur. It is being open and honest in dealing with conflicts when they arise. The blessing of this kind of life is God is watching over the righteous and He is actively listening to hear their prayers. Are you living a life that God wants to see? If not, what are the areas that need work? Where and when will you start making the needed changes?

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

# Day 17

## The Vision Shall Come to Pass

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *Habakkuk 2:3 (KJV) 3 For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.*

**Reflection:** The vision God has given points to what's coming. You can't rush it, accelerate it, or manipulate it to cause it to arrive quicker; it is for an *appointed* time. Just as God had an appointed time to deal with the evil of Habakkuk's day, God has an appointed time to bring His vision for our lives to pass. Even though it may seem slow in coming, wait for it. It isn't always easy to be patient, but we must realize God's timing is perfect. We must trust God even though His timetable doesn't line up with ours. Though it seems like God is slow or His vision for our lives is delayed or on hold, wait on it, for it will surely come. God will do what He promised. Waiting is not passive, but active. That means we are actively living for God and serving God *while we wait* for the vision to come to pass. How well do you handle delays? Are you ever tempted to help God out by taking matters in your own hands? How do you wait patiently on God? How does knowing that God promises to bring the vision to pass help you with waiting?

### My Action Steps:

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

# Day 18

## No More Darkness!

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *John 8:12 (KJV) 12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.*

**Reflection:** Can you imagine living in a world without light? How would you navigate through your house? How could get dressed properly? How would you avoid obstacles and accidents in your home? How would you get from point A to point B? How would you identify danger? How would you keep from stumbling and falling? Life without light would be a horrible existence. Life without Jesus is like living in darkness because we have no light within ourselves. We are vulnerable to falling into the devil's traps over and over because we have no way of detecting them. Jesus is the Light of the World. Following Jesus removes the darkness from our eyes. We are no longer walking in darkness, we can clearly see Jesus' plan and purpose for our lives. Jesus is the light of life, meaning we exist in darkness when not following Jesus. The passage uses the word *followeth*, which means continuing action. What are you doing in your life to ensure that once the Light is *on* it stays *on*?

### My Action Steps:

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

# Day 19

## Wise in Our Own Eyes

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *Isaiah 5:21 (KJV) 21 Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!*

**Reflection:** Everyone has an opinion of themselves, but the danger comes in when we think our ideas, thoughts and opinions are superior to wisdom of the Word of God. When we think we can baffle the truths, the corrections, and convictions of God's Word, we're walking on thin ice. When we start believing that the Bible is too strict or too judgmental and that we can live contrary to the Bible because we have a "fresh revelation" or "new truth", we have allowed "our wisdom" to be exalted over the wisdom of God's Word. When God's word is not the standard for our lives, our behavior and or our morals waver. Take an honest assessment of your life and behavior and document where you have chosen your way over the Word of God. What was the result? How will you change?

### My Action Steps:

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

# Day 20

## Keep Me as the Apple of the Eye

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading:** *Psalm 17:8-9 (KJV) 8 “Keep me as the apple of the eye, ...”*

**Reflection:** The pupil or the apple of our eyes is one of the most tender and sensitive parts of our body. We do all we can to protect our eyes from dust, injury, disease, and pain because our eyes have great value to us. Life would be difficult without the vision our eyes provide. Just as we protect our eyes, God will protect us the way we protect our eyes. Does that mean if we go through trials, sickness, trouble or temptation that God is no longer protecting us or His protection is insufficient? No! God’s protection has a far greater purpose than blocking all pain, hurt or difficulty in our lives. God also protects us by helping us navigate *through* difficult circumstances. God makes us more mature during tough times, in addition to helping us avoid or escape them. How did you feel when problems arose in your life and God didn’t stop it? What did you learn about yourself and what did you learn about God when He helped you through difficult seasons in your life?

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

# Day 21

## See it Through!

**Daily Prayer:** Thank you God for clarity, revelation and understanding of your Word I will receive today.

**Scripture Reading: Nehemiah 6:15-16 (KJV) 15 So the wall was finished in the twenty and fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty and two days. 16 And it came to pass, that when all our enemies heard thereof, and all the heathen that were about us saw these things, they were much cast down in their own eyes: for they perceived that this work was wrought of our God.**

**Reflection:** God gave Nehemiah a vision, and it was a picture of a preferable future for the people of Israel. The vision was to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. Nehemiah caught the vision and left the comfort of his position in the palace of the king of Persia to bring the vision to fruition. God gave him favor with the king, resources to build, and influence with the people of Jerusalem. As soon as they started the work, opposition came. Those who opposed the work used ridicule, threats, lies, rumors, distractions, etc. to try and stop Nehemiah and his team. Nehemiah countered the opposition with prayer, a commitment to the work, and devotion to the vision God gave him. Despite all the opposition, the walls were finished in just 52 days! Nehemiah and the people of Jerusalem celebrated what others thought could never be done! They kept seeing the walls completed and did not stop until they were! The enemies of Nehemiah heard the walls were finished and they all saw they were defeated. Even in defeat, the enemies had to admit it was the work of God. What has God given you a vision to do in your life, family, ministry, business, etc.? Have you gotten started? What has been your opposition? How can you use Nehemiah's victory to help you as you see your vision through to completion?

### My Action Steps:

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**Closing Prayer:** Thank you God for the wisdom I received from studying your Word today. I commit to apply your Word to my life; starting right now! Amen.

# How You Can Receive Jesus Christ As Your Savior and Lord

If you would like to welcome Jesus Christ into your life, you can do so at anytime, anywhere. Consider these important facts:

***God loves you and seeks a personal relationship with you!***

*Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come into him and dine with him, and he with Me. Revelation 3:20*

***The problem is: Everyone has been born into this world spiritually dead because of sin.***

For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23

***Jesus will forgive us of all sin, assuring us of eternity in Heaven!***

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

***To receive Jesus, pray this prayer:***

*Lord Jesus, I'm a sinner. Please come into my life and forgive me of all sin. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Now, fill me with Your Holy Spirit and guide me from this day forward. Thank You Lord, for loving me!  
Amen.*



***Bishop Kevin and Pastor Sonja Dickerson** are the Shepherds of the Dayspring Family Church located at 618 N. Belt Line Road in Irving, Texas. Since 1994, they have dedicated themselves to leading families to Jesus Christ, equipping them to be available for service in the work of the Lord.*

***Bishop Dickerson** walks under a strong apostolic mantle as he fervently pursues the will of God. He preaches a message that is relevant and applicable to the issues that the world faces today. His ministry assignment is worship, leading others into the presence of the Lord, and teaching God's Word.*

*Bishop Dickerson also mentors pastors in building spiritually and financially strong churches to accomplish their God-given visions. In 2007 he founded the Vision Fellowship of Churches, a network of pastors working together to do the work of the Lord.*

***Pastor Sonja Dickerson** is a woman of foresight and capability, accompanied by a great love for the people of God. She serves on various community boards and coordinates the Dayspring Women Conferences, which continue to impact the lives of many women each year. Pastor Sonja is the Founder and Executive Director of C.L.A.S.S. Inc., (Cultivating Leaders Achieving Scholastic Success). She established C.L.A.S.S. to address the dropout rate in the state of Texas by annually applauding the accomplishments of students graduating from High School. The program provides students with leadership development training and awards a monetary scholarship to each graduate.*

*Pastor Sonja ministers with enthusiasm and captures the heart and mind of the hearer. She speaks a sound word with a lively style that allows for the move of the Holy Spirit.*

***Bishop Kevin and Pastor Sonja Dickerson** have been married for 34 years and God has blessed their marriage with three wonderful children; Kevin II, Cherese, and Faith.*

**Contact Information:**

**Dickerson Ministries**

**P.O. Box 154142—Irving, Texas 75015**

**972.399.7729 Stay Connected! [dickersonchurch.org](http://www.dickersonchurch.org)**





