

CFC-305 BIBLE STUDY, PRAYER & FASTING

1) Personal bible study

- (i). The Bible is the written Word of God containing all that God desires you to know about Him and His will and how to live (1Tim 3:14-15, 2Tim 3:16-17).
- (ii). Study the Bible deeply - the New Testament in particular to
 - learn more about our Lord Jesus Christ and how to live in Him. (Col 1:12-19, 2:9, Heb 1:1-3, John 5:39, Matt 11:27).
 - get clear picture of who you are in Christ Jesus and how to live in this world as a child of God. (2Tim 3:16-17).
- (iii). Use LCIM Personal Bible Study methodology to study the books of Galatians, Ephesians & 1John.
- (iv). Pay careful attention to be "doers of the Word, not hearers only". Follow the instructions of the Bible in all things. (Jam 1:21-22, Josh 1:8, Luk 11:28, Matt 7:16-27).

2) Prayers & the guidance of the Holy Spirit

- (i). Be prayerful. Praying is an essential part of Christian life. Make this a regular activity as God's temple. (Matt 21:12-13, 1Tim 2:1-3, 1Thess 5:17-18, Luk 18:1).
- (ii). Have specific times that are devoted to prayers, worship and bible study daily. Examples include
 - Once in the morning (Psa 5:3; 88:13; 143:8; Isa 33:2),
 - Twice daily - Psa 88:1
 - Thrice daily - Psalms 55:17; Daniel 6:10,
 - All night vigils - Luke 6:12, Gen 32.24-30.
- (iii). Pray boldly in the Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ. You have the right to be heard because you are a child of God (John 14.13-14, Joh 15.16, Joh 16.23-26, Eph 5.20, Rom 8.15, Eph 2.18-19, 3.12, 2Tim 1.7, Heb 4:16, 10.19-23, 13.6).
- (iv). Accompany your prayers and bible studies with thanksgiving always. Php 4.6, Col 4.2
- (v). Show perseverance in prayer. (Jer 29:3, Luke 11:5-10, 18:1-7, Romans 8:26; Ephesians 6:18; Hebrews 5:7).

See some examples –

- Jacob - Genesis 32:24-30, Moses - Exodus 33:12-16; 34:9, Elijah - 1Kings 18:22-44

- The two blind men of Jericho - Matthew 20:30,31; Mark 10:48; Luke 18:39
 - The non-Jewish, Syro-Phoenician woman - Matthew 15:22-28; Mark 7:25-30; Luke 22:44,
 - The Roman centurion - Matthew 8:5; Luke 7:1-10
- (vi). Participate in Church or group prayer meetings. There is tremendous power in group prayers (Acts 4:24, Matt 18:19).
- (vii). God your Father has a plan for you in this world, and it is a good plan (Jer 29:11-12). However, it is through prayers, bible study and following the bible that you will know and be able to fulfill this plan. He will show you if you diligently seek and ask. (Eph 5:14-17, Jer 33:3, Isa 48:6, Heb 11:6)
- (viii). The Holy Spirit's leading using the Word of God in you to direct you in God's plan for your life will become clearer as you deepen your devotional life. (1Cor 2:9-12, Joh 14:26, 16:13, 1Joh 2:27, 1Th 5:19, Eph 4:30).

3) The Necessity Of Prayer with Fasting

- (i). Include a program of fasting in your bible studies and prayer schedule. (Neh 1:4, Dan 9:3, Joel 2:12, Acts 13:3). See examples – Ezra 8:23, Esther 4:16.
- (ii). Jesus has said we will need to fast, and we should. (Mark 2:19-20, Matt 6:16-18). He has also said that some issues of life will not be resolved without you praying with fasting, (Matt 17:21. See also Deut 9:9, 1Cor 7:5)
- (iii). The Apostles who have taught us the Gospel fasted regularly. They are good examples for us. (2Cor 6:1-5, 11:24-27).
- (iv). The promises and blessings that come to a man of prayers are immense. (Psa 4:3, Psa 34:15-19, Psa 65:2, Psa 91:15, Isa 25:4, Isa 41:17-20, Isa 65:24, Matt 7:7-11, Matt 21:21-22, Mark 9:23, 1Joh 5:14, Jam 5:13-16, Joh 14:12-14, Joh 15:7, Joh 16:23-24, Luk 18:5)