

A Word from Our Pastor...

Dear Friend,

I'm so glad you have chosen to join along with the rest of your Trinity Harvest family on this year's Corporate Fast. Whether this is your first time fasting or fasting has been a regular part of your spiritual journey, I firmly believe this will be a wonderful time of growing closer to God and hearing His voice more clearly.

Please let me encourage you to use this devotional daily throughout the 21 day fast. The wisdom and inspiration contained inside will encourage you to keep pressing forward when those difficult days or moments come.

Remember, along with giving God the first of our day, our week and our income; beginning 2012 with a fast with your church family is a way of declaring that God is first. When we give God the first, the rest is blessed. So as you are entering this fast and this new year may you do so expecting the rest of this year to be saturated by God's favor and blessings.

I'm so honored to be on this journey with you. I can't wait to see how God moves in your family, our church and our community this year.

Changing Lives and Shaping Culture,

Pastor Richard Holmes

Why Do We Fast

In obedience to God's Word. (Joel 2:12, 2 Cor. 6:4-6, Matt 9:15)

To humble ourselves before God and obtain His grace and power. (James 4:10)

To Overcome temptations in areas that keep us from moving into God's power (Luke 4)

To be purified from sin. (Daniel 9:3-5 and Jonah 3:5-10)

To become weak before God so God's power can be strong. (Psalms 109:24-28 and 2 Cor. 12:9-10)

To obtain God's support in order to accomplish His will. (Acts 13:3-4 and Acts 14:23)

In times of crisis. (Esther 4:15-16 and 2 Chronicles 20)

When seeking God's direction. (Ezra 8:21-23)

For understanding and divine revelation. (Jeremiah 26:6)

Benefits of Fasting

Isaiah 58:6-12

Is not this the fast that I have chosen? To loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? (7) Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? When thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou

hide not thyself from thine own flesh? (8) Then shall thy light break forth as the morning and thine health shall spring forth speedily; and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy reward. (9) Then shalt thou call, and from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity; (10) And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday: (11) And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not. (12) And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, the restorer of paths to dwell in.

Corporate Fasting and Prayer Target

Trinity Family! We are believing through the power of corporate prayer and fasting for the following:

1. Souls to be born into God's family.
 - Your Family, Friends, and Co-workers
2. More leaders to rise up.
 - Passion to further God's kingdom and build God's house.
3. Financial breakthrough
 - For individuals/families and business owners in our congregation.
 - For our church
4. Increased desire for things of God and decreased desire for things of this world.
 - This will result more passionate worship and a greater display of God's power and presence.
5. Cover our Pastors and Ministry Leaders.
 - Fresh anointing, wisdom, and unity

Day 1

Souls Thirst

(Read Psalm 42:1-2)

From the beginning fasting has been a normal and regular part of a relationship

with God. As expressed by the impassioned plea of David in Psalm 42 fasting brings us into a deeper more intimate relationship with the Lord.

When you eliminate food from your diet for a number of days your spirit becomes uncluttered by the things of this world and amazingly sensitive to the things of God. As David stated later in Psalm 42 "Deep calls unto deep." David was fasting and his hunger and thirst for God were greater than his natural desire for food. As a result he reached a place where he could cry out from the depths of his spirit to the depths of God.

Once you've experienced even a glimpse of that kind of intimacy with our God & our Father & the Holy creator of the universe & the countless rewards and blessings that follow, your whole perspective changes and you realize that fasting is an overlooked secret source of power that you don't want to overlook any longer. We have the ability to tap into everything God has but one of the main ways to do this is through fasting. So let's tap in!

Day 2

We re Never Too Old to Fast

Do you remember Anna? Her story only fills a few lines in Luke's Gospel, but I believe God saw much more in the life of this precious saint. She is called a prophetess, and her simple testimony is that she was a widow of about eighty-four years (of age), who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day (Luke 2:37). That just goes to show you that you are never too old to fast. Anna had a hunger for God's Word that was greater than her hunger for food, and her faithfulness in fasting prepared her for what was about to happen.

After Jesus' birth, Joseph and Mary brought their tiny infant boy to the temple to be dedicated as the first-born Son. We would imagine that young family walked past hundreds of people in the crowded temple that day, but only one man and one faithful woman truly recognized the Messiah. Simeon was the first to rejoice in seeing Jesus. Then Anna saw Him and instantly gave thanks to God. She then began telling all who looked for the redemption of Israel about the tiny baby who was the long-awaited Messiah (Luke 2:38). Imagine that a new calling on her life at eighty-four years old!

Although fasting doesn't get any easier with age, it does get easier with grace. When the Holy Spirit calls you to fast, He is preparing you for what is ahead. Fasting requires faith. As Jesus said, Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled (Matt. 5:6, KJV).

Day 3

Hunger

(Read Matthew 5:6)

Fasting the things of the natural proves to God your hunger for the things of the spirit and when you begin to develop a hunger for the deep things of God he will fill you. We've got to break out of the cycle of just going through the motions of religious duties and fasting is key in that.

I believe God is raising up people who don't want to just go through the motions of "church as usual" any longer. People are fasting and developing a hunger for more of God and systematical religious traditions are having to just get out of the way. Hungry people are desperate. They will push over the customs and rituals in order to not leave hungry!

Are you willing to go beyond the "church as usual" routine in order to get filled up with the spiritual food your soul needs to fully experience the fruit of kingdom living in your life?

Day 4

Hunger for the Word Part 1

Where does the kind of faith that enables you to look to God and believe His Word no matter how grave your circumstances may appear come from? Your daughter is unsaved and on drugs. Your father lies dying in a hospital bed. You are about to be evicted from the house you rent because it's been sold out from under you. Your marriage of twenty years has come to an end, and the divorce papers have been signed. These are very real circumstances that have no solution in the natural. Where does such faith come from?

Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God (Rom. 10:17). The Amplified version of this Scripture verse states, Faith comes by hearing [what is told], and what is heard comes by the preaching [of the message that came from the lips] of Christ (the Messiah Himself). It is by hearing God's Word, by hearing the preaching of the gospel, that faith increases. There is something about getting in a church where the anointing flows and you hear the Word of God preached. Faith does not come from programs, dynamite worship teams, or being with a group of people who are like you. Faith comes when you hear a man or woman of God preach the Word without compromise to all who will listen. That is the birthplace of faith. If this revelation truly takes hold of your spirit, you will never allow the devil to talk you out of being faithful to God's house.

The Word of God is the nourishment (food) that our spirit man demands to live. And

our faith increases and decreases based on our intake of the Word. If you were able to place your spirit man on a set of spiritual scales& would your spirit be healthy and well-fed or sick and malnourished?

Day 5

Hunger for the Word Part 2

Too many Christians find that they are malnourished in the Word but well-fed on the world, and they live defeated lives as a result. Remember how Eve saw that the fruit of the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil was good for food? God's word to Adam and Eve was In the day that you eat of it you will surely die (Gen. 2:17) Yet Eve acted on the wisdom of the world that was spoken by the serpent instead of walking away in faith that God's Word was true.

In contrast, as Jesus fasted in the desert, He was tempted by the same voice that had so cunningly whispered to Eve. Yet Jesus responded, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God (Matt. 4:4). What had Jesus heard just before beginning that time of fasting? And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased (Matt 3:17, KJV). The Word of God sustained Him through forty days and nights without food.

Wouldn't it be amazing if the body of Christ today had that same kind of hunger for God's Word! It would be amazing to see Christians who would rather go to church in their pajamas than miss hearing God's Word! This may sound extreme, but we live in extreme times. We need to understand Jesus' words when He said, Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away (Mark 13:31).

Day 6

Three Stranded Cord

(Read Ecclesiastes 3:12)

During the years that Jesus walked the earth He devoted Himself to teaching His disciples the principles of the Kingdom of God; principles that conflict with those of this world.

Specifically in Matthew chapter 6 Jesus provided the pattern by which each of us are to live as a child of God. That pattern addressed three specific duties as a Christian: Giving, Praying, and Fasting. Jesus said "When you give& ", "When you pray& ", and "When you fast& " He made it clear that fasting, as well as giving and praying, was a normal part of Christian life.

Solomon, when writing the books of wisdom for Israel, made the point that a three stranded cord or rope cannot be easily broken. Likewise when giving, fasting, and praying are practiced in the life of a believer it creates a type of threefold cord that is not easily broken. Fasting is an essential part of your life as a believer that will cause your relationship with God to not have any weak links!

Day 7

Blessing And Breakthrough

(Read Mark 4:8 and 20)

God has planted a spiritual seed in the soil of your heart that he wants to bring to full fruition in the natural realm of your life. I think it's safe to say that a lot of us have experienced some breakthrough in certain areas of our lives. These are areas where we can see that the fruit of Kingdom living has manifested into the natural realm of our lives, but there's also areas that it hasn't.

God wants to release the fruit of Kingdom living in every area of your life and looking back on the three stranded cord of Fasting, Praying, and Giving you can relate that to the scriptures you just read and say that when you pray you get a thirty-fold return of blessing and breakthrough in your life. When you pray and give you get a sixty-fold return of blessing and breakthrough in your life. But when you pray, give, and fast you get a hundred-fold return of blessing and breakthrough in your life.

If that's the case you have to wonder what blessings are not being released & what answers to prayers are not getting through & what bondages are not being broken because we fail to fast? Don't miss out on the greatest blessings and breakthroughs of your life that will come through fasting!

Day 8

Fasting Breaks the Spirit of Heaviness

The spirit of heaviness has to do with despondency, depression, and oppression. Sadly, the biggest pitfall in America is the oldest in the world. Americans use drinking, smoking, drugs, medications, overeating, and other harmful behaviors to try to lift the spirit of heaviness.

Instead of looking for more stuff to put into our bodies to ease the pain, we should fast and seek the God who gives us a garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness that afflicts so many. Why is it a garment of praise? You will find that you wear depression and oppression like a garment. It shrouds you in darkness and

despair. It is a heavy garment that continues to drag you down. It keeps you from lifting your head and from raising your hands in praise to God.

Heaviness drains worship out of your life. Church is depressing unless you learn to worship. I know that is a strange statement, but it is true. There is nothing worse than a Spirit-filled church that loses the garment of praise and picks up the spirit of heaviness. God desires our praise more than our mere church attendance. That is not to say we should forsake assembling together as a corporate body. But our times together, just as our times alone, should be to glorify and praise our awesome, mighty God. Praise pushes back the enemy.

In 2 Chronicles King Jehoshaphat is told a great multitude is coming against you from beyond the sea, from Syria; and they are in Hazazon Tamar (which is En Gedi). And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah (2 Chron. 20:2-3) This army was larger than they could defeat on their own. Jehoshaphat could have died under that spirit of heaviness. The scripture says that he feared, but he only paused a moment there. He immediately set himself and all the people of Judah to seek the Lord through fasting and prayer. Then he took his place in the assembly of the people and began to praise proclaiming who God was and all that God had done for them. He ended by saying, We have not power against this great multitude that is coming against us; nor do we know what to do, but our eyes are upon You (v.12). Then they waited.

God told them that the battle was not theirs but His. He told them exactly where the enemy would be, but He said, you will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, stand still and see the salvation of the Lord, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem! Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the Lord is with you (v. 17)

There is power in corporate fasting and power in corporate praise! It creates a river of healing, a river of deliverance and victory, a river of cleansing in the house of God. It is time to exchange ashes for beauty, mourning for joy and a garment of heaviness for a garment of praise.

Day 9 Diligence

We must diligently feed on God's Word. Sometimes the best thing we can possibly do is starve our flesh and feed our spirit through a fast. Fasting helps you separate what you want from what you need. It causes you to focus on those things that really matter.

Believe me, fasting allows you many opportunities to diligently seek the Lord! To

be diligent is to be persistent. It means to work hard in doing something and refusing to stop. God delivered the Israelites from Pharaoh's slavery. He parted the Red Sea so they could cross on dry ground, but He allowed Pharaoh's army to drown. Still, the children of Israel go out into the wilderness and started complaining. After all He had done for them, they were not diligent about seeking the Lord, and that older generation never entered into His rest, His reward.

Faith is progressive. Faith never gets into a bad situation and says, I'm just going to sit here and die. It's over. Faith never stands in the desert, having a pity party with everything drying up around it. You walk by faith. You don't stand still, drowning in your misery. When you get in a wilderness, you keep walking; you keep going forward even if you are only making an inch of progress with each step. When you get into battles you have to keep saying, I will move forward.

Day 10 He Pleased God

What was it about Enoch that was different from those before him? What about it about his life that was so pleasing to God? The answer is found in Hebrews:

But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.
Hebrews 11:6

Enoch knew God. Not only that, Genesis 5:22 says that Enoch walked with God for three hundred years! I would hope if you could choose what would be said of your life it would be he pleased God. Notice that Enoch did not try to please people. In fact, Jude records that Enoch prophesied in a manner that would have made him very unpopular with the party crowd (Jude 14-15). Enoch's primary concern was walking in faith, which is what pleases God. According to Hebrews 11:6, it is reasonable to say that Enoch came to God, he believed God, he diligently sought God, and he was rewarded.

If you want to please God, believe God. Take Him at His Word. When the Apostle Paul was teaching the Corinthians, a knowledge-seeking society, he told them, We walk by faith, not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7). Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego walked by faith and not by sight. The three of them joined Daniel in his initial fast from the king's delicacies. Think about what they saw on their way into that furnace. It had been heated seven times hotter than normal. The heat was so intense that it killed the guards standing by the doors. If they had walked by sight, they would have said, Today we shall surely be ashes. Instead, by faith, they walked on saying, Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from your hand, O king (Dan. 3:17). Faith is the evidence of things unseen.

Day 11

Birth Place

(Read Joel 2:12+28-29)

Every assignment has a birthplace, every call of God, every direction from Him starts somewhere. God has specific assignments for your life, but how do you discover them? How will you hear His voice? How will you know His will for your life? His Plans for you? Who you should marry? Where you should live? What job you should take?

In the book of Joel the Lord said "and it shall come to pass AFTERWARD that I will pour out my Spirit." God was going to pour out His spirit - afterward. He was revealing His plans for His people - afterward. After what is the question; and the answer is 'after a fast'. Israel was in sin and God was calling them to fast and repent as a people then he would pour out His spirit on them.

Fasting was the breeding ground that birthed revival and prepared the people for the new thing that God was going to do. God's got great things in store for you as well so make sure your doing all you can to ensure you don't miss out on anything He has planned.

Day 12

New Wine

(Read Mark 2:18-22)

God doesn't want you to hit a place in your lives where you plateau and become complacent or satisfied. He always wants to push you, stretch you, and prune you to produce more fresh fruit for His Kingdom. In the scriptures you just read fasting plays a key role in ushering in the new thing God wants to do in you and through you.

It's through fasting that God breaks us down to build us back up into the new wine skin that can handle the new wine (Fresh Anointing). Fasting is the preparation ground that reshapes, and remolds us for the next level.

If we don't fast we won't receive all of the new things He wants to give us therefore we can only get part of what He wants us to have. If we only get part of it, then we try to attach it to the old. That's like taking a piece of cloth from a new garment and trying to use it to patch an old garment. In the end both are ruined. We need a whole new garment! You don't want to miss the new thing that God wants to do in your life through fasting.

Day 13

Not Getting Through?

There may be times when you are fasting and praying and standing in faith, yet you still do not sense that anything is happening. There s no sprout showing through the dirt. Remember the faith of those before you. David said, I humbled myself with fasting; and my prayer would return to my own heart. I paced about as though he were my friend or brother; I bowed heavily, as one who mourns for his mother (Ps. 35:13-14).

Do not let the enemy drag you down with discouragement. Remember, God gives you the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. Sometimes you will not feel like praying when you are fasting, but pray anyway. You will be amazed how God will show up, and it will be like all of heaven has come down and glory has filled your soul.

In this same Psalm, David had not yet received an answer to his prayer, yet he was able to wait in faith, proclaiming the praises of God: Let the Lord be magnified, who has pleasure in the prosperity of His servant. And my tongue shall speak of Your righteousness and Your praise all the day long (vv.27-28). The Lord will reward your diligence; His delight is in the prosperity the wholeness of His children.

Remember the faith of Abraham, the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen (Heb. 11:1). It was that faith that was accredited to him as righteousness because he believed God. Even though Abraham s body was dead as far as fathering children was concerned, he still desired a child of his own. God desired it even more and gave him the promise of not only a son but also descendants more numerous than the stars of the sky (Gen. 15:4-6). When you believe God for something, you are exercising faith, which pleases Him. Are you dreaming the dreams of God for your life and your family? Are you believing Him for those things those evidences to come to pass?

Day 14

Go Vertical

(Read Colossians 3:1-3)

Everyone feels a need inside to be connected and that's normal because that's how we were created. Especially in the church there is a greater emphasis on community and while that is good, if we're not careful we can become to horizontally focused.

Particularly in America, church today is all about "me": "I want my needs met. Bless

me; teach me; help me". And while those are all legitimate needs and desires that need to be met we must keep in mind that the cross has two beams: one horizontal, but the other is vertical and the horizontal one wouldn't be where it's at without the vertical one holding it.

Fasting turns your desire more vertical and more in line with Gods desires. Though the need and desire to be connected with the community is a vital need that needs to be fulfilled you can't be connected in the right way unless you're first connected to and focused on Jesus.

Day 15

Worship Magnifies

(Read Matthew 22:37 + Romans 12:1)

There is dimensions of our glorious King that will never be revealed to the casual disinterested worshiper. There are walls of intercession that will never be scaled by dispassionate religious service. Fasting is an act of worship that causes you to break out of the ordinary routine and worship Him with passion and purity.

In doing so you will begin to see facets of His being you never knew existed. He will begin to share secrets with you about Himself, His plans, and His desires for you. Think of a magnifying glass. When you look through the lens you can see the intricate details about objects that you couldn't see without it. The object doesn't really get any bigger but your view of the object is enlarged which allows you to see things that you couldn't before.

When you worship God through fasting you magnify Him and are able to see things about Him that you couldn't see before. Your view of Him is enlarged as you become more sensitive to the spiritual realm. Don't miss out on the intricate details of who God is as revealed to you through fasting.

Day 16

Dirty Cups

What else does the Lord expect us to keep first? In the words of Jesus, Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you cleanse the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of extortion and self-indulgence. Blind Pharisee, first cleanse the inside of the cup and dish, that the outside of them may be clean also (Matt 23:25-26). Jesus was teaching the people to open the laws of God taught by the Pharisees, but He instructed the crowd not to do as the Pharisees did. They had gone overboard into legalism and in their extremes had gotten things out of order. For example, they cleaned a pretty cup on the outside but the inside was full

of crud that they had not cleaned out. Whether you are talking about your life or your cup, first clean the inside, because that makes all the rest much more presentable. Fasting will cause you to get the crud out, cleaning the inside, which will then make the outside clean.

Day 17

Cleansing/Healing

(Read Isaiah 58:8 + Proverbs 14:30)

The whole chapter of Isaiah 58 speaks of fasting but in verse 8 God said "Then your light will shine and break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily." Notice how He says "Then" which means 'after the fact'.

Every physical problem has a spiritual root and fasting can humble you and brings clarity to the spiritual root of physical problems in your life. This allows the Holy Spirit to get things like unforgiveness, bitterness, jealousy, and anything else lurking within you, out of your heart. Things like that are always linked to illnesses, fatigue, stress, and more. As stated in the proverb when your heart is at peace your body is healthy!

Receive the spiritual cleansing that God wants to do in your heart through fasting and it will bring healing to your whole being enabling you to enjoy the fullness of salvation that comes through Christ.

Day 18

For the Little Ones

After 70 years of Babylonian captivity Ezra was about to leave the remnants of Israel an entire generation of young people who had never seen the Temple of Jerusalem, including some very small children back to the Holy Land. It was going to be a treacherous journey home and they needed God's direction and hand of protection. Settled by the river, Ezra proclaimed a fast so that the people might humble themselves before God and seek His face. They needed to know the way that they should take for their protection and for the protection of their little ones.

We fast because we need to know the right way for our lives. We do not need to be confused as to our future or the choices before us. Fast, seek His face, and have faith that He will guide you.

We also fast for our little ones. Usually, it is assumed that there were children in the midst of the pilgrims. But here, Ezra sees such promise, such potential, and such grave danger for the next generation. We have the opportunity to stand up like

Ezra, to declare a holy fast for our children (Ezra 8:21) and to seek the Lord for the right way to lead this generation. Since we have been fasting we are already seeing God's hands leading us.

Day 19

The Order of Things

Take a look at several key aspects of life that we can get out of order. First, we often miss the significance of Paul's words: Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Thess. 5:23).

Notice that God's priority is concerned for your spirit first, your soul second, and your body third. We get that totally backwards always focusing on our body first and our spirits last. We worry about things such as, What will I wear? What will I eat? Where do I need Botox? Jesus told us not to worry about such things saying, Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? (Matthew 6:25).

According to God's principle of first things what you put first will order the rest. When you put your spirit first, you serve the things of the Holy Spirit rather than the desires of the flesh. As a result, your mind, will, emotions, as well as your physical body and health will fall in line according to the Spirit's leading. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live (Rom. 8:13).

Day 20

Dull but Comfortable

Finally, be strong in the Lord in the power of his might. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breast plate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation in the sword of the Spirit which is the word of God. (Eph. 6:10-17 NIV).

Have you ever seen a military man try to fit into his uniform 30 years later? Usually, it won't even come close to buttoning down the front. When you are a soldier, you stay fit; you stay healthy, alert, and ready. Paul said we should live that way because the days are evil. The enemy prowls around waiting to attack. Just as the angel told Daniel, principalities of nations rise to do battle, but we live as retired military, growing fat and comfortable. Moses fasted. Elijah fasted 40 days. Paul fasted 14 days. Jesus fasted 40 days. If the children of God do not fast, how will we ever get into the armor of God? How will we effectively wield the sword of the Spirit?

Understand, fasting and prayer sharpen the blade which is the word of God. When you fast, mealtimes often become study times. You become more keyed in to God's Word and God begins to show you deeper truth. It wasn't after finishing off a bag of chocolate covered donuts that Daniel got the visit from the angel. Daniel began to understand God's truth after fasting and getting alone with Him.

Understanding comes from the study of God's Word. Many Christians have just stopped fasting all together because they are battered and bruised or using dull blades to fight demonic powers. When you fast and pray you effectively sharpen the Word in your mouth. Instead of flippantly quoting Scripture, you now wield a powerful weapon with a razor-sharp edge that slashes the enemy when you speak.

Day 21

Howbeit

(Read Matthew 17:14-21 in the KJV)

In the scriptures you just read notice that word "howbeit" in verse 21. It is the connection to, or the key that reveals the power in the statement he made before in the verse 20 "nothing shall be impossible unto you"

Jesus told his disciples that they needed faith as a grain of a mustard seed but that wasn't all. Long before this incident the Holy Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness where he spent forty days and nights taking no food (fasting) which was the difference maker in Jesus being able to cast out the stubborn demon when his disciples couldn't, even though Jesus already told them earlier in Matthew 10:1 they had authority to cast out demons.

If Jesus could have accomplished all he came to do without fasting then why did he fast? The Son of God fasted because he knew there were supernatural things that could only be released into the natural realm through fasting. So you tell me how much more should fasting be a common practice in the life of a believer?

