

SEPTEMBER PRAYER AND FASTING GUIDE:

VICF – 3-day PRAYER and FASTING | Wednesday 15 – Friday 17 September 2021

EVANGELISM

If there is ever a time that we need to share the gospel, it is now! God has invited us to partner with Him in sharing the good news of the gospel. God has already provided us with the **MESSAGE** to share about His love for all humanity in sending His Son Jesus Christ. He has already **EMPOWERED** us with His Holy Spirit! But still, **MESSENGERS** are needed to share the truth with those who do not yet believe.

Intercessory prayer, coupled with our obedience to go and preach the gospel, is necessary so that people can *hear* this Good News – that there is a possibility to be forgiven; to have peace; to be free; to live eternally with God; and all that entails to being a child of God!

Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV) – ¹⁸ *All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*

HOW TO FAST

Fasting guide: Please take time to listen to our teaching on fasting in our VICF YouTube Channel

- **The following recommendations on how to fast are intended to guide us and not to be taken as rules.**
- Remember that **fasting is between you and God** and is essentially giving up food (or something else) for a period of time in order to focus on God. Thus, the most important aspect of fasting is ensuring you take time to spend time with God (pray, read the Bible, worship etc.).
- We highly recommend **limiting time on social media during the fasting period**. This will help you keep your focus and limit unnecessary distraction.
- Use the time that would be used for food consumption to spend time with God.

Fast	
1. For those who fast regularly*.	Fast from 0600-1800. During this time, we can have a drink e.g. water, apple juice or grape juice.
2. For those taking steps toward growing in fasting	Skip one meal and during that time have a drink e.g. water, apple juice or grape juice
3. For those who are pregnant and those with a medical condition that limits fasting e.g., diabetes.	Observe a partial fast. Skip choice food such as dessert, sweet pastries, snacks (chocolate etc.).

*Pls note, feel free to have a full fast for the whole time (no food and water or water only) if this is your regular way of fasting.

If you are uncertain of how to fast, please feel free to contact any of the pastors for guidance.

Please feel free to follow this guide as we fast and pray together as part of the Body of Christ in VICF. (You may also pray for your own needs too, of course!)

Intercession Guide | Evangelism

Evangelism is not only a task for a selected group of people. Every believer is called to evangelize; to be a witness for Christ in both word and deed. During the next 3 days, meditate on the following Scriptures related to evangelism. Ask God for a revelation on evangelism.

1. Romans 1:16 (ESV) – *For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.*
2. Acts 20:24 (ESV) Paul said – *But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.*
3. Matthew 5:13-16 (ESV) – ¹³ *You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.* ¹⁴ *You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.* ¹⁵ *Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.* ¹⁶ *In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*
4. Isaiah 61:1 (ESV) – *The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound.*

Intercession | Prayer Points

EVANGELISM

Over the next three days, pray for:

1. A loved one, sibling or relative who is not saved
2. A friend who is not saved
3. A specific person at your workplace (or other social circles) who is not saved

Ask God to reveal to you His heart and His love for them and pray for wisdom on how to share the gospel to them. Pray for boldness and act in accordance with the Lord's guidance on how to share the gospel to them.

GLOBAL

Zanzibar | Prayer Focus 2021

In 2021, we want to have an ongoing special intercessory prayer focus for the island of Zanzibar in Tanzania. Join us throughout the year as we pray for "breakthrough in Zanzibar"!

According to '30 days of prayer for the Muslim world', Zanzibar has a population of 1.4 million, of which over 99% would identify themselves as Muslim, but with a lot of witchcraft also practiced. Zanzibar was a centre for the East African slave trade and is known for having the "strongest" witch doctors in East Africa.

- Pray for unity among churches and believers.
- Pray for the political leaders.
- Pray for the light of the gospel to shine upon her people.

NATIONAL

Finland is shifting away from the Word of God quite quickly.
Let's pray for this nation we are living in.

- Pray for wisdom for the political leaders of the nation.
- Pray for a turning back to the ways of God in Finland.
- Pray for unity in the church and that the church will focus on "Finishing God's Mission in Finland"; specifically with a boldness to evangelize.
- Pray against Covid-19 – For healings, and for the pandemic to end.

VICF

- Pray that the Lord will give us a Spirit of wisdom and revelation.
- Pray that the Lord will give us a hunger for His word.
- Pray for Unity in the church.

PERSONAL

- Pray for your family members.
- Personal prayer focus for 2021