2025

"Accelerate and Ascend, Perfecting Kingdom Vision and Shifting into the Future; It's Time to Thrive in 2025"

(1 Kings 18:41-46, Amos 9:13-15, Psalm 138:8)



Please join us in our consecration prayer from 7 pm to 8 pm.

Days 1-4 & 6-11 (Monday-Saturday) @ 7pm on the prayer line. Days 5 & 12 (Sundays) @ 6pm in-person prayer in the sanctuary. Subject to be amended per Apostle's leading.



Greater New Bethel Sounds of Praise 351 Greyback Road Summerville, SC 29483

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Living Intentionally in the Kingdom: Everywhere, All the Time, Every Part Focused, 24/7

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2025 Nightly Prayer Schedule Prayer will be held via the prayer line Monday-Saturday at 7pm.

Number: 605-472-5308 Access Code: 806909 (*Subject to change, per Apostle's leading)

Day 1 - Wednesday – Bishop A.H. Simmons	Day 7 - Tuesday - Dr. C. Clark
Day 2 - Thursday - Elect Lady J.Y. Simmons	Day 8 - Wednesday - Elder S. Graves
Day 3 - Friday - Dr. L. Adams	Day 9 - Thurdsay - Pastor Y. Wigfall
Day 4 - Saturday – Elder K. D. Hartwell	Day 10 - Friday - Elder B. Snider/Elder T. Malloy
Day 5 - Sunday - In the Sanctuary (In person)	Day 11 - Saturday - Elder E. Johnson
Day 6 - Monday - Elder S. Shepherd	Day 12 - Sunday - In the Sanctuary (In person)

^{*}Alternate Prayer Leaders Mother Wright and Dr. Simpson

Words of Encouragement

From the Desk of: Bishop Allen H. Simmons, Chief Apostle & Presiding Prelate & Elect Lady Judge Jan Y. Simmons, Shepherd Mother

God Bless the NBSOP Saints:

As we embark on this twelve-day consecration, let us focus on the theme: "Accelerate and Ascend." This is a divine call to elevate our faith, deepen our spiritual connection, and move forward with God's purpose at an accelerated pace. Just as Elijah heard the sound of abundant rain (1 Kings 18:41-46), we too must position ourselves with expectancy, knowing that God is ready to pour out His blessings upon us.

This is a season of fulfillment where the promises of Amos 9:13-15 are being realized: "The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman and the planter by the one treading grapes. New wine will drip from the mountains and flow from all the hills." This is the time for acceleration, a time where what took years will now take moments, and where we will ascend to new heights in every area of our lives. But to walk in this prophetic acceleration, we must prepare ourselves spiritually, mentally, and emotionally.

This Kingdom season requires intentionality and engagement. We must:

- 1. **Elevate Our Prayer Lives:** Commit to fervent, persistent prayer as Elijah did, refusing to give up until the manifestation of God's promises.
- 2. Walk in Unity and Purpose: Just as a unified church can move mountains, we must align ourselves with God's vision and work together in harmony to fulfill our collective call.
- 3. **Strengthen Our Faith:** Believe that God will complete what He has started in us, for as Psalms 138:8 declares, "The Lord will perfect that which concerns me; Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever."

God has positioned us for greater victories in 2025. Last year was one of triumph and productivity, and now, we are called to ascend higher and accelerate further in His work. This is a time for supernatural growth and breakthrough—for our families, communities, church, marriages, and personal walk with Christ.

Our Mandate:

- To intentionally pursue God's presence.
- To proactively engage in evangelism and outreach.
- To build up the Body of Christ through love, forbearance, and unity.

As we consecrate ourselves, let us remain steadfast in prayer, actively participate in the nightly prayer line, and support one another in faith. Remember, God responds to our prayers even before we call (Isaiah 65:24). He is moving swiftly, and we must keep pace with Him, aligning our lives with His perfect will.

Let's unite in this journey of acceleration and ascension, believing for a remarkable year of spiritual and community impact. Together, with God's guidance, we will see His promises fulfilled, His blessings overflow, and His glory revealed in and through us.

Be Encouraged, Stay Committed, and Prepare to Accelerate and Ascend in 2025!

From the Desk of: Dr. Catherine H. Clark, Associate & Intercessor Pastor

I am excited about this year's theme, "Accelerate and Ascend: Perfecting Kingdom Vision and Shifting into the Future."

We must first realize that we are living in the last days, where it is our duty and responsibility to live our lives according to God's commands and His perfect will. We need to accelerate and move quickly into the work of the Kingdom of God, which is the Great Commission. Matthew 28:16-20 says, "Go ye therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to observe all things that I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world." God's heart is for everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. This is why it is very important for us to ascend, to go out into the vineyard, and compel them to come. For thus says the Lord in Matthew 9:37-38, "The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest."

In Matthew 7:16-20, it says, "Ye shall know them by their fruit." Where are your fruit? Are you doing the Great Commission? Are you living a life pleasing to God? Matthew 5:16 tells us to, "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in Heaven." We must ascend—go up or climb—like never before because of the times and the seasons we are living in. For His Word declares in John 9:4, "I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day. The night cometh when no man can work."

We need to accelerate and increase how we show love and kindness to each other. We need to *Accelerate and Ascend, Perfecting Kingdom Vision and Shifting Into the Future*. We need to accelerate our love for one another and ascend in unity and prayer, for prayer is the weapon that God has given to the saints. It is the key to the Kingdom, and faith unlocks the door. For as Matthew 18:19 says, "If two shall agree on earth as touching anything they shall ask, it shall be done for them of my Father which is in Heaven." So, let us accelerate and ascend, perfecting Kingdom vision.

Our visionary, Apostle Allen Hezekiah Simmons, has written the vision. He has made it plain upon tables that he may run that reads it. 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 (Habakkuk 2:3). So let us therefore be patient on this faith walk. Let us study the Word of God and keep a godly mindset. Ascend in your peace, your patience, your love, your kindness, and your gentleness. Accelerate the mindset to put on the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places (Ephesians 6:12). I affirm that we accelerate and ascend, perfecting Kingdom vision and shifting into the future.

Thank you, Sister Tiffany Newton and Associate Pastor David Hartwell, for our theme. Words cannot express my gratitude for your excellence in producing an exciting and spirit filled prayer manual every year. May God open up the windows of Heaven and pour you out blessings that there will not be room enough to receive them, in Jesus' name!

Accelerate and Ascend, Perfecting Kingdom Vision and Shifting into the Future 2025

From the Desk of: Dr. Latitia R. Adams, Co-Pastor

Let's Gooooooo!!

As we step boldly into 2025, the call to Accelerate and Ascend in the Kingdom is resounding louder than ever. Our God is a God of duality (He doesn't just do one thing) and forward movement (so stop looking in that rearview mirror), and this new year is an invitation to align ourselves with His divine pace and purpose; we are going higher, quickly!! The Word of God provides clear direction for this journey:

In 1 Kings 18:41-46, we witness Elijah declaring the "sound" of an abundance of rain before a single drop fell from the sky. His faith activated Heaven's timing, and his persistence in prayer brought forth a supernatural breakthrough. This passage reminds us that acceleration begins with vision and is sustained by faith and prayer. But let us not forget that Sound of Praise which was the catalyst for everything. We must keep our praise high and lifted up, and not let the name of Jesus go down!!

Then, Amos 9:13-15 captures the promise of divine acceleration, declaring, "...the days are coming," says the Lord, "when the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman and the planter by the one treading grapes." God's blessings will come so swiftly that they will overtake us!! This is a season to prepare our hearts for rapid harvests and restoration, knowing that God's hand is upon every aspect of our lives. Are you ready to receive all that God wants to give to you? Build your capacity to receive by increasing your prayer life, studying your Word, and being intentional in your worship - these build relationship, which in turn, builds your capacity to hear, respond and receive.

Next, Psalm 138:8 assures us that "The Lord will perfect that which concerns me; Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever." In this promise lies the confidence that God's plans for us are not only good but complete. As we accelerate, He will ensure that we ascend with clarity, purpose, and strength, and we become perfected or matured. This is a time of rapid growth, but growth without maturity is unbalanced development, so we must ensure that we are wholistically pursuing God's plans for us so that He can finish what He started in us.

As we consecrate ourselves for 2025, let us focus on perfecting our Kingdom vision. This involves shedding the limitations of past seasons and embracing the "new thing" God is doing (Isaiah 43:18-19). Let us ascend into higher dimensions of faith, maturity, and obedience, trusting that it's getting ready to happen...actually, it has already begun!! Don't get left behind! Com'on...It's not too late to get on board Flight 351of SOP Airlines!! We are going higher!!

Let this year be marked by fervent prayer, audacious faith, relentless praise and a readiness to not only be hearers, but doers of God's Word. As Helen Keller once said, "The only thing worse than being blind, is having sight but no vision." In this year of Acceleration and Ascension, may our vision be clear, our steps be bold, and our faith be unshakable; it may be uncomfortable, but we are unstoppable!! Together, let us rise to new heights in the Kingdom, knowing that the rain is coming, the harvest is ripe, and God's promises are yes and amen.

I am SO ready to Accelerate and Ascend, are you?

Accelerate and Ascend

From the Desk of: Elder Stanley Shephard, Associate Pastor

God Bless the NBSOP Saints:

In this ever-changing landscape of our lives, we find ourselves at a pivotal moment where challenges abound, opportunities await, and God is calling us to higher levels of faith and purpose. As we embark on this prayer journey, it is essential to recognize the divine call to accelerate and ascend in every aspect of our spiritual and personal lives.

To accelerate is to move forward with urgency and purpose, and to ascend is to rise above limitations, reaching new heights in our relationship with God and our Kingdom assignments. This journey demands a shift in perspective, a commitment to spiritual growth, and alignment with divine guidance.

The concept of momentum written throughout the pages of the Bible reminds us that God's plan for us is a journey filled with progress and elevation. In 1 Kings 18:41-46, Elijah heard the sound of abundance before it was visible, and through persistent faith and prayer, the rain came. Similarly, in Amos 9:13-15, God's promise of restoration speaks of blessings overtaking us—a season where acceleration propels us into divine overflow. Psalms 138:8 assures us that "The Lord will perfect that which concerns me; Your mercy, O Lord, endures forever."

As we move forward, let us embrace this season of acceleration and ascension with expectant hearts, knowing that God is propelling us into greater victories and divine fulfillment.

As we journey together in this season, may you find inspiration, strength, and guidance to embrace the path of continuous growth and purposeful living. Let us move forward with hearts full of hope and faith, knowing that God is with us every step of the way, urging us to accelerate and ascend in His perfect plan.

Accelerate and Ascend 2025

From the Desk of: Elder Thomasena Malloy, Associate Pastor

Moving Forward and Higher in the New Year

Psalm 138: 8 NLT

The Lord will work out His plans for my life... for your faithful love endures forever.

Don't abandon me, for you made me,

For many of us 2024 was a great year. However, there are some of us still waiting for God to move...our breakthrough!!! We must remember that God's timing is not our timing.... But you must not forget this one thing, dear friends: A day is like a thousand years to the Lord, and a thousand years is like a day. 2 Peter 3:8 NLT.

God's Plan for Your Life

God will work out his plan for your life, and you do not need to worry or make it happen yourself. God knows the best path and will open the right doors and bring the right people.

God knows what concerns you and what's most important to you. Your/our confidence must be based on God's mercy which endures forever. God is the same yesterday, today and forever. What God has promised he will bring to past.

As we move into the new year, we must continue to trust God no matter what it looks like. Let's continue to move forward and higher in God knowing He will never fail us.

Accelerate and Ascend by Moving Forward with God's Guidance

From the Desk of: Elder Charles Graves, Associate Pastor

As we continue our journey of faith, let us trust that God provides all that we need and more. Proverbs 3:5-6 reminds us to trust in the Lord with all our hearts and to lean not on our own understanding. In doing so, He will direct our paths and lead us to the best life He has planned for us.

Life may present challenges that try to push us off course, but we must keep the Lord at the center of our hearts and minds. Proverbs 1:7 teaches us that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, and by seeking Him, He will show us the right way and help us make wise decisions.

No matter the changes or obstacles we face in our daily lives, let us always rely on God's strength and guidance. He will help us overcome difficulties, provide for our families, and bless us with opportunities to grow. When we place our trust in Him, we will experience His abundant grace and faithfulness.

Let us move forward together, always thanking God for His unending blessings in our lives!

2025 Prayer Manual Theme: Accelerate and Ascend

From the Desk of: Elder Bernie Snider, Associate Pastor

Message of Encouragement to the Greater New Bethel Church Family

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

As we embark on this season of prayer, reflection, and spiritual growth, let us rejoice in the assurance that we are walking in a time of *divine favor* ordained by God. The theme for this year, "Accelerate and Ascend," is a divine call for us to trust God's timing, embrace His promises, and move forward with purpose and faith.

The Scriptures guide us in this truth:

- In **1 Kings 18:41-46**, we see Elijah declare the sound of an abundance of rain before the first drop even falls. This passage reminds us that in this season, God is calling us to believe His promises before we see them fulfilled. Faith will be the catalyst for acceleration.
- Amos 9:13-15 declares, "The days are coming... when the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman." This scripture speaks to divine acceleration—God is moving swiftly to bring about blessings, restoration, and overflow. Prepare your hearts to receive what God is releasing!
- Psalms 138:8 assures us, "The Lord will perfect that which concerns me." In this, we find confidence that God is completing the good work He has begun in each of us. Trust Him to guide every step of the ascent.

Church family, as we step into this extraordinary season, let us anchor ourselves in these promises and **stay focused.** Distractions, delays, and discouragement may try to hinder us, but remember: God has already gone before us. Fix your eyes on Him, remain steadfast in prayer, and pursue His will with unwavering determination.

This is a season of *divine favor*—a time to accelerate into the purposes He has for us and ascend to greater heights in faith, unity, and impact. Together, let us press forward, fully convinced that God is faithful to fulfill His promises.

Be encouraged, Greater New Bethel family, for the rain is coming, the harvest is here, and the Lord will perfect all that concerns you.

Preparing for The New Year by Accelerating and Ascending with Purpose

From the Desk of: Pastor Yvonne H. Wigfall, Associate Pastor

As we draw closer to the New Year, it's an ideal time for reflection, renewal, and preparation for the year ahead. As Christians, we are called to live with purpose and intention, seeking God's will in all areas of our lives. Preparing for The New Year is not just about setting goals; it's about aligning our hearts and minds with God's plan and embracing the new year with faith and readiness. Here are some practical and spiritual steps to help you prepare for the coming year, rooted in biblical truth.

1. Reflect on God's Faithfulness in the Past Year

Before planning for the future, take time to thank God for the blessings, lessons, and challenges of the past year. Reflection allows us to see God's hand in every season of life.

Scripture Inspiration:

• "Let all that I am praise the Lord; may I never forget the good things he does for me." (Psalm 103:2 NLT)

Practical Tips:

- Journal your highlights from last year, including answered prayers, personal growth, and moments
 of gratitude.
- Host a family or small group discussion to share testimonies of God's faithfulness.
- Create a "thankfulness jar" where you jot down things you're grateful for before the year ends.

2. Deepen Your Relationship with God

A closer walk with God should be the foundation of any new year preparation. Seek Him in prayer, worship, and study His Word as you enter the New Year.

Scripture Inspiration:

"Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take." (Proverbs 3:6 NLT)

Practical Tips:

- Commit to a Bible reading plan for 2025; many plans are available online for various durations and themes.
- Start a consistent prayer schedule, dedicating a specific time each day to spend with God.
- Memorize key verses that inspire you to trust in God's guidance throughout the year.

3. Set Christ-Centered Goals

Rather than simply creating resolutions, set goals that glorify God and align with His will for your life.

Scripture Inspiration:

• "So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." (1 Corinthians 10:31 NLT)

Practical Tips:

- Evaluate different areas of your life—spiritual, relational, financial, and physical—and prayerfully consider where God may be calling you to grow.
- Write down S.M.A.R.T. goals (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Time-bound) that reflect biblical principles.
- Include accountability by sharing your goals with a trusted friend or mentor.

4. Let Go of Past Baggage

Entering a new year with unresolved issues or lingering guilt can hinder spiritual growth. Seek forgiveness, offer forgiveness, and trust God with your burdens.

Scripture Inspiration:

• "Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing!" (Isaiah 43:18-19 NLT)

Practical Tips:

- Spend time in prayer asking the Holy Spirit to reveal areas of unforgiveness or bitterness.
- Write letters of apology or forgiveness (even if you don't send them) to release emotional burdens.
- Practice surrender by symbolically laying down your worries and mistakes at the feet of Jesus in prayer.

5. Serve Others and Build Community

A new year is an opportunity to focus outward, serving others as Christ did and strengthening relationships with fellow believers.

Scripture Inspiration:

- "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45 NLT)
- Volunteer at a local ministry or nonprofit organization during the holiday season and beyond.
- Intentionally reach out to friends and family to reconnect or repair relationships.
- Join or lead a small group Bible study to encourage spiritual growth in community.

6. Practice Financial Stewardship

Planning for the new year should include a review of how you manage your finances. God calls us to be wise stewards of the resources He provides.

Scripture Inspiration:

• "The wise have wealth and luxury, but fools spend whatever they get." (Proverbs 21:20 NLT)

Practical Tips:

- Create a budget for the new year that prioritizes giving, saving, and spending wisely.
- Tithe faithfully and consider supporting a missionary or ministry as part of your financial giving.
- Take a financial course or use budgeting tools to help you stay on track.

7. Cultivate a Heart of Expectancy

The new year is a time of anticipation. Trust God for what lies ahead, knowing that His plans are always good.

Scripture Inspiration:

• "For I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord. "They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11 NLT)

Practical Tips:

- Begin each day with a prayer of surrender, asking God to prepare your heart for His plans in the new year.
- Write down hopes and dreams for the year, committing them to God's will.
- Surround yourself with positive, faith-filled people who encourage you to trust God's timing.

Closing Thoughts

Preparing for the new year isn't just about making resolutions; it's about intentionally seeking God's direction, living with purpose, and embracing the opportunities He places before you. As you reflect on the past year and look forward to the coming year, remember that God is faithful and His plans for you are good. May you enter the new year with a heart full of faith, ready to walk boldly in the path He has prepared.

May your new year be blessed, and may you Accelerate and Ascend trusting in God's goodness and grace!

Blessings

Praying with Expectation

Join us nightly in prayer from 7 pm to 8 pm/Sundays at 6pm

- 1. **Give Thanks:** 1 Thessalonians 5:18, "In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you."
- 2. **Pray**: <u>Matthew 21:22</u>, "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." <u>John 16:24</u>, "Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full."
 - a. The first principle in tapping into the power of prayer is actually praying. Praying is actually plugging in the connection to tapping into the Power of Prayer.
- 3. Recognize the Power is not in the person praying but the Power is in God: Matthew 19:26, "But Jesus beheld them, and said unto them, With men this is impossible; but with God all things are possible." Jeremiah 10:12, "He hath made the earth by his power, he hath established the world by his wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by his discretion."
 - a. The second principle is acknowledging the Power from Prayer comes from God the Almighty.
- 4. **Pray with Confidence:** *I John 5:14-1,* "And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us: ¹⁵ And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him."
 - a. Confidence is approaching God knowing that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. Praying with confidence is having faith and believing that God hears us and will answer.
- 5. **Pray Sincerely:** If we walk through the book of Psalms, we will see that David prayed sincerely to God. He often shared his deepest hurts, concerns and feelings. He recognized God for His true righteousness. When praying sincerely, we must be mindful not to use prayer as a bargaining tool to try to manipulate God into do what we want.
- 6. Communicate with God: John 16:13, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come."
 - a. Our communication with God should not only be when we want something. We should recognize that God wants fellowship and relationship with us. He wants to bless but He also wants to guide us, love us and protect us. How would you feel if the only time someone called on you was when they needed something or wanted something from you?
- 7. Pray for Acceptance of God's Will: Jeremiah 29:11, "For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."

2025 Consecration Commitment

12 Days of Consecration and Fasting Devotional

Theme: Accelerate and Ascend—Perfecting Kingdom Vision and Shifting into the Future

The Lord will perfect that which concerneth me: thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever: forsake not the works of thine own hands. Psalms 138:8

Phase	Days	Fasting Method	Purpose and Focus
Complete Fast	Days 1-12	6 am - 6 pm (water only - follow regular medical advice)	Establish a foundation of surrender, prayer and dependence on God.

Refrain from eating or drinking (according to your health and dietary needs) between the hours of 6:00 am to 6:00 pm each day from January 1st to January 12th. New Year's Day, Saturdays, and Sundays are exceptions. The fasting time is 6:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Direct your prayers purposefully throughout the fasting period. Let us remember to pray for our spiritual leadership, our national leadership, our country, our world and God's Divine Kingdom worldwide. Our prayers should not be limited to our spiritual foundation but also to the government, communities and society in general. World peace, financial and economic stability, the spreading of the gospel, and unity are things that can be included in our prayers. By placing the concerns of others on the altar, we trust that God will heed our prayers, bringing healing to our land and address our personal needs.

Step 1: Set Your Objective

• Why are you fasting? Seek the Holy Spirit for guidance and clarity.

Step 2: Make Your Commitment

- What type of fast are you enduring?
- What are your limitations? Socially and physically
- How much time will you devote to prayer and study daily?

Step 3: Prepare Yourself Spiritually

- Ask God to help you make a comprehensive list of your spiritual needs.
- Confess every sin that the Holy Spirit calls to your remembrance and accept forgiveness.
- Seek forgiveness from those you have offended.
- Ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit

Step 4: Prepare Yourself Physically

- Consult your physician if you take prescription medication or have a chronic ailment.
- Prepare your body by eating smaller meals before starting a fast.

Fasting Fundamentals

- Plan Your Fast
- Consider Your Schedule
- Tell Only the People You Must
- Wean Yourself Off Caffeine and High Sugary Foods Several days before your fast begins, you should start weaning yourself off caffeine and high sugary foods. Some people experience unbearable headaches 2 to 3 days after ceasing to drink caffeinated products.
- Beware of Your Emotions and Heightened Sense of Spiritual Awareness
- Be Still and Focus on God
- Expect physical changes. During fasting, expect your physical body to change as it is physically detoxing in addition to your spiritual detoxing. You could experience symptoms such as headache, fatigue, nausea, foggy brain, bad breath etc.
- Drink water according to your health and dietary needs.
- Establish a time for reading and meditating on the Word. Read the Word and think through what you have read.
- You must refrain from critical speaking, spreading negative words about or to anyone. If you have friends that tempt you into this lifestyle, then you must plan to take a break from them.
- Limit watching and listening to the TV and Radio; Focusing on religious and educational shows, rather than things that could cloud your judgment.
- Establish a form of accountability during your fast, either a prayer partner or another person in the fast.
- Check your mind at all times. Remember if it means nothing to you, then it will mean nothing to God. If you do not combine your fasting with prayer and the Word, it will mean nothing more than dieting.

What Happens to My Body While I Am Fasting?

Your body will go through physical changes. Do not be alarmed; this is all natural as your body begins to detox and eliminate waste. Listed below are some changes that you may experience.

- Feelings of hunger
- Light-headed and/or Dizziness
- Body odor
- Constipation
- Dark urine
- Skin irritation
- Bad breath
- Nausea
- Coated Tongue
- Change in energy levels
- Sinuses may be clogged

These physical changes are occurring during the fast because your body is going through a detoxification process in which it is expelling wastes and toxins. Your body will then begin to pull energy from fat that is stored. Skin irritation, body odor, bad breath, and coated tongue are just ways that your body is naturally expelling wastes and toxins.

In the beginning, your energy levels will drop and you may feel fatigue, hunger, irritation and even light-headed. This is natural, so expect it. Do not give up. Around day eight, your energy levels will balance and you will feel energized as if you were exercising. Most people have a clear mind and appear to function at better rates than before they started the fast.

As you will see, fasting benefits your physical body as well as your spirit. The biggest benefit of fasting both for the physical and for the spirit is that it naturally detoxes you and pulls from your reserve. Naturally, it pulls fat that is stored up and spiritually it quiets external influences and forces your spirit to pull from your spiritual reserve.

What Happens Spiritually While I Am Fasting?

Fasting is essential to our spiritual lives because it enables the Holy Spirit to reveal our true identity and spiritual condition that will lead to repentance and a transformed life. Fasting helps us to hear from God clearly and get His direction. Fasting prepares the individual and the church for the ministry and the work God has planned for us. When we fast, we are disconnecting from the world and our comfort zone and relying on God to fill us. When done sincerely and honestly fasting aligns us to live the holy life that God desires of us.

Fasting is a valuable tool that God has given us that offers numerous benefits. Listed below are some benefits of fasting.

Brings spiritual clarity

• **Surrender comfort-** Fasting pulls you out of your comfort zone and kills your fleshly desires. It helps you to focus on your spirit and not your flesh. It promotes self-discipline.

Reveals things that control us

 Abstaining from food helps to regain mastery of flesh. Fasting reveals to us where our attention is diverted from God and resets our attention back to God.

Unlocks Spiritual Power

• Breaks Satanic Strongholds - Matthew 17:20-21 So Jesus said to them, "Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."

Builds trust and develops greater intimacy with God.

• Just like any relationship, the more time and energy that you invest in it will produce greater intimacy and a deeper bond.

2025 Consecration: My Personal Plan

My Consecration Commitment

My Objective:

My Prayer Target Areas:

My Personal Study Topics:

My Personal Study Time:

Additional Comments:



12 Days of Consecration and Fasting

- January 1~ Hunger for Word, Thirst for Righteousness, Obedience to the Word
- January 2~ New Bethel Church Leadership (Pastors, Deacons, Ministry Leaders)
- January 3 ~ Community and Government (President, Governors, etc)
- January 4 ~ Family, Friends, Enemies, Associates, Co-workers
- January 5 ~ New Bethel Sounds of Praise, Provision, Finances, Auxiliaries/Ministries
- January 6 ~ National SOP Vision, Leadership
- January 7 ~ Renewed Hope and Revival
- January 8 ~ Unity of the Spirit, Bond of Peace, Oneness Mind/Speech
- January 9 ~ Uncommon Love, Strengthened Faith, Acceptance of One Another
- January 10 ~ Employment, Sick and Shut In, Restoration of the Saints
- January 11 ~ Relationships, Church Growth and Power to Connect
- January 12 ~ Endowment Power, Leading of the Holy Spirit and Anointing of the House and Members



Hunger for the Word, Thirst for Righteousness, Obedience to the Word

Scripture References:

- Matthew 5:6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."
- Psalm 119:105 "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."
- James 1:22 "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."

Devotion:

Our journey to accelerate and ascend begins with a renewed hunger and thirst for God's Word and righteousness. Just as physical hunger drives us to seek nourishment, spiritual hunger compels us to draw closer to God. The Word of God provides the wisdom, strength, and direction we need to move forward in faith. It is not enough to simply read the Word; obedience activates its power in our lives.

Righteousness is not achieved through our own strength but by aligning our hearts and actions with God's will. As we pursue righteousness, we position ourselves to receive God's promises and move forward in His vision for our lives. Obedience to His Word not only accelerates our spiritual growth but also sets us on a path to ascend in His purpose.

Action of the Day:

Spend at least 30 minutes meditating on a passage of Scripture, such as Psalm 119:1-16. Journal what God reveals to you and write down one area where you will commit to immediate obedience.

Prayer:

Lord, we desire a deeper hunger for Your Word and thirst for Your righteousness. Teach us to obey You fully, and let Your Word guide every step we take. Fill us with Your Spirit as we pursue You with all our hearts. Amen.

New Bethel Church Leadership (Pastors, Deacons, Ministry Leaders)

Scripture References:

- Hebrews 13:17 "Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account."
- 1 Timothy 5:17 "Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching."
- Exodus 17:12 "But Moses' hands were heavy; and they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it; and Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side and one on the other."

Devotion:

Leadership is a divine calling. God places leaders in our midst to guide, teach, and shepherd His people. However, the role of a leader is not without challenges. It is our responsibility as a church body to honor and support them. Just as Aaron and Hur lifted Moses' hands during the battle, we are called to strengthen and encourage our leaders so they can carry out their assignments with joy and effectiveness.

Following leadership is an act of trust and obedience to God. By praying for and working alongside our pastors, deacons, and ministry leaders, we contribute to the unity and growth of the church. As we accelerate and ascend this year, let us commit to being a source of encouragement and support for our leadership.

Action of the Day:

Take time to pray for each leader by name. Send a note of encouragement, a text message, or even a small gift to a leader in your church, letting them know you appreciate their service.

Prayer:

Father, we thank You for the leaders You have placed in our church. Strengthen and guide them as they carry out Your vision. Help us to honor, support, and follow them with humility and unity. Amen.

Community and Government (President, Governors, etc.)

Scripture References:

- 1 Timothy 2:1-2 "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession, and thanksgiving be made for all people—for kings and all those in authority."
- Proverbs 21:1 "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord; like the rivers of water, He turns it wherever He wishes."
- Micah 6:8 "He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

Devotion:

God commands us to pray for our community and those in authority, regardless of their policies or positions. This is not only an act of obedience but also a demonstration of faith in God's sovereignty. When we intercede for our leaders, we invite God's wisdom, justice, and peace into their decision-making processes.

Our prayers can change the trajectory of cities, nations, and even the world. As we seek to accelerate and ascend, let us commit to being salt and light in our communities by praying fervently, engaging in acts of service, and being examples of Christ's love.

Action of the Day:

Pray specifically for the President, Governors, and local officials by name. Write a list of ways you can positively impact your community this month and commit to one act of service, such as volunteering or donating to a local charity.

Prayer:

Lord, we lift up our community and government leaders to You. Guide their decisions with wisdom and justice. Use us as instruments of Your peace and love in our communities. Amen.

Family, Friends, Enemies, Associates, Co-workers

Scripture References:

- Romans 12:18 "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."
- Matthew 5:44 "But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you."
- Colossians 3:13 "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

Devotion:

Relationships are central to the Kingdom of God. Whether with family, friends, or even enemies, God calls us to love, forgive, and pursue peace. Our relationships often serve as the testing ground for our faith and obedience. Sometimes it is hard to pray for the people closet to us that may have hurt us the most. It is important that we are intentional and honest in our prayers.

To accelerate and ascend, we must embrace reconciliation and love, even when it's challenging. When we forgive and pray for others—especially those who have wronged us—we reflect God's grace and create opportunities for healing and restoration. Today, let us focus on strengthening our relationships and extending God's love to everyone in our sphere of influence.

Action of the Day:

Make a list of family members, friends, and co-workers you want to pray for today. If there's someone you need to forgive, take a moment to release them in prayer. Consider reaching out to a loved one to express your gratitude or mend a strained relationship.

Praver:

Father, help us to love as You love and forgive as You forgive. Strengthen our relationships and give us the courage to pursue peace with everyone in our lives. Amen.

New Bethel Sounds of Praise, Provision, Finances, Auxiliaries/Ministries

Scripture References:

- Psalm 150:6 "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord."
- Philippians 4:19 "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."
- 2 Corinthians 9:8 "And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work."

Devotion:

Praise invites God's presence and aligns our hearts with His provision. Ministries and auxiliaries are vital parts of church life, and they require our prayers, financial support, and active participation. Today, we focus on asking God to bless and provide for our church's ministries and auxiliaries so they can continue to glorify Him and bless His people.

When we praise God in faith and support His work with generosity, we position ourselves to see His supernatural provision. Let us commit to uplifting New Bethel's Sounds of Praise, finances, and ministries with both our prayers and actions.

Action of the Day:

Spend time in praise and worship today, focusing on God's faithfulness. Consider sowing a financial seed into a church ministry or volunteering your time to support an auxiliary.

Prayer:

Lord, we lift up New Bethel's Sounds of Praise, finances, and ministries to You. Bless them abundantly and let them glorify Your name in all they do. Amen.

National SOP – Vision, Leadership

Scripture References:

- Proverbs 29:18 "Where there is no vision, the people perish."
- Habakkuk 2:2 "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it."
- 1 Corinthians 1:10 "I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you."

Devotion:

Vision and leadership go hand in hand. For the National SOP to fulfill its mission, it requires clarity, unity, and a commitment to God's purpose. A God-given vision must be supported by prayer, strategic planning, and collaboration.

As we accelerate and ascend, let us pray for the leadership of the National SOP to receive fresh revelation and boldness to carry out their work. When we align ourselves with God's vision, He equips us to run with it and bring it to fruition.

Action of the Day:

Pray specifically for the leaders of the National SOP. Write down ways you can support their vision, whether through prayer, resources, or participation.

Prayer:

Lord, bless the leadership of the National SOP. Give them vision, wisdom, and unity to fulfill the work You have called them to. Amen.

Renewed Hope and Revival

Scripture References:

- Psalm 85:6 "Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?"
- Isaiah 43:19 "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"
- Acts 3:19 "Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord."

Devotion:

Revival begins in the heart of every believer. It is a renewed passion for God, a fresh outpouring of His Spirit, and a turning back to Him in faith. When we repent and seek God wholeheartedly, He promises to restore and refresh us.

Renewed hope fuels revival. It reminds us that God is still at work and that His promises remain true. As we consecrate ourselves, let us cry out for personal and corporate revival, believing that God is ready to do a new thing in our midst.

Action of the Day:

Dedicate a portion of your day to prayer and worship, asking God to revive your heart and renew hope in your spirit. Write down one area of your life where you need God to bring revival.

Prayer:

Lord, revive us again and renew our hope in You. Let Your Spirit move mightily in our hearts and in our church. Amen.

Unity of the Spirit, Bond of Peace, Oneness of Mind and Speech

Scripture References:

- Ephesians 4:3 "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."
- 1 Corinthians 1:10 "I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you."
- Psalm 133:1 "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"

Devotion:

Unity is a powerful force in the Kingdom of God. It is through the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace that the church becomes a strong and unshakable force. Division weakens the body, but when we align our hearts, minds, and speech, we reflect the love and harmony of Christ.

To accelerate and ascend as a church, we must prioritize unity, speaking words of encouragement and working together toward a common goal. Let us commit to being peacemakers and bridge-builders, ensuring that the Spirit of unity thrives among us.

Action of the Day:

Take time to reflect on your words and actions. Are they contributing to unity or division? Reach out to someone in your church or community and express gratitude or seek reconciliation if needed.

Prayer:

Lord, we ask for Your Spirit of unity to fill our hearts. Help us to speak and act in ways that promote peace and harmony within our church and community. Amen.

Uncommon Love, Strengthened Faith, Acceptance of One Another

Scripture References:

- John 13:34-35 "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."
- Romans 15:7 "Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."
- Galatians 6:10 "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

Devotion:

Uncommon love is marked by its depth and authenticity. It goes beyond superficial kindness, embracing the sacrificial love that Christ demonstrated. Such love strengthens faith and creates a culture of acceptance where everyone feels valued and included.

To ascend as a church, we must live out this love daily. It is through love that we reflect Christ to the world and build strong, faith-filled communities. Today, let us intentionally practice uncommon love in our interactions.

Action of the Day:

Show an act of love to someone in need. It could be a word of encouragement, an offer to help, or a kind gesture that reflects Christ's love.

Prayer:

Father, teach us to love as You love. Strengthen our faith and help us to accept one another with grace and compassion. Amen.

Employment, Sick and Shut-In, Restoration of the Saints

Scripture References:

- James 5:15-16 "And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven."
- Philippians 4:19 "And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus."
- Psalm 23:3 "He restores my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake."

Devotion:

God cares about every area of our lives—our health, work, and spiritual well-being. He is our healer, provider, and restorer. As we pray for those in need, we become vessels of His grace and agents of restoration.

Today, let us intercede for the sick, the unemployed, and those who are spiritually weary. Together, we can bring encouragement and hope to those who need it most.

Action of the Day:

Visit or call someone who is sick or shut-in to offer encouragement. If you know someone seeking employment, offer to pray for them or assist with their search.

Prayer:

Lord, we lift up the sick, unemployed, and those in need of restoration. Heal their bodies, provide for their needs, and renew their strength. Amen.

Relationships, Church Growth, and Power to Connect

Scripture References:

- Acts 2:47 "And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."
- Ecclesiastes 4:12 "Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."
- John 15:5 "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

Devotion:

Healthy relationships are the foundation of church growth and the power to connect. When we nurture connections with God and one another, we create an environment where growth and multiplication can flourish.

Let us focus on building relationships that reflect Christ's love and investing in the spiritual growth of those around us. As we connect with others, God will use us to expand His Kingdom.

Action of the Day:

Reach out to someone you haven't spoken to recently and encourage them. Invite someone to join you for a church service or event.

Prayer:

Lord, bless our relationships and strengthen the bonds of love within our church. Help us to connect with others in meaningful ways that glorify You. Amen.

Endowment Power, Leading of the Holy Spirit, and Anointing of the House and Members

Scripture References:

- Acts 1:8 "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
- Zechariah 4:6 "Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty."
- Isaiah 61:1 "The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor."

Devotion:

The power of the Holy Spirit is essential for fulfilling God's vision. His anointing equips us to minister effectively, live boldly, and walk in alignment with His will. As we conclude this time of consecration, let us ask for a fresh infilling of the Spirit and His anointing upon our church and its members.

When we walk in the power of the Spirit, we accelerate and ascend in our purpose, becoming witnesses of God's love and glory.

Action of the Day:

Spend extended time in prayer and worship, asking the Holy Spirit to fill you anew. Pray for the anointing of New Bethel Church and its members to walk in power and purpose.

Prayer:

Holy Spirit, fill us with Your power and guide us in all we do. Anoint this house and its members to fulfill Your purposes and bring glory to Your name. Amen.

Make it Personal Days 13-30



As we continue to align ourselves with our Apostolic Vision for this year, we are excited to present an additional opportunity for spiritual growth and deepening our connection with God. Along with our corporate 12-day consecration fast, we invite those seeking more from God in their personal lives to participate in an optional 18-day fast.

This extended fast is a powerful chance to draw closer to God, deepen your spiritual walk, and prepare your heart for the acceleration and ascension in kingdom business that lies ahead. Together, let us embrace this season with faith and expectation, knowing that God will honor our sacrifice and devotion as we seek Him wholeheartedly.

To support you on this journey, we've included a comprehensive guide in the following pages. It offers daily devotional themes, spiritual focus points, and practical action steps to help you stay aligned and encouraged throughout this time of consecration.

We are excited to see how God moves in and through us as we pursue Him together!

Comprehensive Chart: Days 13–30				
Day	Devotional Theme	Fasting Method	Spiritual Focus	Action Steps
13	Aligning with Leadership Vision	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations	Quiet your heart and mind to align with the vision God has given the church's leadership (Habakkuk 2:2).	Pray silently for clarity on your role in fulfilling the church's vision. Write down ways to support it.
14	Faith That Acts	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations	Trust God by taking bold, intentional steps of faith, even during quiet seasons (James 2:17).	Reflect on areas in your life that require action. Take one step of faith today.
15	Building Bridges in Love	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations	Build relationships by reflecting Christ's love and practicing patience in your interactions (<i>John 13:34-35</i>).	Reach out to someone who needs encouragement. Pray for unity in your relationships.
16	A House of Unity	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations	Pray for unity within the church body and reflect on how your quietness fosters harmony (<i>Psalm 133:1</i>).	Reflect on areas where you can promote unity. Pray for reconciliation in strained relationships.
17	Intentional Evangelism	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations	Listen for God's direction in sharing the Gospel during this season of focused discipline (<i>Matthew 28:19</i>).	Identify someone who needs to hear the Gospel. Pray for opportunities to witness through actions.
18	Strengthened by Prayer	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations	Use the silence to deepen your prayer life and intercede for leadership, community, and church growth (1 Thessalonians 5:17).	Dedicate additional time to intercessory prayer, journaling your requests and reflections.
19	Serving in Excellence	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations	Reflect on how quiet, humble service builds character and glorifies God (<i>Colossians</i> 3:23).	Volunteer to help in a ministry or serve someone in need with humility and love.
20	Faithfulness in Small Things	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations	Trust God to reward faithfulness in the "small" responsibilities (<i>Luke 16:10</i>).	Focus on completing a small, overlooked task with excellence as an offering to God.
21	Boldness in Witnessing	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations	As the silence ends, prepare to boldly declare your faith through words and actions (Acts 4:29).	Pray for courage to share the Gospel and take a step toward witnessing to someone.
22	Supporting Community Needs	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations + No Sweets	Extend sacrificial love to meet the physical, emotional, or spiritual needs of others (Matthew 25:35-36).	Identify a local need and contribute through service, donation, or prayer.

23	Worship as Warfare	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations + No Sweets	Use worship as an act of spiritual warfare, inviting God's power into your life and circumstances (2 Chronicles 20:22).	Dedicate extra time to worship, focusing on praising God for His sovereignty and power.
24	Generosity in Giving	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations + No Sweets	Cultivate a spirit of generosity by reflecting on Christ's ultimate sacrifice (2 <i>Corinthians 9:6-7</i>).	Give financially, or offer your time and resources to support a church ministry or someone in need.
25	Growth in Discipleship	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations + No Sweets	Commit to growing in Christ through study, prayer, and mentoring others (<i>Colossians</i> 2:6-7).	Identify someone you can mentor in their spiritual journey and commit to praying for them.
26	Mentoring the Next Generation	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations + No Sweets	Invest in the next generation by sharing wisdom and walking alongside younger believers (<i>Titus 2:6-7</i>).	Reach out to a younger person in the church, offering encouragement, prayer, or guidance.
27	Overcoming Spiritual Strongholds	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations + No Sweets	Address areas of bondage or sin by relying on God's power to demolish strongholds (2 Corinthians 10:4-5).	Identify a personal stronghold and commit to prayer and fasting for breakthrough.
28	A Church of Forgiveness	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations + No Sweets	Release offenses and seek reconciliation, reflecting God's forgiveness in your relationships (<i>Ephesians</i> 4:32).	Pray for strength to forgive someone who has hurt you. Take steps toward reconciliation if possible.
29	Stewardship of Time and Resources	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations + No Sweets	Honor God by managing your time, talents, and finances wisely (<i>Ephesians</i> 5:15-16).	Reflect on areas where you can better steward your resources. Commit to one improvement.
30	Pressing Toward the Goal	Daniel Fast + Limited Conversations + No Sweets	Persevere in faith and commitment, keeping your eyes on the eternal prize (<i>Philippians 3:14</i>).	Reflect on the entire consecration and identify how you will continue pressing forward in faith.

Aligning with the Vision of Leadership

Scripture References:

- Habakkuk 2:2 "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it."
- Proverbs 3:5-6 "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Devotion:

Every church thrives when its members are aligned with the vision God gives its leadership. Leadership serves as God's vessel to communicate purpose and direction to His people. *Habakkuk* 2:2 instructs, "Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it." Vision is not just for leaders—it's for everyone in the body to embrace, understand, and carry forward.

Alignment requires trust and humility. *Hebrews 13:17* reminds us, "Obey your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account." By supporting leadership, we position ourselves to work in unity, which creates an environment where God's blessings flow.

When we align with the vision, we allow God to use us as instruments in fulfilling His purpose. This unity accelerates the church's mission and ensures the entire body ascends together. Whether it's through prayer, volunteering, or simply committing to walk in unity, every member's contribution is essential. The vision can only succeed when the body functions as one.

Let us not only hear the vision but act upon it with faith and commitment. This alignment transforms individual efforts into a unified force that advances the Kingdom. Together, we can accomplish more than we could ever achieve on our own.

Action of the Day:

Spend time reflecting on the church's vision. Write down ways you can personally align your gifts and resources with the vision, and share them with a leader.

Praver:

Lord, give us understanding and unity in following the vision You've given our leaders. Help us to run with it and contribute to its fulfillment with joy and faithfulness. Amen.

Faith that Acts

Scripture References:

- James 2:17 "Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."
- Hebrews 11:6 "Without faith it is impossible to please God."

Devotion:

Faith is more than belief; it's action. James reminds us in *James 2:17*, "Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." Faith that remains idle does not produce results, but faith that moves in obedience to God's Word releases His power and purpose.

Hebrews 11 is filled with examples of people who acted on faith: Noah built the ark, Abraham left his homeland, and Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt. None of them knew the full details of God's plan, but they trusted Him enough to act. In the same way, New Bethel Sounds of Praise is called to act on the vision God has given us. It's not enough to believe in what God has said; we must take steps to fulfill it.

Acting on faith requires risk and trust. It means stepping out of our comfort zones, serving where needed, and giving generously, even when it feels uncertain. *Hebrews 11:6* reminds us, "Without faith it is impossible to please God." As a church, when we act on faith collectively, we demonstrate our trust in God and create opportunities for His power to manifest.

Faith that acts accelerates both individual growth and the church's mission. Let us be doers of the Word, stepping out boldly to fulfill God's purpose for our lives and our church.

Action of the Day:

Identify one area in your life where you need to act on faith. Take a bold step today, whether it's volunteering in a ministry or reaching out to someone in need.

Prayer:

Lord, strengthen our faith and show us how to act on it. Help us to walk boldly in obedience and trust as we seek to fulfill Your purpose. Amen

Building Bridges in Love

Scripture References:

- 1 Corinthians 13:13 "And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love. But the greatest of these is love."
- John 15:12 "My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you."

Devotion:

Love is the foundation of the Kingdom and the greatest commandment. Jesus said in *John 13:34-35*, "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples." Love is not just an emotion but a deliberate action that reflects Christ's character.

As a church, building bridges in love means going beyond our comfort zones to connect with others—both within and outside the church. It means forgiving offenses, embracing diversity, and intentionally fostering relationships. Love that builds bridges creates unity and shows the world the transformative power of Christ.

1 Corinthians 13:13 reminds us, "The greatest of these is love." When we prioritize love, it strengthens our faith, enhances unity, and draws others to Christ. Whether it's reaching out to someone in need, showing patience in difficult relationships, or simply offering a kind word, every act of love contributes to the work of the Kingdom.

To accelerate and ascend, New Bethel must be a church known for its love. This love must not only be expressed within the church body but also extended to the surrounding community. When people see us loving unconditionally, they see Christ through us.

Action of the Day:

Reach out to someone you don't normally interact with in the church. Extend kindness, encouragement, or support in a tangible way.

Prayer:

Father, teach us to love deeply and authentically. Let our church be a beacon of Your love to everyone we encounter. Amen.

A House of Unity

Scripture References:

- Psalm 133:1 "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"
- Ephesians 4:4-6 "There is one body and one Spirit...one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God."

Devotion: [L]

Unity is vital for a church to fulfill its mission. *Psalm 133:1* says, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" Unity isn't just about agreement; it's about aligning our hearts, minds, and spirits with God's purpose. A unified church creates an atmosphere where God's presence thrives, and blessings flow freely.

The early church in Acts demonstrated the power of unity: "All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had" (Acts 4:32). Their unity led to rapid growth and miraculous provision. When a church body operates as one, God moves mightily.

However, unity requires intentionality. It means choosing forgiveness over offense, collaboration over competition, and peace over discord. *Ephesians 4:3* encourages us to "make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." Unity takes effort, but it is worth it because it reflects Christ's prayer for His church in *John 17:21*: "That all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you."

As New Bethel Sounds of Praise seeks to accelerate and ascend, unity must be our foundation. Let us commit to being peacemakers and bridge-builders within the body of Christ.

Action of the Day: Commit to resolving any conflicts or misunderstandings with a fellow church member. Pray for unity in New Bethel Sounds of Praise.

Prayer: Lord, help us to be a united body, free from division and full of Your Spirit. Bind us together in love and purpose. Amen.

Intentional Evangelism

Scripture References:

- Matthew 28:19 "Go and make disciples of all nations."
- Romans 10:14 "How can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?"

Devotion: SEP

Evangelism is at the core of the Great Commission. Jesus commands us in *Matthew 28:19*, "Go and make disciples of all nations." Evangelism is not optional; it's a call for every believer to share the Gospel and bring others into the Kingdom.

Intentional evangelism requires a heart for the lost and a willingness to step out of our comfort zones. In *Romans 10:14*, Paul asks, "How can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" The message of salvation is the greatest gift we can offer to our surrounding community.

As a church, intentional evangelism means more than inviting people to service—it means building relationships, serving others, and sharing the love of Christ in practical ways. Jesus modeled this when He ate with sinners, healed the sick, and showed compassion to the outcast.

New Bethel can accelerate and ascend by committing to bold and intentional outreach. Whether through personal conversations, community events, or acts of service, every effort counts in expanding God's Kingdom.

Action of the Day: Eldentify one person in your life who needs to hear the Gospel. Pray for them and look for an opportunity to share God's love with them today.

Prayer: Lord, give us boldness and compassion to share Your truth with those around us. Open doors for evangelism and let our lives reflect Your love. Amen

Strengthened by Prayer

Scripture References:

- 1 Thessalonians 5:17 "Pray without ceasing."
- Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

Devotion: SEP

Prayer is the foundation of everything we do as believers. *1 Thessalonians 5:17* urges us to "pray without ceasing," emphasizing the importance of continual communication with God. Prayer aligns us with His will, strengthens our faith, and releases His power into our lives and church.

In *Matthew 18:20*, Jesus promises, "Where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Corporate prayer is especially powerful, uniting the church in purpose and inviting God's presence. Prayer isn't just about asking for blessings—it's about seeking God's heart and surrendering our plans to His.

The early church in Acts was a praying church. *Acts* 2:42 highlights their commitment: "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." This devotion led to miracles, unity, and rapid growth. If New Bethel Sounds of Praise wants to accelerate and ascend, we must be a church of prayer.

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Action of the Day: Join a prayer group or dedicate extra time to personal prayer for the church's ministries, leadership, and surrounding community.

Prayer: Lord, let prayer be the foundation of everything we do. Teach us to pray fervently and effectively, and show us the power of unity in prayer. Amen.

Serving in Excellence

Scripture References:

- Colossians 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord."
- 1 Peter 4:10 "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others."

Devotion: [L]

God calls us to serve with excellence in every area of our lives. *Colossians 3:23* says, "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters." Excellence isn't about perfection; it's about giving our best effort as an act of worship to God.

When we serve with excellence, we reflect the character of Christ. Jesus exemplified servant leadership when He washed His disciples' feet, showing that no task is beneath us in the Kingdom of God. *Matthew 20:28* reminds us, "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve."

Serving in excellence also means using our gifts and talents to build up the church. *1 Peter 4:10* instructs, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others." As we commit to excellence in service, New Bethel Sounds of Praise will ascend in impact and influence, demonstrating God's love to the surrounding community.

Action of the Day: Find a new way to serve in your church, whether by joining a ministry or helping with a specific project.

Prayer: Lord, give us hearts to serve You with excellence and joy. Help us to use our gifts faithfully to build Your church. Amen.

Faithfulness in Small Things

Scripture References:

- Luke 16:10 "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much, and whoever is dishonest with very little will also be dishonest with much."
- Matthew 25:21 "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things."

Devotion:

Faithfulness in the little things is the foundation of trustworthiness in the Kingdom of God. Jesus teaches in *Luke 16:10*, "Whoever can be trusted with very little can also be trusted with much." Often, it's the seemingly small, everyday acts of faithfulness—like showing up, offering encouragement, or serving behind the scenes—that prepare us for greater assignments.

In the parable of the talents, the master tells the faithful servant, "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things" (*Matthew 25:21*). This reminds us that God values consistency and stewardship. Faithfulness in small tasks reveals our heart posture and commitment to His work.

As a church, New Bethel must collectively embrace this principle. Every member's role, no matter how small it seems, contributes to the larger mission. The effort of one usher, the diligence of one prayer warrior, or the kindness of one greeter can create ripples that impact lives for eternity.

To accelerate and ascend, we must view every task as an opportunity to glorify God. By faithfully stewarding what we've been given, we position ourselves for greater impact and blessings.

Action of the Day:

Reflect on a small task or responsibility that you may have overlooked or undervalued. Commit to giving it your best effort as a service to God.

Prayer:

Lord, help us to be faithful in the little things You've entrusted to us. Teach us to see every task as an opportunity to glorify You and prepare us for greater works in Your Kingdom. Amen.

Boldness in Witnessing

Scripture References:

- Acts 4:29 "Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness."
- 2 Timothy 1:7 "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline."

Devotion:

Witnessing requires boldness that comes from the Holy Spirit. *Acts 4:29* recounts the disciples' prayer: "Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness." Despite opposition, the early church grew rapidly because its members proclaimed the Gospel fearlessly.

Boldness doesn't mean being loud or forceful; it means speaking the truth in love and trusting God to work through your testimony. *2 Timothy 1:7* reminds us, "For the Spirit God gave us does not make us timid, but gives us power, love, and self-discipline." This Spirit-empowered boldness allows us to overcome fear and share the hope of Christ with confidence.

As a church body, New Bethel must embrace bold witnessing. Evangelism isn't limited to a few—it's the responsibility of all believers. Every member can be a light in their workplace, neighborhood, or family by sharing the Gospel through words and actions.

Let us ask God for courage to step out and share the Good News. Through our boldness, lives will be transformed, and the Kingdom of God will expand

Action of the Day:

Pray for boldness and ask God to open an opportunity for you to share your faith today. When the opportunity arises, take it, trusting the Holy Spirit to guide your words.

Prayer:

Lord, give us boldness to share Your Word without fear. Let our testimonies bring glory to You and draw others into Your Kingdom. Amen.

Supporting Community Needs

Scripture References:

- Matthew 25:35-36 "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink."
- Galatians 6:10 "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."

Devotion:

Meeting the needs of others is a hallmark of true discipleship. Jesus said in *Matthew 25:35-36*, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink." Serving others demonstrates God's love in action and opens the door for evangelism.

Galatians 6:10 reminds us, "As we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers." This includes feeding the hungry, clothing the needy, and providing support for the vulnerable in our community. Our willingness to serve reflects the heart of God and builds trust with those outside the church.

As New Bethel accelerates and ascends, we must intentionally engage with our surrounding community. By addressing physical, emotional, and spiritual needs, we create opportunities to share the Gospel and bring hope to the hurting.

Action of the Day:

Find a local need you can meet today, such as donating to a food bank, volunteering, or helping a neighbor in need.

Prayer:

Lord, open our eyes to the needs in our community and give us hearts of compassion. Use us to bring hope and healing to those around us. Amen.

Worship as Warfare

Scripture References:

- 2 Chronicles 20:22 "As they began to sing and praise, the Lord set ambushes against the men of Ammon and Moab and Mount Seir who were invading Judah, and they were defeated."
- Psalm 149:6 "May the praise of God be in their mouths and a double-edged sword in their hands."

Devotion:

Worship is more than a song; it's a powerful weapon in spiritual battles. In 2 Chronicles 20:22, the Israelites sang praises to God, and He set ambushes against their enemies, leading to victory. Worship shifts our focus from problems to God's power, inviting His presence into our circumstances.

Psalm 149:6 declares, "May the praise of God be in their mouths and a double-edged sword in their hands." When we worship, we proclaim God's authority and remind ourselves of His faithfulness. Worship is an act of faith that confuses the enemy and strengthens our spirit.

As a church, New Bethel must embrace worship as a strategic part of our spiritual warfare. Whether through music, prayer, or daily praise, worship creates an atmosphere where God can move mightily. Worship unites the body, uplifts the weary, and releases breakthrough.

Action of the Day:

Spend extra time in worship today, declaring God's goodness and power over your life and church. Let worship be your response to any challenges you face.

Prayer:

Lord, teach us to use worship as a weapon. Let our praise invite Your presence and power into every situation we face. Amen.

Generosity in Giving

Scripture References:

- 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. God loves a cheerful giver."
- Luke 6:38 "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap."

Devotion:

Generosity is a reflection of God's heart. 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 reminds us, "Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." Generosity is not just about finances; it's about giving our time, talents, and resources freely to bless others and further God's Kingdom.

Generosity is an act of trust and worship. It acknowledges that everything we have comes from God and expresses gratitude for His provision. *Luke 6:38* says, "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap." When we give generously, we align ourselves with God's principles, opening the door for His blessings to overflow in our lives and the lives of others.

As a church, New Bethel can accelerate and ascend by cultivating a culture of generosity. Through our collective giving, we can support ministries, meet community needs, and expand our evangelistic efforts. Generosity is contagious, inspiring others to give and creating a ripple effect of blessing.

Action of the Day:

Sow a financial seed into your church or another ministry today. If finances are limited, find another way to give, such as volunteering your time or sharing your resources.

Prayer:

Lord, create in us generous hearts that reflect Your love. Teach us to give cheerfully and trust You to meet every need. Amen.

Growth in Discipleship

Scripture References:

- Matthew 4:19 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."
- Colossians 2:6-7 "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him."

Devotion:

Discipleship is the process of growing in Christ and helping others do the same. Jesus said in *Matthew 4:19*, "Come, follow me, and I will send you out to fish for people." Discipleship begins with a personal commitment to follow Christ and extends to guiding others on their faith journey.

Colossians 2:6-7 encourages us, "So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught." Growth in discipleship involves studying God's Word, engaging in prayer, and walking in obedience to His commands. It also requires community—mentoring others and being mentored in return.

As a church, New Bethel accelerates and ascends when every member is committed to discipleship. When we grow individually and invest in others, we create a multiplying effect that strengthens the body and advances the Gospel. Discipleship is not a program but a lifestyle of following Jesus and bringing others along the journey.

Action of the Day:

Identify someone you can mentor or encourage in their faith. Commit to praying for them and helping them grow in Christ.

Prayer:

Lord, help us to grow as disciples and make disciples. Root us in Your Word and equip us to lead others closer to You. Amen.

Mentoring the Next Generation

Scripture References:

- Titus 2:1-8 "Teach the older men to be temperate, worthy of respect, self-controlled... Similarly, encourage the young men to be self-controlled."
- Proverbs 22:6 "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it."

Devotion:

Mentoring is a vital part of Kingdom work. Scripture teaches us the importance of generational investment, as seen in *Titus 2:6-7*: "Encourage the young men to be self-controlled. In everything set them an example by doing what is good." Older believers have the responsibility to pass down wisdom, faith, and godly character to the next generation. This mentorship helps prepare them to lead with integrity and courage.

Proverbs 22:6 reminds us, "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it." Mentorship isn't just for children but for anyone younger in faith. It's about living out our walk with Christ as an example for others. By mentoring intentionally, we accelerate the work of the Kingdom, ensuring the church remains strong and equipped for future challenges.

Action of the Day:

Identify a younger person in the church or your community whom you can mentor or encourage. Offer to pray for them, share a lesson from your life, or simply spend time listening to their challenges and aspirations.

Prayer:

Lord, give us the wisdom and patience to mentor the next generation. Help us to model faith, integrity, and love so they are equipped to carry on Your work. Amen.

Overcoming Spiritual Strongholds

Scripture References:

- 2 Corinthians 10:4-5 "The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds."
- Ephesians 6:12 "For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against... the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil."

Devotion:

Spiritual strongholds are barriers that hinder us from fully walking in God's purpose. 2 *Corinthians 10:4-5* states, "The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds." These strongholds can take the form of fear, doubt, sin, or unhealthy mindsets.

Breaking strongholds begins with identifying them and bringing them to God in prayer. *Ephesians 6:12* reminds us, "Our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world." Victory is won through spiritual warfare, using God's Word, prayer, and fasting as our weapons.

As a church, overcoming strongholds together strengthens our unity and empowers us to ascend in our mission. When we confront these barriers with faith, we experience freedom and become more effective in advancing God's Kingdom.

Action of the Day:

Identify a stronghold in your life or in the church body. Spend time in prayer and fasting, declaring God's truth over the situation and seeking His power for victory.

Prayer:

Lord, we thank You for the power to overcome every stronghold. Help us to stand firm in Your truth and walk in freedom, breaking down every barrier that hinders us from fulfilling Your purpose. Amen.

A Church of Forgiveness

Scripture References:

- Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."
- Matthew 6:14 "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you."

Devotion:

Forgiveness is at the heart of the Gospel and central to a healthy, unified church. *Ephesians 4:32* instructs, "Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." Unforgiveness creates barriers in relationships, both with God and others, while forgiveness brings freedom, healing, and restoration.

Jesus emphasized the importance of forgiveness in *Matthew 6:14*: "For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." Forgiveness is not a suggestion; it is a command. It reflects the grace and mercy we have received from God and is essential for spiritual growth and unity within the body of Christ.

As a church, New Bethel must be a place where forgiveness is freely given and received. Whether it's a personal offense or a misunderstanding within the church body, choosing forgiveness allows God's love to flow and His Spirit to move. Forgiveness strengthens relationships, fosters unity, and sets the church on a path to ascend in its purpose.

Action of the Day:

If there is someone you need to forgive, take the step today to release them in prayer. If appropriate, reach out to them to express your forgiveness or seek reconciliation.

Prayer:

Lord, help us to be a church that practices forgiveness. Teach us to release offenses and walk in love, reflecting Your grace to one another. Amen.

Stewardship of Time and Resources

Scripture References:

- Ephesians 5:15-16 "Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity."
- 1 Peter 4:10 "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace."

Devotion:

God has entrusted us with time, talents, and resources, and He calls us to steward them wisely. *Ephesians 5:15-16* urges, "Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity." Time is a precious gift, and how we use it reveals our priorities and commitment to God's work.

Stewardship is not limited to time. *1 Peter 4:10* says, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace." Our talents and resources are meant to glorify God and bless others. When we give generously and serve faithfully, we reflect God's character and expand His Kingdom.

As New Bethel seeks to accelerate and ascend, every member must commit to stewarding their resources with intentionality and excellence. Together, we can maximize our impact, meet needs in the community, and advance the church's mission.

Action of the Day:

Evaluate how you are spending your time and resources. Set aside time today to invest in something eternal, such as volunteering in a ministry or giving to a Kingdom cause.

Prayer:

Lord, teach us to be wise and faithful stewards of all You have entrusted to us. Help us to use our time, talents, and resources to advance Your Kingdom. Amen.

Pressing Toward the Goal

Scripture References:

- Philippians 3:14 "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus."
- Hebrews 12:1 "Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

Devotion:

The Christian life is a race that requires focus, endurance, and perseverance. Paul declares in *Philippians 3:14*, "I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus." Pressing forward means leaving behind distractions, past mistakes, and anything that hinders our spiritual growth.

Hebrews 12:1 encourages, "Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us." The race is not about competition; it's about fulfilling the unique purpose God has for each of us. For New Bethel, pressing toward the goal means pursuing God's vision with determination and unity, trusting Him to bring it to fruition.

As a church, let us keep our eyes on Christ, who is both the author and finisher of our faith (*Hebrews 12:2*). Together, we can run this race with endurance, encouraging one another and relying on God's strength to overcome every obstacle.

Action of the Day:

Reflect on your personal and collective goals as a church. Identify one distraction or hindrance you need to release, and commit to pursuing God's purpose with renewed focus.

Prayer:

Lord, we press on toward the goal You have set before us. Strengthen us to run this race with perseverance and to fulfill Your purpose for our lives and church. Amen.

Heart of the Intercessor

Accelerating in Love

Elder Mary Palmer

Accelerating in love within God's Kingdom requires us to fully embrace the truth that God is in control, no matter our feelings or circumstances. Life may present challenges, doubts, and hardships, but we must confirm that God's sovereignty remains unshaken. By trusting in His perfect plan, we can rise above temporary setbacks and stand firm in our faith, knowing that He is working all things together for our good. As believers, we are called to encourage one another, to boldly stand up for our faith, and to trust God for the outcome, even when we can't see the path ahead. Romans 8:28 reassures us, "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." This promise empowers us to keep moving forward in love, trusting God's perfect timing and purpose in all aspects of our lives.

A Journey to Accelerate and Ascend to Move Forward with God

Associate Pastor Shirley Graves

In order to accelerate and ascend higher in Christ, we have to know God's word, listen to His still small voice and have a kingdom frame of mind. To continue on this spiritual journey, we have to have a made-up mind and a heart for God. It takes time to process your thinking in God, in order to go to another level and have faith that God will accelerate you to the next level in him. Sometimes God gives us all a wilderness experience and puts us in a season of spiritual isolation. This season is also a growing, pruning and testing season that stretches us out and accelerates our faith. During that pruning season, it brings a level of purification that prepares us for the next level in God.

To accelerate to a new season, we also have to seek the Lord in prayer and have His Word in our heart. Daniel 2:21-22 (NIV) "He changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. ²² He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness because light dwells within him." Sometimes God puts us in a deep study to give us a clear mind without outside distraction. At that point, He can speak to us. We can take that word and wisdom as we continue on our journey and we will not miss the mark and fulfill His true will in our lives and reach the people that He has instructed us to reach.

Accelerate also means to go faster in order to gain speed. It is kind of like a student who is taking test and the instructor reminds them that time is ending soon and they must speed up to complete the test. It is the same principle with accelerating in our kingdom work. Now is not the time to procrastinate but is the time to move swiftly and intentionally in taking God's kingdom to the world. In addition, reading, studying and understanding your word also accelerates you to the next level. It stretches and helps you grow in wisdom and guidance that will help others.

We all know when traveling on an airplane, you may experience turbulence but that turbulence is necessary to get you higher. It may be uncomfortable at first but it levels out into clear skies. Being uncomfortable is a necessary part of our acceleration process.

Ascending in God is to have the ability to experience His thoughts and understand His true will for our lives. It is a peace that surpasses all understanding.

I would like to leave this as we begin to accelerate and ascend in 2025. Let's prepare our hearts and minds to be ready to continue to receive a fresh word and fresh anointing. Let's allow His power to take root and grow in our lives. Let's continue to accelerate and ascend to higher in the Lord.

Accelerating in Faith

Mother Murphy-Pegram

A big part of accelerating and ascending in God means accelerating your faith. Faith is believing that God will do things that we cannot do and take us places that we cannot imagine. When we accelerate our faith, we can trust that God will give us a greater harvest than we could ever imagine. Amos 9:13-15(NIV) 13 "The days are coming," declares the LORD. "when the reaper will be overtaken by the plowman and the planter by the one treading grapes. New wine will drip from the mountains and flow from all the hills, ¹⁴ and I will bring my people Israel back from exile. "They will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them. They will plant vineyards and drink their wine; they will make gardens and eat their fruit. ¹⁵ I will plant Israel in their own land, never again to be uprooted from the land I have given them," says the LORD your God." This harvest stretches from spiritual growth, to financial wisdom to divine connections. We may not be able to clearly see God's hand in our day-to-day journey but faith guides us and reminds us that God is with us. In order to walk in faith daily, we have to trust in God. This is achieved by having dedicated time for prayer, studying and walking the word, serving others and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us, especially during the most difficult times in our lives. To accelerate to the level that God wants us to be in Him, we must continue to nurture our faith. This is a daily process. This will strengthen our spiritual walk and deepen our relationship with God.

5 Steps to Help Accelerate and Ascend your Faith

- 1. Read God's Word The bible is a powerful tool for building faith.
- 2. Prayer It is a way to bring your needs and requests to God.
- 3. Worship It is a way to connect to God and proclaim that He is worthy, holy, true and good.
- 4. Serving Others Seek to serve others as a way to strengthen your faith.
- 5. Submission to the Holy Spirit Allowing God to have control over your life.

Accelerating in a Better Relationship in God

Elder Sarah Simmons

Having a consistent and truthful relationship is a way to accelerate and ascend your relationship with God. We can start this by spending time with God in prayer and studying His Word. This is important because we get to know and understand Him for who He really is and not just what He can give us. In order to build an intimate relationship with God, we have to talk to Him and we have to listen to Him. We also have to learn to be submissive to His will for our lives. Just like we nurture other family and friend relationships, we must be intentional about nurturing our spiritual relationship with our Heavenly Father.

As we spend more time with God and learn more about Him, we also learn more about the enemy and his attack on our lives. The more time we spend with God, the less time that we have to be distracted and be influenced by the enemy. James 4:7-10(KJV) "⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. ⁹ Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up."

Another way to accelerate our relationship with God is by maintaining and establishing an honest and truthful relationship with God that others can see and be positively impacted by. That means sometimes we have to slow down and make sure that we are hearing from God and operating in His will. Sometimes, God will give us a sign to let us know when we are moving too fast or to slow and helps to keep us moving at a healthy pace with Him.

As we begin this journey for 2025, let us continue walk with God.

Accelerate in Obedience

Mother Christine Whaley

Obedience is the key to accelerating and ascending in God. Walking in obedience is what we need to build structure, consistency and growth throughout the kingdom. Walking in obedience includes following the Vision of our leaders, as well as keeping God's commandments. We are often the only bible that some people ever see and we want them to see a life that is obedient to God's commandments. Obedience to God's word can help to steer us from unnecessary problems and give us comfort and peace through difficult storms.

Obedience to God's Word is fundamental to our spiritual growth, as it aligns our lives with His will and helps us grow in faith and character. When we obey God's teachings, we experience peace of mind, knowing that we are walking in His ways, trusting His plan, and yielding to His guidance. Obedience strengthens our integrity, as we live with honesty and righteousness, reflecting God's nature in our actions. It also deepens our communication with God, as we seek His direction and remain open to His voice through prayer and reflection. As James 1:22 reminds us, "But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." True obedience allows us to live out God's Word in our daily lives, fostering a stronger relationship with Him and a more fulfilling life.

As we go into 2025, let us keep in mind that obedience is better than sacrifice and God honors our obedience. And Jesus tells us John 14:15, "If you love me, keep my commands. Let's remember that obedience is a way to express our love for him.

Accelerating in Well-Doing

Elder Edna Johnson

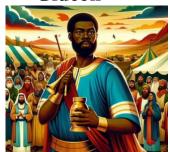
Church family, doing good not only benefits us individually, but it also positively impacts those around us, the communities we belong to, and serves as a powerful example of God's kingdom here on earth. While we do benefit personally from doing good, the true impact is seen in how it spreads God's work in the world. Well-doing involves things like community service, outreach, living holy lives, being a positive role model, showing kindness, giving to those in need, and helping others. Sometimes, simply offering a listening ear or speaking a kind word can plant a seed that God will later water.

Well-doing helps us grow in character, strengthens relationships within the church and community, meets people's needs, and spreads the Gospel. It is an essential part of our Christian Walk. It also reflects a servant's heart, following the example of Christ by caring for both the physical and spiritual needs of others.

As Galatians 6:9 reminds us, "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." In 2025, let's continue to accelerate in living out this calling, knowing that our good deeds are making an eternal difference.

People in the Bible that Accelerated and Ascended

Gideon

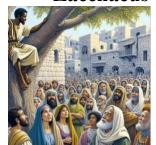


Judges 6

Gideon is a powerful example of someone who was willing to follow God's call, even when it went against his own understanding. Despite his doubts, he trusted God and allowed Him to use him to deliver the Israelites. Gideon brought the Israelites together to fight against their enemies, the Midianites, and he boldly destroyed the altar to the pagan god Baal, earning the name Jerub-Baal, meaning "contender with Baal." Gideon's success was a clear demonstration of God's power and a

reminder that God sees the potential in all of us, even when we may doubt ourselves. His life teaches us the importance of listening to God, trusting in Him, and obeying His direction. Gideon's faith and his reliance on God's guidance serve as an inspiring model for leaders today. Let us be encouraged by his example to step out in faith and trust God's plan, even when we face challenges.

Zacchaeus



Luke 19

Zacchaeus is important because his life shows how Jesus's teachings can transform a sinner's life. It is a powerful example of the change that can come from an encounter with Jesus. Zacchaeus's life illustrates that anyone, no matter their past, can change through Jesus. After Jesus visits him, Zacchaeus repents by giving half of his wealth to the poor, repaying those he wronged, and letting go of his possessions. Zacchaeus's life highlights Jesus's purpose to seek and save the lost. Jesus tells him, "The Son of Man came to seek and to save the

lost." Zacchaeus reminds us that no one is beyond the reach of Jesus's love and that repentance and transformation are always possible through Him.

Abigail



1Samuel 25

Abigail's generous spirit exemplifies true nobility. She demonstrated her generosity by gathering provisions and offering them to David and his men in their time of need. Abigail approached life with humility and respect, firmly believing in God's divine plan for her and those around her. With her wisdom, Abigail played a crucial role in saving lives and steering David away from potential trouble, showcasing the importance of discernment in our decisions. In the face of danger, Abigail displayed tremendous courage, reminding us that

bravery is often necessary for doing what is right. Abigail's unwavering faithfulness reflects her belief that God was guiding her actions, a reminder for us to trust in His purpose. Abigail embodied forgiveness, always considering the well-being of even her adversaries, teaching us the power of compassion. As a peacemaker, Abigail worked diligently to avert conflict, inspiring us to seek harmony in our relationships.



Family Corner

Fasting with Children and Family Consecration

Many people ask, if it is okay for young children to fast? How will fasting affect their young growing bodies? Some parents do not force fasting traditions on their children for health and nutritional concerns. If you are interested in including or incorporating a family fast or consecration, listed below are some ideas that may be helpful.

- Incorporating a Daniel Fast
- Avoiding Sweets
- Avoiding Sugary Drinks
- Avoiding Playtime-including social media, video games etc...
- Avoiding Television

If you decide to restrict certain activities, this time can be replaced with personal bible study, family bible study, family prayer, family praise and/or worship.

If you decide that your child will abstain from food for certain periods of time, consult with your child's physician.

Benefits of Family Consecration

- Promotes Healthy Eating Habits
- Promotes Self-Control
- Promotes Family Bonding
- Assists in building personal relationship with God

Youth Connection

Our young people are not just the future of the church—they are the heart of its present, rising to take their place in God's plan with faith and determination. Psalms 8:2 (TPT) reminds us of the power of youthful praise: "You have built a stronghold by the songs of children. Strength rises up with the chorus of infants. This kind of praise has power to shut Satan's mouth. Childlike worship will silence the madness of those who oppose you." This scripture reminds us that God uses the voices of young people as a stronghold against the enemy. Their heartfelt worship and prayers have the power to bring hope, healing, and transformation to our church and community. In this section, we will hear from our young people as they open their hearts to share their reallife challenges and how they are choosing to rise above them. They have committed to ascend by growing closer to God and accelerate their spiritual and personal development to fulfill His purpose in their lives. As a congregation, we celebrate their honesty and courage. This section will guide us in praying for and supporting our youth as they boldly pursue their relationship with God, seek solutions to their struggles, and embrace their role as leaders in faith. Together, we will cheer them on as they take their next steps to ascend and accelerate for God's glory!



Accelerating in Kindness

Kylie James, 2nd Grader

People need to be kind instead of mean and respect people the way they want to be treated. People need to stop bullying people because it makes some people want to harm themselves when you are mean to them. I try to be kind by playing with my friends when they are sad. I also play with people that no one else wants to play with. It makes them happy and it makes them feel good.

Accelerating in Kindness

Johnnae James, 4th Grader

Kindness means love, faithfulness, joyfulness and grace. Kindness is a way to show others love. I see kindness all around me, even in school. Being kind is a good thing to do. Being kind makes people feel good, happy and comfortable. I show kindness by helping people, saying encouraging words to people and loving people like you should, even when it is not easy. Everyone can be kind; it is not hard.

Accelerating in Faith

Mackenzie Jefferson, 5th Grader

Faith is a really tough thing to understand, and even harder to keep. I know because I've struggled with it too. But this isn't about me, it's about the one who makes a way when it seems impossible. So, do you have faith? Think of it like this: don't just trust in God, trust in what He stands for and what He does for you. You need to believe that He will always work things out for your good. It's like a marriage—God will be there for you no matter what, through the good and bad times. Is it too much to ask for that in return?

There are two important things I've learned: if the Bible doesn't keep you away from sin, sin will keep you away from the Bible. Having faith means knowing God's Word, believing it, and living it out. God wants us to trust and believe in Him. He wants us to know that He will always be there for us, even when we don't understand or feel like we don't deserve it.

I'm going to try to build my faith by trusting God more and reading my Bible more.

Accelerating in Kindness

Raiyn Williams, 8th Grader

Kindness is an essential theme in the Bible, reflecting God's love and character. Both the Old and New Testaments inspire believers to show kindness through acts of generosity, compassion, and forgiveness. Ephesians 4:32 and Proverbs 11:17 emphasize the importance of kindness, spotlighting its benefits and the ruinous nature of cruelty. The Bible teaches that kindness should be shown to everyone, including strangers and enemies, as a way to reflect God's mercy and build a more loving, peaceful community.

Accelerating in Love

Trust Davis, 7th Grader

To accelerate in love is to exceed the average amount of love a person gives. You should accelerate in love because the world needs more love and kindness. The more love you put into the world, will spread, and come back to you or another person. Treat others as you would want to be treated. Respect others, even if they don't respect you. So, accelerate in love, kindness, joy, peace, hope, respect, and most importantly your faith in God. Do this because it is of God and to be of God is to be the best version of you, that you can be.

Accelerating in Kindness

Ashyia Joyner, 8th Grader

Kindness is a type of behavior by the acts of being respectful and helpful without being asked. Being kind is very important because if you don't be kind to people, they won't be kind to you, and you wouldn't like that. There are different ways that you can show kindness. You can donate to a charity or school program, give some a compliment on their hair or outfit, helping your family if they are going through a hard time, and having good manners are some different types of kindness. Kindness goes beyond being nice. Think about it - would you prefer people to describe you to be "kind" or "nice?" Has someone ever done something kind to you and you wanted to pay it forward? That's because kindness is a reaction. It's a wave that keeps going and all it needs is one person to start. One small act of kindness can change the entire community. And that is the true meaning of kindness.

Accelerating in Self-Control

Czane Newton, 8th Grader

Self-control is really important to me because I can't imagine where I'd be without it. It's all about controlling your emotions and actions, and knowing how to handle them. Self-control is key because without it, you could end up in big trouble and even lose things that you care about. Right now, I use self-control to keep my emotions in check and learn how to express them the right way. The emotions I focus on the most are happiness and anger. I try not to let little things bother me and I aim to stay positive. To improve my self-control, I plan to keep working on managing my emotions and being kind to others. I believe this is what God wants me to do.

Accelerate & Ascend, Perfecting Kingdom Vison & Shifting into the Future

Avondrea B. Wigfall-Carter, 12th Grader

Love is "the essence of God's character and the defining quality of His selfless, life-giving relationship with humanity." With love, God has blessed me with the gift to accelerate and ascend in the Ministry of Dance by spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 16:14 says, "Do everything in love." Dance is a gift from God which allows outreach beyond the four walls. It expresses love to all, uplifts people, encourages many, and brings people together. Love is what it does and not just what it says. The passion and love I have for dance allows acceleration because it is used to express joy, the spirit of the Lord, and praise unto God. In the Old Testament dancing was used to express love through worship and praise. Love ascends as a spiritual climb in the presence of God. With love and expressing it through dance, it shows clean hands and feet, a pure heart, and the grace of God which shows purified intentions, spiritual growth, and it takes us higher in Christ. As a young adult and a dancer for Christ, I am able to express several characteristics of God's love because the love of God is Eternal (everlasting love), Sovereign (constant and never changing), Infinite (no limit), Immutable (does not change), Holy (pure and righteous), and Gracious (freely given).

In closing, I am very grateful for the vison our leader (Bishop Allen H. Simmons, Chief Apostle and Presiding Prelate) has given us (Accelerate & Ascend Perfecting Kingdom Vison & Shifting into the Future). When expressing love through dance, it can truly make a positive change and have a great impact on individuals and relationships with forgiveness, reconciliation, growth, strength, peace, happiness, and so much more. In 2025, I want to be more like Christ and continue to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ with love!

Accelerating in Faith

Arden Murray, 12th Grader

Reflecting on John 13:7, Jesus replied, "You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand." That is what faithfulness is to me. Trusting the process of God even when you can't see it. Rome wasn't built in a day, and athletes didn't become great overnight. Good things take time and being faithful always pays off in the end. Impatience and impulsivity will never lead to good things. Proverbs 14:29-30 says, "Whoever is patient has great understanding, but one who is quick-tempered displays folly. A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones." A way that I try to increase my faithfulness is by listening to stories of professional athletes who talk about their backstories. None of them got to where they are without trials and tribulations. Whether it is death in their family, lack of a family, sickness at a young age, there is always something they had to overcome. It's the same way in our faith. If everything we wanted to happen in our lives, happened exactly when we wanted and how we wanted it to happen then we would be spoiled rotten. The final scripture that I have about faith is James 1:2-4, "Count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let the patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete lacking nothing." Be patient and allow God to work on you, and the results will be better than anything you could ever imagine.

Accelerating in Good Manners

Semere Frazier, 11th Grader

It is always good to have good manners. It is good to show respect to your elders, parents and grandparents. They have always been good to me and I want to show them respect. Parents provide for us and I want to show them that I appreciate it. It always good to be kind and show respect to people because you never what they are going through. Some people could be lonely, not have friends or struggling with things they don't mention. Being kind and showing respect might the thing that saves their life. I try to show kindness and respect by helping people with schoolwork, helping my mom with chores, being nice to strangers, and even just saying, have a good day sometimes. I will continue to be kind and show manners because I need it and other people need it too.

Accelerating in Self-Awareness

Ulric Williams, Recent High School Graduate

In my future, I plan to use self-awareness as a tool for personal and professional growth. By being aware of my strengths, I can leverage them to achieve my goals and excel in my career. Understanding my weaknesses will help me identify areas for improvement and seek opportunities for learning and development. Self-awareness will also enable me to build better relationships, as I will be more empathetic and considerate of others' perspectives and feelings.

Accelerating in Patience

Robert Brown Jr., College Junior

For being a college student, patience is taking your time, knowing that is hard but it is worth it in the end. Patience means taking your time and having faith, knowing that good things don't come fast but it takes time. Patience is continuing to push through things even when it gets rough and hard. I practice patience by reaching out for tutors and academic advisors. I realize that I need help too. I also stretch with myself with getting involved in school programs and community outreach. I have also learned to be patient with myself and make time for myself. This includes studying, praying and going to the gym. I plan to continue to do these things to accelerate my patience in college, with myself and my relationship with God.

Accelerating in Obedience

Tamir Simons, Recent College Graduate

Obedience is the foundation for accelerating and ascending in our walk with Christ, as it aligns our actions with God's will. When we follow God's commands, we show Him that we trust His plan for our lives. It also helps the church stay strong because everyone is working together to do what God wants. By being obedient, we can grow spiritually and help move God's vision forward.