

Fasting Prayer Guide & Prayer Requests

January 2017 • Houston's First Baptist Church



PRAYER GUIDE

Pastor Gregg is asking the Houston's First family to fast during the month of January by either following a Daniel Fast (for 5, 10 or 21 days) or by following a complete fast either one day or one meal a week. While fasting, use this prayer guide as you pray for the ministries and campuses of our church, and for your home and family, as well. Specific prayer requests submitted by ministries and campuses are listed on the following pages.

P - Praise and Thanksgiving: To give adoration and lift up.

Hebrews 13:15 — “Therefore, through Him let us continually offer up to God a sacrifice of praise, that is, the fruit of our lips that confess His name.”

R - Repentance: To change from one direction and move toward God.

Romans 2:4 — “Or do you despise the riches of His kindness, restraint, and patience, not recognizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?”

Psalms 139:23-24 — “Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way.”

A - Asking: Positioning our hearts to ask for and receive what our Father has for us, and our Gathering, Growing, Giving, Multisite Teams, and Support Ministries.

John 15:16 — “You did not choose Me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit—fruit that will remain—so that whatever you ask the Father in My name, He will give you.”

Y - Yielding: A place of surrender to encounter the love of God.

John 17:22-23 — “I have given them the glory You have given Me. May they be one as We are one. I am in them and You are in Me. May they be made completely one, so the world may know You have sent Me and have loved them as You have loved Me.”

John 15:4-5 — “Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.”

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PRAYER REQUESTS

GATHER TEAM

- For the city to have ears to hear the voice of the Lord calling them to Himself
- For the city to repent, turn from their ways, and heal our land
- For the city to see the light of the Lord in ALL our Gatherings
- For our teams to be trusted with a great harvest of souls
- For our teams to cultivate hearts of private worship
- For our teams to honor the Lord through the arts and media, not settling for empty marketing

GROW TEAM

- Milestones – new people to be introduced to strategic discipleship
- Deeper sense of the need to know Christ (Philippians 3:10) resulting in greater discipleship
- Physical safety for children of our church (birth through High School)
- Families to better reflect the Image of God to a lost world – increased discipleship of kids, greater warmth among family members and greater desire to be intentional

GIVE TEAM

- 2017 Mission Trips
- Local Missions @ Faith Centers (Spring Branch, Harwin, The Grove)
- Volunteer Training
- Legacy 685
- Woodhaven Deaf Church – New Pastor, Josh Bruffey
- Houston 1:8 (July 9-13) – 20th Anniversary
- MISSION 1:8 Church Plants/Partners
- Evangelism – heart for the lost and personal evangelism
- Increased desire and heart for prayer in our church and city

CYPRESS CAMPUS

- Asking God to strengthen and sustain our current leaders and volunteers. Praying that they receive a renewed energy and passion.
- Praying that God calls out and provides an additional 250 leaders and volunteers for the Preschool and Children's Ministry.
- For the Holy Spirit to position our Cypress Women's Ministry to be a safe haven for women in every stage and walk of life to experience the love of Jesus and come to know Him as their Savior.
- Pray for swift construction of our building. Pray for a smooth transition (our people, staff, programs, etc.) as we move our location to a permanent home.
- Pray for our impact in the Cypress community. Pray that the Cypress Campus will be a beacon of light and hope where guests will hear, know, and experience the love of Christ.

DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

- Spiritual revival of the Downtown community, softening of hearts to the Gospel.
- God's wisdom in our continual contextualization of the Gospel and biblical principles to be bold and relevant to the urban, diverse community of Downtown.
- Specific outreach to college, medical, business, homeless and artist communities.
- Opportunities for facilities, staff and volunteers to grow as our congregation grows.
- Humility and purity for our staff, deacons and volunteer leaders.

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ESPAÑOL CAMPUS

- Multisite Español Campus Vision – Pray that God raises and prepares leaders this year ready to go to our campuses and expand the Español ministry. Pray for wisdom and discernment as we disciple and train people in the coming months. Pray that the Lord shapes how that will take place and when.
- Discipleship – Pray for continued spiritual growth in the members of our campus. That they may come to the knowledge of Jesus Christ (1 Timothy 2:4, 2 Peter 3:18) as true discipleship transforms their lives and as they learn to disciple others as well. That our ministry produces safe and healthy homes.
- Mexico & Spain Mission Trips – Pray for God to do His work as we go into the Mexico site for the first time, that people are open to receiving His word and what He wants to do there. Pray for our second trip to Spain, that the Lord helps us to continue to foster the relationships that have been created at both sites, Madrid and Xàtiva.
- Staffing & Volunteers – Pray for the Español staff team and possible changes this year due to growth, personal leave, etc. That 'old' volunteers continue to serve and step up in leadership roles and that new volunteers rise up. That the Lord may give our leadership team the wisdom to make the right decisions for the campus as the year progresses.
- Latin American countries & our members – Please pray for all the Latin American countries represented in our campus. A lot of our members still have family back home where the economic, social and spiritual environments are in a state of chaos and/or hardship. Pray for protection of their families back home and for the government.

SIENNA CAMPUS

- Continued strengthening of the team
- Patience with the current and future construction projects
- Several dealing with loss (i.e. job loss, death, etc.)
- Leadership pipeline
- Church culture and identity

SUPPORT TEAM

- Great Commission Fund (church operating budget) for current year and wisdom in setting next year's budget
- Church members' reception and response to Give and Go components
- Wisdom in Operations on how to better serve the very diverse group of "customers"
- Wisdom and direction on a multitude of potential capital projects
- Servant spirit and Lord's strength and joy in His Work
- A lot of changes and adjustments coming in Culinary with the remodeling and food truck. Smooth transition over the next 8 months. Being able to support the part-time staff in Culinary during the transition.

COUNSELING CENTER

- Prayer for vision and wisdom in leadership
- Guarding the hearts and minds of the staff in the Truth of who God has called them to be and the strength to persevere
- Equipping the next generation of counselors
- Clients would experience the Truth, Love, and Healing of Christ

FIRST BAPTIST ACADEMY

- We are about to begin our season of re-enrollment. Pray for a healthy retention of our FBA families.
- We have two current faculty and one former faculty member that are battling cancer. Pray for healing.
- We are finalizing the Strategic Plan for the next 4-5 years. Pray that the Lord reveals Himself clearly in the plans and in the blessings that lay ahead for FBA.
- The open enrollment period begins soon for new families. Pray that the Lord brings the people to FBA that need Him and that we and help lead to Him.

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FITNESS & RECREATION CENTER

Recreation Ministry

- Connections and relationships involved with Summit Sports
- Wisdom as Daycation kicks into gear

Fitness Ministry

- Always looking for amazing instructors and trainers to join our team
- Fitness Expo (Sun, Jan 29):
 - Vendors to be blessed – make contacts that they would come check out Houston's First!
 - People to come to Expo and make decisions to live a healthy lifestyle
 - Volunteers
 - God to bless them even with His presence!
- Ministry to new January members
- Kick-off of 12-week Fitness Challenge in March
- General strength for our staff
- Always need wisdom!