THE JOURNEY OF DISCIPLESHIP 21 Days of Fasting & Prayer

## DAILY *Devotional*

#### From the Pastor's desk...

Dear Mount Calvary Nation,

Jesus's words, "whoever would be my disciple must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me," echo deeply within our hearts as we embark on this 21 days of consecration. In this dedicated time, we purposefully step away from the distractions of life, setting aside our own desires to earnestly seek the Lord.

Our hearts long for Him, driving us to disrupt our usual routines, and deliberately carve out moments for prayer and immersion in His Word. We cling to the promise of Jeremiah 29:13, knowing that as we seek God wholeheartedly, He will reveal Himself to us.

May this period of fasting and prayer be transformative on our journey of discipleship. May heart of God, strengthened

journey of discipleship. May we emerge closer to the heart of God, strengthened in our commitment to follow Him wholeheartedly.

Yours in Christ,

# What type of fasting will the Mount Calvary Nation do?

We will observe a **partial** fast. That is, we will not give up food *entirely* for 21 days, but will abstain from eating during certain times of the day, or from *certain* foods altogether. Pray and ask the Lord to direct your fasting over the next 21 days. Some will give up eating during daylight hours, some will give up meats, some will give up sugar, some soda, some breads...what you give up is between you and God.

Remember that true Biblical fasting is about afflicting the soul for spiritual benefit. We are not fasting to lose weight. We are not fasting for our physical health. We are not fasting just to discipline ourselves. We are not even fasting to "make God hear us." According to I John 5:14, we already have the confidence that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. Our fasting is to quiet the flesh, so that we can hear HIM! We deny the flesh, in order to tune our hearts to His.



## Day 1—The Call to Discipleship

#### Matthew 4:19—"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

Begin this journey by surrendering or recommitting our lives to the call of discipleship. Just as Jesus called His disciples by the Sea of Galilee, He calls us to follow Him wholeheartedly. Let us surrender our plans, desires, and ambitions to His will, and allow Him to lead us on this transformative journey.

What is the Lord saying to me through His Word?

## Day 2—The Cost of Discipleship

## *Luke 14:33—"In the same way, those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples."*

Following Jesus comes with a cost. It requires us to deny ourselves, take up our cross daily, and follow Him. Reflect on what it means to count the cost of discipleship in your own life. Are you willing to let go of everything to follow Jesus completely?

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### Day 3—Learning from the Master

#### Matthew 11:28-30— "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

Jesus invites us to come to Him and learn from Him. Take time today to reflect on the teachings of Jesus. How can you apply His teachings to your daily life? As we study His words and follow His example, we will grow deeper in our discipleship journey.

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### Day 4—Embracing Servanthood

Mark 10:45—"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Jesus came not to be served, but to serve. As His disciples, we are called to follow His example of servanthood. Look for opportunities to serve others today with humility and love, just as Jesus did.

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## Day 5—Walking in Obedience

#### John 14:15—"If you love me, keep my commands."

Obedience is a crucial aspect of discipleship. Jesus said, "If you love me, keep my commandments." Let us reflect on areas of our own lives where obedience to God's Word may be lacking. Pray and ask God to help us to surrender those areas to Him and commit to walking in obedience each day.

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#### Day 6—Bearing Fruit

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."

As disciples of Jesus, we are called to bear fruit that glorifies God. Spend time in prayer, asking God to help us bear fruit in every area of our lives. Let us seek His guidance and empowerment to live a life that reflects His love and character.

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#### Day 7—Fellowship with Believers

Acts 2:42-47—They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Fellowship with other believers is essential for spiritual growth and encouragement. Take time today to connect with fellow believers, whether through church gatherings, small groups, or one-on-one conversations. Share your journey of discipleship and encourage one another in the faith.

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#### Day 8—Persevering in Faith

Hebrews 12:1-3—Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, 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, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

The journey of discipleship is not always easy, but it is worth persevering. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author, and perfecter of your faith, and press on toward the goal with perseverance and determination.

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## Day 9—Seeking God's Kingdom First

#### Matthew 6:33—But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

As disciples of Jesus, our priority should be to seek God's kingdom above all else. Take time today to examine your priorities and align them with God's kingdom purposes. Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, trusting that He will provide all that you need.

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#### Day 10—Growing in Christlikeness

2 Corinthians 3:18—And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

God's ultimate desire for His disciples is that they would be conformed to the image of Christ. Reflect on areas of your life where you need to grow in Christlikeness. Allow the Holy Spirit to transform you from glory to glory as you yield to His work in your life.

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#### Day 11—Sharing the Gospel

Matthew 28:19-20—Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Jesus commanded His disciples to go and make disciples of all nations. Reflect on the significance of sharing the gospel with others and making disciples. Ask God to give you boldness and opportunities to share His love and truth with those around you.

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## Day 12—Living a Life of Integrity

#### Proverbs 10:9—Whoever walks in integrity walks securely, but whoever takes crooked paths will be found out.

Integrity is essential for effective discipleship. Commit to living a life of honesty, transparency, and consistency in your words and actions. Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

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## Day 13—Forgiveness and Reconciliation

#### Matthew 6:14-15—For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.

Forgiveness is a central theme in the life of a disciple. Reflect on the importance of forgiving others as Christ has forgiven you. Is there anyone you need to forgive or seek reconciliation with? Ask God for the grace to extend forgiveness and pursue reconciliation in your relationships.

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#### Day 14—Bearing One Another's Burdens

#### Galatians 6:2-3— Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. If anyone thinks they are something when they are not, they deceive themselves.

As members of the body of Christ, we are called to bear one another's burdens and fulfill the law of Christ. Take time today to pray for those who are burdened and in need of support. Ask God to show you practical ways to come alongside them and share their burdens with love and compassion.

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## Day 15—Growing in Prayer

#### Philippians 4:6-7—Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Prayer is vital for deepening our relationship with God and experiencing His power in our lives. Spend time in prayer today, pouring out your heart to God and listening for His voice. Trust Him to meet your needs and guide you on your discipleship journey.

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#### Day 16—Overcoming Trials and Temptations

James 1:2-4—Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

Trials and temptations are inevitable in the life of a disciple, but God promises to give us the strength to overcome them.Consider the trials and temptations you are facing today and ask God for the grace to endure and overcome them. Trust in His faithfulness and provision in every circumstance.

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## Day 17—Cultivating a Heart of Gratitude

#### 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18—Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Cultivating a heart of gratitude is essential for maintaining joy and contentment in our discipleship journey. Let us take time today to count our blessings and thank God for His goodness and faithfulness in our lives. Choose to rejoice always, pray continually, and give thanks in all circumstances.

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## Day 18—Seeking Wisdom from God's Word

#### Psalm 119:105—Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

God's Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Make it a priority to spend time in Scripture each day, seeking wisdom and guidance from God's Word. Allow His truth to illuminate your path and guide you in every decision you make.

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## Day 19—Trusting in God's Sovereignty

**Romans 8:28**—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.

God is sovereign over all things, and He works all things together for good to those who love Him. Even in the midst of uncertainty and challenges, trust in God's sovereignty and His perfect plan for your life. Rest in the assurance that He is always faithful and He will never leave you nor forsake you.

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## Day 20—Reflecting on God's Faithfulness

#### Lamentations 3:22-23—Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Let us take time today to reflect on God's faithfulness throughout our discipleship journey. Remember His faithfulness in the past, and trust Him to continue His work in your life in the days ahead. Rejoice in the steadfast love and mercies of the Lord that are new every morning.

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## Day 21—Commissioned for Kingdom Work

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.

As we conclude this devotional journey, remember that we are commissioned by Jesus to be His witnesses and make disciples of all nations. Go forth with boldness and confidence, empowered by the Holy Spirit, to proclaim the gospel and advance God's kingdom *wherever* we go. May our lives be a testimony of God's grace and glory as we continue to walk in discipleship each day.

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