**SSBC Week of Prayer & Fasting**

**Monday 12th – Friday 16th February 2018**

Welcome to our first week of whole church of Prayer and Fasting for 2018.

This is a time for to be like Mary and set aside time to sit at the feet of Jesus and pour out your heart to Him. Our prayer for this season in SSBC is **Lord Jesus please send Your Holy Spirit more powerfully** to transform us to be the church/individuals you call us to be so our community / those we encounter can in turn be transformed by the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Remember as you pray

* To give praise and thanks to God
* Pray (the prayer points for each day will guide you and you can also pray for your own needs and the needs of others you know)
* Read the bible and meditate.
* Be still to allow the Spirit of God to touch you/for you hear what God is saying to you

We will all come together to end our week of prayer and fasting at our Prayer Service in the church on **Friday 16th February 2018 at** **7.30-9.10pm**. Doors open at 7:00pm

**What type of fast?**

* You may want to choose one or two days for a total fast (only water) or do a partial fast for the week (Partial fast - miss one or two meals or alternatively may eat light meal e.g. porridge or fruits/vegetables, drink milk). Please speak to any of the leaders if you need advice on what type of fast to undertake.

**New to Fasting?**

If you are new to fasting and wondering “How do I fast for it to be effective?” please use the next section to help you structure your time with God.

**What to do when you are fasting:**

Supposing you set aside an hour during your lunch time what do you do?

1:00 – 1:10pm – Worship

1:10 – 1:20pm – Prayer

1:20 – 1:35pm – Read the bible

1:35 – 1:45pm – Meditate

1:45 – 1:50pm – Journal

1:50 – 1:55pm – Silence

1:55pm – make your way back to the office!

You can use the above model to increase the time depending on your level of maturity in the faith or the length of time you have on your hands. Alternatively, you can start small, delay your meal for an hour, do the above then eat a smaller proportion of your meal and see the difference it will make in your life. As time goes on gradually increase this from an hour to two hours delay then three hours, before long you will be able to fast for half a day and so on.

**So by choosing to fast, we say to God, we will make room to do these things so that He will change us and we will not be conformed to the patterns of this world. Romans 12:1-2**

* **Please check with your doctor if you are underweight, on medication or pregnant before you fast**

**Daily Schedule:**

**Monday**

**Lord Jesus, please send your Holy spirit to anoint us and empower us for your purpose.**

* **Ask for more of the Holy Spirit in your life, our church and our community.**
* **Ask for God to increase your hunger for His Holy Spirit (remember if we do not feel hungry we can pray to *want* to want more of the Holy Spirit.)**
* **Ask God to encounter you as an individual and us as SSBC community this week as we pray.**
* **Today we want to pour out our hearts to Jesus in worship and prayer (like Mary did in John 11:32-44) asking for breakthroughs in the situations you bring before Him.**

**Bible readings: Luke 11:5-13 John 11:32-44**

**Tuesday**

**Lord Jesus, please send your Holy Spirit on us to empower us to speak the word of God boldly and to do signs and wonders in Your Name.**

**Prayer points:**

* **Pray for God to fill you up with His Spirit so that you can be a witness for God.**
* **Pray that God would equip you with the words, wisdom and boldness to share about Jesus in a powerful and effective way.**
* **We are praying that we and others would be set free by the power of the Holy Spirit so we can become more like Jesus.**
* **Pray that we would be open so the Holy Spirit can direct us to those seeking God.**
* **Pray and expect supernatural signs and wonders to be present as it was in the early church.**
* **Ask God to give us divine protection as we tell others about Jesus and encourage them to invite Him to be their forgiver and leader.**

**Bible readings: Acts 1:8 Acts 4:13-31 John 8:36**

**Wednesday**

**Lord Jesus, please send your Holy Spirit in power for the salvation of many.**

* **Pray that like Saul who became Paul, for those working against us to be turned around by the power of God.**
* **Pray for those seeking God in our community (whatever culture or faith they belong to) – that God would grant us revelation to see and connect them to SSBC – through leaflets, walking past the church, website, encounters with us in SSBC, Holy spirit direct conversations.**
* **Pray that each week people would cross the line of faith, invite Jesus to be their forgiver and leader in our Sunday Services and, to be added to our church.**
* **Pray for many to sign up for and attend the Alpha course (running in May) and the “In his footsteps” course (running in March).**
* **Ask God for those being saved to get baptised and be added to our number.**

**Bible reading: Romans 1:16 Acts 2:14-42**

**Thursday**

**Lord Jesus, please send your Holy Spirit to release the spirit of generosity into our hearts.**

* **Please pray for financial breakthroughs for yourself, your family and your church – pray for those in debt, those needing jobs, those needing an increase in their wages and ask for unexpected income for yourself and the church.**
* **Please pray that anyone who attends SSBC will be wise and honest in the management of our money.**
* **Please pray that God would start with you and touch our hearts to give generously to our church.**
* **Please pray for increases in tithes, gifts and offerings so that we can meet our current financial commitments as a church.**
* **Please pray for enough gifts and financial commitments (such as standing orders) to ensure the building project can start and the loan can be paid off each month.**
* **Pray for God to increase your faith to SEE that nothing is impossible for Him and, that whatever we give in support of His church He will give it back to us in abundant and overflowing measure.**

**Bible readings: Acts 2:43-47 Acts 11:27-30**

**Friday**

**Lord Jesus, please send your Holy Spirit to empower our ministries**

* **Thank God for the privilege of serving Him**
* **Ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit to anoint you as you serve and/or to direct you to where you can serve (if you are not currently serving)**
* **Pray for God to raise up those full of the Holy Spirit to serve alongside us – just like he did in Acts 6:1-7**
* **Pray for abundance of volunteers in the different ministries within the church such as: The worship team, PA team, children’s work, Youth leader and youth workers, hospitality, counting, service leading, ushering etc...**
* **Ask God to unite us with a common purpose and to serve Him under a corporate anointing in our church.**

**Bible readings: Acts 6:1-7 Philippians 2:5-11 Ephesians 2:10**