



WEEK OF 3/22-28: RELATIONSHIPS

Lent is a season of preparation for Easter. It is a time to intentionally humble ourselves, repent of our sins, and turn ourselves to God. Lent should not be a time of boasting of one's sacrifice or trying to earn God's favor or His love. God's love for us could not be any greater than it already is. This is a season to identify with Jesus by actively turning from our ways and pursuing the way of Christ.

This year, we encourage our FCBC family to practice Lent together by joining the 40 Days of Spiritual Breakthrough:

1. Consider fasting (giving up something) for the duration of the 40 days. For example, lunch everyday or sweets for 40 days or television/media, etc. Fasting allows us to uncover our need for God and to instead, turn to God to supply our needs. It is a physical action with a spiritual intention.
2. Set aside time to read, reflect, and pray with the weekly devotional.

DAY 32 READ

Exodus 20:12
Honor your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

REFLECT

Honoring our father and mother is the first command about relationships and also the first command with a promise. We can see God's value of parent-child relationships. Do we value what God values?

PRAY

Dear God, thank You for giving me parents on earth. Grant me knowledge and wisdom to know how to honor my parents and to love them. May they see Your great love for them in my life.

DAY 33 READ

Genesis 4:8-12
Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" "I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's guardian?"

REFLECT

This is Cain's response to God's question. It is surprising that Cain not only failed to perform the basic task of guarding his brother, but killed him because of jealousy in his heart. Do we neglect others, hurt others, or even allow evil to happen to others because we are jealous of them?

PRAY

Heavenly Father, grant me a loving heart for others. Fill my heart with more love from You so that I am no longer jealous of others. Instead, I would rejoice when others rejoice.

DAY 29 READ

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12
Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their efforts.

REFLECT

The Bible says that a life with companions is a wonderful thing. Working together can bring better results and support for each other. If we desire to have this kind of relationship, what aspect of my character may hinder the growth of a good relationship with others? What areas do I need to grow in?

PRAY

Dear Heavenly Father, teach me how to relate well to others and even be a blessing to others. May my relationships allow others to see that I am a follower of the Lord Jesus.

DAY 34 READ

Luke 10:25-37
He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind," and "your neighbor as yourself."

REFLECT

Jesus answers the expert of the law (God's standard) with the answer to love the Lord and to love your neighbor as yourself. Therefore, to love our neighbor is not something to do only when we feel like it, but is God's command so we inherit eternal life.

PRAY

Dear Heavenly Father, we admit that our love for our neighbors is not deep enough. May Your Holy Spirit help us to obey Your command to step out of our comfort zone. Help us to learn how to love our neighbors with Your love.

DAY 30 READ

1 Corinthians 12:23-27
And those parts of the body that we consider less honorable, we clothe these with greater honor, and our unrespectable parts are treated with greater respect...

REFLECT

The media and the web report more and more the failures and mistakes of people. If we are not careful, our hearts can be polluted to judge others. However, the Bible teaches us to bless those we consider less honorable because we are redeemed by Jesus and are all one body in Christ.

PRAY

God, grant me a humble heart to see others as You do and to help others with the gentleness and humility of Jesus Christ. Because Jesus fills my lacking with His life, please make me perfect in Him.

DAY 31 READ

Romans 5:6-8
But God proves His own love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

REFLECT

Jesus Christ died on the cross not only to pardon us from our sins but also to demonstrate God's love for sinners. He has also reconciled us to God and overwhelmed us with His selfless love. Is my life empowered by His love today?

PRAY

Father, thank You for sending Your beloved Son as the Word who became flesh to live among us. His death on the cross for my sins has allowed me to return to You. Help us to live by this restored relationship with You and be empowered to restore our relationships with others.



APRIL 5: PALM SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00am - Cantonese
10:30am - Mandarin, Cantonese
10:45am - English

APRIL 10: GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

7:30pm - English, Mandarin, & Cantonese

APRIL 12: EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES

9:00am - Cantonese
10:30am - Mandarin, Cantonese
10:45am - English



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