



Monday, January 9

6:30-7:30am Morning Prayer Led by Jordan Abina
11:15-12:00pm..... SUM Chapel Pastor Zane Anderson
12:00-1:00pm Lunch Prayer Led by Tony Hankins
6:30-8:00pm Encounter Service w/Pastor Zane & Jan Anderson**

Tuesday, January 10

6:30-7:30am Morning Prayer Led by Eric Daniel
12:00-1:00pm Lunch Prayer Led by Stacy Marks
6:30-8:00pm Encounter Service w/Pastor Zane & Jan Anderson**

Wednesday, January 11

6:30-7:30am Morning Prayer Led by Brad Louks
12:00-1:00pm Lunch Prayer Led by Tyler Lowe
6:30-8:00pm Soup Celebration** *Details on back page*

**Nursery-5th Grade Children's Ministry

Fasting Options

We want everyone at Hillside to participate...choose one or more:

- 1) Fast a all food, drinking water only
- 2) Fast a regular activity or comfort food for three days:
Ex: TV, Facebook, Pleasure Reading, or Snacks, Sweets, Coffee, Etc.
- 3) Fast one meal or a collection of meals during three days

A Note from Pastor

RESTORE HOPE | A World in need Jesus!

One of our ministry mottos around Hillside is *Restoring hope to the next generation*, which is why we partner with ministries like Expressions of Hope, Alpha Pregnancy Center, The Leaven and New Day for Children. Each of these ministries are doing an excellent job lifting the next generation out of the ashes.

As we approached the presidential election season, God's Spirit began to stir in me that America is in desperate need of hope; true hope which is Jesus. I felt a prompting that we needed to *Restore Hope* in the name of Jesus at every level of society. Our households, our government, our schools, and our businesses need hope for a better tomorrow. There is no better tomorrow without surrendering to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said he would build his church. He said his church would be His Body – his hands and feet. During these three days of prayer and fasting, we are asking God to fulfill what Jesus spoke about His Church – about us! His return is coming very soon, let's spread the good news – there is hope in the Name of Jesus.

Restoring Hope Together,
Eric Daniel : Lead Pastor

Healthy Fasting

If you have not participated in fasting from food for more than 24 hours, here is a short description of how you can do it effectively: In the food fast you eliminate all solid foods, drinking only liquids, but avoiding juices high in sugar. The goal is to stay healthy and hydrated, yet keep your physical hunger because it increases spiritual hunger. It is important not to drink tap water or spring water because of the active minerals and chlorine because it may cause excessive hunger - it is best to drink distilled or bottled water. My personal favorite is a mixture of half bottled water and half Gatorade. This mixture creates the thirst for hydration without pumping high volumes of sugar into my body. Blending fresh fruit with a mixer or drinking natural fruit drinks is an option. Some even drink diet supplements, such as Boost or Ensure.

When fasting food, there is a simple rule: "drink non-enjoyable liquids." Be careful not to use drinking to replace the pleasurable full feeling of eating. Remember, physical hunger opens us up to greater spiritual hunger. Of course, you must consider your job and health when fasting for three days, so don't decide to push yourself beyond a healthy lifestyle. However, most people can easily go for three days without food when drinking a good amount of liquids (water). Simply put, seek the Lord. You fast to please God and not to please others or yourself. Ask God to lead you in what to drink, and fast with a good conscience toward God. (*"But he who doubts is condemned if he eats, because he does not eat from faith"* - Romans 14:23) Make sure you are comfortable with your fast in the presence of God, and eliminate anything that convicts your conscience. God will often call you to fast (give up) other things along with food during this week (Movies, TV, Magazines, Coffee, etc.).

Don't be surprised when you experience being extra cold, having shorter patience, mood swings, or increased temptation in areas of weakness. Press into God - read more scripture, play a worship CD, or pray with friends. This is part of cultivating a right heart. God wants to meet with you; He will bring you through.

Using this Guide

Pray = Invite the Holy Spirit to help you understand and apply what God is saying to you through the Bible.

Read = Remember, God's Word (whether read or heard) will always do one to three things: Correct you | Comfort you | Command you | (2 Timothy 3:16)

Write = Beyond underlining or drawing in your Bible as the Lord makes things come alive to you, when God reveals a specific truth about Himself, you, or life, record what He says to you.

Try using the SOAP journal method...

Scripture verse to focus on throughout the day.

Observations or questions to explore with the Holy Spirit.

Action to take with Jesus in response to truth.

Prayer of request or praise to Father God.

May God give you simple faith and special moments with Him. Amen!

January 9

Stay Close

Focus: If we are going to spread the message of Hope, we need to first know hope. The Bible says it another way “know God and make Him known.”

There is an important first step in Restoring Hope – stay close. We need to learn how to stay close to the source of hope – Jesus Christ. Check out this story about Mary and Martha, sit with it awhile today and allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you about practices that will keep you close to your savior.

Scripture | **Read:** Luke 10:38-42; Psalm 46

Observation | *What stood out to me?*

Action | *What is God asking me to do?*

Prayer

Listen & Worship | Jesus Culture- “I Want to Know You”

January 10

Stay Together

Focus: “One can put 1,000 to flight, two can put 10,000...,” writes Solomon in Ecclesiastes. It is not wise to bear the burden of sharing God’s message of hope alone. It is God’s desire that we bear the burden together. He sent them out two by two into the hill country of Judea.

It is time to move from staying close to staying together. Take time to list the people God has brought around you for help and comfort. What have you gained or what could you gain from each person?

Scripture | **Read:** Luke 10:1-4; Mark 6:7-13; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12;

Observation | *What stood out to me?*

Action | *What is God asking me to do?*

Prayer

Listen & Worship | Needtobreath (feat. Gavin DeGraw)- “Brother”

January 11

Stay Focused

Focus: There is much to do and much to distract us from real ministry to people. Keeping our focus is difficult in our complicated world. God will help us – He promised His Spirit would guide us into all truth and empower us to live righteous lives.

Think about the opportunities God has given you this past month to share hope with someone. If you didn't take advantage of the opportunity to say something, remember it is the first step toward doing it better next time.

Scripture | **Read:** Matthew 5:14-16; Matthew 28:18-20; 1 Peter 3:8-22; Isaiah 58:6-12

Observation | *What stood out to me?*

Action | *What is God asking me to do?*

Prayer

Listen & Worship | Hillsong Worship- "Let There Be Light"

Some Details:

Soup Celebration – Wednesday, January 11 at 6:30pm

It's a biblical tradition to celebrate with food, so after several days of dedicating ourselves to God through prayer and fasting Hillside breaks the fast with soup.

You do not have to bring a soup, and you don't even have to fast to participate. All are welcome for God is at work among us!

Your kids will eat dinner with you - Childcare starts after we eat together.

- 1) If you plan to bring a soup, please sign up at the Info Center.
- 2) Bring your soup hot & ready with a serving utensil a few minutes early.
- 3) The staff will provide the rest - bowls, spoons, bread, drinks, etc.



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"Leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus."