

TALK IT OVER

Our Greatest Privilege,
Our Greatest Weapon

BOTTOM LINE

Prayer does more than what you think because God is doing more than what you can see.

CONVERSATION STARTER

Do you remember a childhood prayer you prayed regularly? What is something you pray about now?

THINGS TO CONSIDER

What did you hear?

What do you think?

What will you do?

RESOURCES

- The Daily: newpointe.org/thedaily
- [How to Pray](#) by Francis Chan (9 min.)

KEY VERSES AND QUOTES

A man came and knelt before Jesus and said, "Lord, have mercy on my son. He has seizures and suffers terribly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. So I brought him to your disciples, but they couldn't heal him." Jesus said, "You faithless and corrupt people! How long must I be with you? How long must I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me." Then Jesus rebuked the demon in the boy, and it left him. From that moment the boy was well. Afterward the disciples asked Jesus privately, "Why couldn't we cast out that demon?" "You don't have enough faith," Jesus told them. "I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it would move. Nothing would be impossible." Matthew 17:14b-21 NLT

"The church became a powerful force in the first days because they knew that *they* were to be houses of prayer."

"Prayer connects us to God; fasting disconnects us from the world."

"We are made in God's image – we are a triune being. We have three parts and are the only creation made like this: body, soul, and spirit."

– Quotes by Dwight Mason

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Jesus seems rather harsh when He calls them a faithless or unbelieving and perverse or corrupt people. What are your first thoughts? Unbelieving meant they were not closely connected to God, and perverse/corrupt meant they were too connected to the world. How do we struggle with that too? How do you regularly connect with God? How does it grow your faith? In what areas of life are you too easily connected to the world and it hinders your faith? Jesus says the solution is prayer and fasting. Prayer connects us to God; fasting disconnects us from the world. How have you experienced that? Or is connecting prayer and fasting a new experience for you? Why do you suppose that fasting is such a powerful connection to prayer? We have been challenged to set our objective, decide what kind of fast we will do, and expect results. Can you share where God is challenging you? What will you do?

ACTION STEP

I will embrace God's call to prayer. I will be part of our 21 Days of Prayer by _____