

the fasting prayer by franklin hall

The Fasting Prayer by Franklin Hall: A Deep Dive into Spiritual Discipline and Powerful Petition

Are you yearning for a deeper connection with God? Do you feel the weight of burdens pressing down, leaving you feeling powerless? Many find solace and strength through prayer, and some discover extraordinary power in combining prayer with fasting. Franklin Hall's "The Fasting Prayer" isn't just a book; it's a guide, a spiritual roadmap for those seeking transformative experiences through disciplined prayer and fasting. This post will delve deep into the core principles of Hall's work, examining its practical applications and spiritual insights, helping you understand how to approach this powerful spiritual practice effectively. We'll explore the historical context, practical advice, and spiritual implications of combining prayer with fasting as outlined by Hall. Get ready to embark on a journey of spiritual discovery!

Understanding the Context of "The Fasting Prayer"

Before diving into the specifics of Hall's teachings, it's crucial to understand the broader context of fasting and prayer within religious traditions. Fasting, the voluntary abstinence from food or drink, has been a spiritual practice across numerous faiths for centuries. It's seen as a way to:

Humble oneself before God: Denying physical desires focuses the mind and spirit on spiritual matters.

Increase spiritual sensitivity: By abstaining from physical needs, individuals may become more receptive to spiritual guidance and insight.

Demonstrate devotion and commitment: Fasting acts as a powerful expression of faith and dedication.

Seek God's intervention: Many believe that fasting creates a space for divine intervention and answered prayers.

Franklin Hall, within the framework of his Christian faith, builds upon these established understandings, offering practical guidance and spiritual insights to enhance the experience of fasting prayer. His approach isn't about rigid rules but rather about cultivating a deeper relationship with God through disciplined spiritual practice.

Key Principles from Franklin Hall's "The Fasting Prayer"

Hall's work isn't a mere recitation of scripture; instead, it provides a practical framework for engaging in fasting prayer effectively. Some key principles emerging from his teachings include:

Preparation is Key: Hall emphasizes the importance of preparation before embarking on a fast. This

involves spiritual preparation, such as confession and repentance, and practical preparation, such as planning the duration of the fast and informing others of your intentions. He advises against starting a fast impulsively; it's a spiritual discipline requiring intentionality.

The Power of Focused Prayer: Hall doesn't advocate for aimless prayer during fasting. He stresses the importance of focusing one's prayers, setting specific intentions, and engaging in fervent, persistent petition to God. This focused prayer is amplified by the discipline of fasting.

Spiritual Warfare and Intercession: Hall acknowledges that spiritual warfare is a reality, and that fasting prayer can be a powerful weapon against spiritual darkness. He frequently emphasizes the importance of intercessory prayer—praying for others—as a means of spiritual growth and spiritual impact.

Humility and Dependence on God: Throughout his writings, Hall underscores the necessity of humility and dependence on God. Fasting prayer isn't about manipulating God; it's about humbling oneself before God and trusting in His power and grace.

The Importance of Scripture: Hall encourages the consistent study and meditation of scripture during the fasting period. He sees the word of God as vital nourishment for the soul, supplementing the physical fast.

Practical Application of Hall's Teachings

Hall's work isn't merely theoretical; he provides practical advice on implementing fasting prayer in everyday life. This includes:

Choosing the right type of fast: He doesn't advocate for one specific type of fast. He discusses different types of fasting, from complete abstinence to partial abstinence (e.g., from certain foods), allowing individuals to choose what suits their physical and spiritual capabilities.

Setting realistic goals: Hall cautions against setting unrealistic expectations. He encourages starting with shorter fasts and gradually increasing the duration as one gains experience and spiritual strength.

Maintaining physical and mental health: He emphasizes the importance of listening to one's body and stopping the fast if necessary. He encourages seeking medical advice before embarking on extended fasts.

Building support: He suggests involving others in the fasting prayer process, whether through prayer partners or support groups. This provides accountability and spiritual encouragement.

Overcoming Obstacles and Challenges

The journey of fasting prayer isn't always easy. Hall acknowledges the potential challenges, including:

Physical hunger and weakness: This is a natural consequence of fasting and can be mitigated through proper preparation and a gradual approach.

Spiritual attacks: As individuals become more spiritually sensitive during fasting, they may experience increased spiritual attacks. Hall offers guidance on resisting these attacks through prayer and the word of God.

Emotional difficulties: Fasting can bring emotional issues to the surface. He advises seeking spiritual guidance and support during these times.

Discouragement: Lack of immediate results can lead to discouragement. Hall emphasizes the importance of

perseverance and trust in God's timing.

Conclusion

Franklin Hall's "The Fasting Prayer" offers a powerful and practical approach to combining prayer and fasting for spiritual growth and transformation. His teachings emphasize preparation, focused prayer, humility, and dependence on God. While it's a challenging discipline, the potential rewards—a deeper relationship with God, increased spiritual sensitivity, and powerful answers to prayer—make the journey worthwhile. Remember, it's a personal journey; listen to your body and spirit, seek guidance, and approach this practice with humility and faith.

FAQs

1. Can I fast for any length of time? Hall suggests starting with shorter fasts and gradually increasing the duration based on your physical and spiritual capacity. Always prioritize your health and well-being.
1. What if I feel weak or ill during my fast? Listen to your body. If you experience severe weakness or illness, break your fast immediately and seek medical advice.
1. What type of prayer should I focus on during my fast? Focus on fervent, specific prayers aligned with your needs and desires. Include intercessory prayer for others.
1. Is it necessary to abstain completely from all food and drink? No, Hall discusses various types of fasting. You can choose a partial fast, such as abstaining from certain foods or only eating specific foods.
1. What if I don't see immediate results from my fasting prayer? Remember, God works in His own time. Perseverance and continued faith are crucial. Trust in God's timing and continue to seek Him through prayer and fasting.

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