

LENT



2023 FAST

NEW FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH INTERNATIONAL
FEBRUARY 22 - APRIL 9, 2023

Taking Territory in 2023!

The New Faith Baptist Church Int'l encourages every member to join us in our annual fast during Lent. We are *Taking Territory in 2023*, and the fast will help equip us to *take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of us* (Philippians 3:12). In other words, the fast prepares us to accomplish what God assigns us, pursue the Way God leads us, and obtain all God has for us.

In the Bible, the Prophets Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah find themselves held captive by Babylon. Their world has been turned upside down, and their community is in disarray. They were selected to serve the Babylonian king and offered food and wine from the king's table. However, they refuse the king's food, instead resolving to consume only vegetables and water. After ten days, they were healthier than those who chose the royal food and wine! The Bible says God subsequently gave them "knowledge and understanding" (Daniel Chapter 1). God rewarded their spiritual discipline and focused by equipping them for their assignment, direction, and increase!

As your pastor, I believe God will richly bless us during this time of focus and prayer.

We will all hear from God with greater clarity. We will experience the power of God's Presence anew. We will gain refreshed health and energy. We will feel God moving us all into greater ministry.

Every day will be an opportunity to *take new Territory* spiritually, financially, and in every aspect of our lives.

Let's get ready, in agreement with God that *Every place where (we) set (our feet) will be (ours)* (Deuteronomy 11:24)

In Jesus Christ Name!

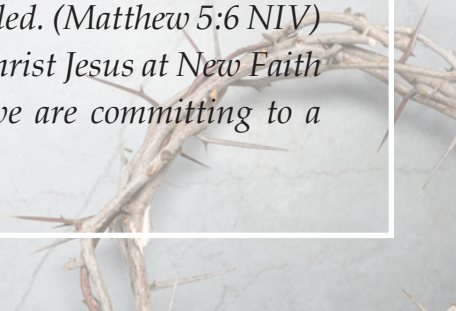
Rev. Dr. Truett D. Felder

As believers in Jesus Christ...

We fast to release supernatural breakthroughs and generational blessings; and to break strongholds and destroy generational curses. We fast to restore and rededicate our lives to the One who gave His life for us. Fasting is a voluntary abstinence from food or things that give you pleasure. It is a practice of physical self-denial for spiritual strength.

*Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you," Matthew 17:20 -21. But this kind does not go out except by **prayer and fasting**," Mark 9:29.*

On February 22, we will commit to a fast to answer the call of God to walk in obedience to Him in 2023. It is God's Will that we experience an abundance of blessings, power, healing and provision in every aspect of our lives. The things God call us to can only be achieved through a life consecrated (dedicated wholeheartedly) unto the Lord. We must seek Him. "O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water." (Psalm 63:1 NIV) He promises to fill us. "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. (Matthew 5:6 NIV) Thus, as a body of believers in Christ Jesus at New Faith Baptist Church International we are committing to a 47-day fast.



*One day as they were worshipping God - they were fasting and praying as they waited for guidance - the Holy Spirit spoke:
"Take Barnabas and Saul and commission them for the work
I have called them to do." Acts 13:2 MSG*

**Starting Wednesday, February 22 at
12:00 A.M. through Sunday, April 9...**

GUIDELINES

As you progress, include the guidelines from the previous week.

WEEK 1 No fast food. Drink water, at least 64 ounces per day (you may add lemon).

WEEK 2 No desserts during the week, and only healthy desserts on weekends.

WEEK 3 Reduce/eliminate sugar (use honey), no sugary drinks.
Limit 100% juice to 16 ounces per day.
Include 15 minutes of cardio (75 minutes for the week).

WEEK 4 No red meat or pork. No caffeine or ½ caffeine. No bread, (you may use whole wheat or spinach wraps).
Increase cardio to 30 minutes (150 minutes for the week).

WEEK 5 Reduce/eliminate dairy. Limit meat to a ½ serving of grilled or baked chicken, turkey, or fish per day.
Continue cardio of 30 minutes (150 minutes for the week), add 2 days of strength training.

WEEK 6 Only 2 meals which include food per day, substitute liquids for 1 meal. Limit meat to a ½ serving of grilled or baked chicken, turkey, or fish to every other day.
Continue cardio 30 minutes (150 minutes for the week), plus 3 days of strength training.

WEEK 7 Only 1 meal per day, but NO MEAT! Substitute 2 meals with liquids.
Continue cardio 30 minutes (150 minutes for the week) with 3 days of strength training.

WEEK 8 Continue the previous week's meal and exercise plan.
You should now have an increase in your stamina and strength, a noticeable weight loss, and most importantly, you should have a much closer relationship with God.

WEEKENDS Discipline and obedience are required! Limit meat to a ½ serving of grilled or baked chicken, turkey, or fish per day.

PRAYER AND DIETARY GUIDELINES

There is no such thing as a fast without prayer. A fast without prayer is just going hungry, and that means you're accomplishing nothing at all.

MORNING: Prayer and reading of God's word.

BREAKFAST: No meat! Oatmeal, whole grain and sugar free cereal with almond milk, 2 boiled eggs and fruit or yogurt, or cottage cheese with fruit, whole wheat pancakes or waffles with fruit.

LIQUID MEALS: Fruit and/or vegetable smoothie.

Snack with water.

MIDDAY: Prayer and reading of God's word.

LUNCH: Salad, steam vegetables, or vegetable soup. Add one of the following: beans and brown rice, baked potato, or oven roasted potatoes with bell peppers. Meat (when permitted): ½ serving of grilled or baked turkey, chicken, fish, canned tuna.

LIQUID MEALS: Fruit and/or vegetable smoothie, tomato soup, or chicken broth.

Snack with water.

EVENING: Prayer and reading of God's word.

DINNER: Salad, or steam vegetables. Add one of the following: beans and brown rice, whole wheat pasta with tomato sauce. Meat (when permitted): ½ serving of grilled or baked turkey, chicken, fish, canned tuna, turkey burger without bread.

LIQUID MEALS: Fruit and/or vegetable smoothie, tomato soup, or chicken broth.

Snacks: Nuts, cottage cheese with fruit, plain popcorn, fruit, peanut butter with apples, celery, or whole wheat crackers, rice cakes, vegetables, raisins, dried fruits, trail mix without candy, jello, applesauce, sugar free candy, or cookies.

Note: Always keep a snack and water with you to help avoid "CRAVINGS or SEE-FOOD" hunger pains!

✓	POCKET GUIDE • Fasting / Daily Scripture Readings				
	Day 1	Wednesday	Feb. 22	Fruits & Veggies	Deuteronomy 11
	Day 2	Thursday	Feb. 23	Fruits & Veggies	Deuteronomy 26
	Day 3	Friday	Feb. 24	Fruits & Veggies	Acts 3
	Day 4	Saturday	Feb. 25	Half Portions	Acts 4
	Day 5	Sunday	Feb. 26	Half Portions	Acts 5
	Day 6	Monday	Feb. 27	Fruits & Veggies	Acts 10
	Day 7	Tuesday	Feb. 28	Fruits & Veggies	Acts 11
	Day 8	Wednesday	March 1	Fruits & Veggies	Matthew 6
	Day 9	Thursday	March 2	Fruits & Veggies	2 Kings 18
	Day 10	Friday	March 3	Fruits & Veggies	2 Kings 19
	Day 11	Saturday	March 4	Half Portions	2 Kings 20
	Day 12	Sunday	March 5	Half Portions	Genesis 39
	Day 13	Monday	March 6	Fruits & Veggies	Genesis 40
	Day 14	Tuesday	March 7	Fruits & Veggies	Genesis 41
	Day 15	Wednesday	March 8	Fruits & Veggies	Ephesians 1
	Day 16	Thursday	March 9	Fruits & Veggies	Ephesians 2
	Day 17	Friday	March 10	Fruits & Veggies	Ephesians 3
	Day 18	Saturday	March 11	Half Portions	Ephesians 4
	Day 19	Sunday	March 12	Half Portions	Ephesians 5
	Day 20	Monday	March 13	Fruits & Veggies	Ephesians 6
	Day 21	Tuesday	March 14	Fruits & Veggies	Proverbs 13
	Day 22	Wednesday	March 15	Fruits & Veggies	Proverbs 22
	Day 23	Thursday	March 16	Fruits & Veggies	Proverbs 27
	Day 24	Friday	March 17	Fruits & Veggies	Romans 6
	Day 25	Saturday	March 18	Half Portions	Romans 7
	Day 26	Sunday	March 19	Half Portions	Romans 8
	Day 27	Monday	March 20	Liquids	Romans 12
	Day 28	Tuesday	March 21	Fruits & Veggies	Psalms 3 & 4
	Day 29	Wednesday	March 22	Liquids	Psalms 5 & 6
	Day 30	Thursday	March 23	Fruits & Veggies	Psalms 7 & 8
	Day 31	Friday	March 24	Fruits & Veggies	Psalms 26 & 27
	Day 32	Saturday	March 25	Half Portions	Psalms 40
	Day 33	Sunday	March 26	Half Portions	Psalms 51
	Day 34	Monday	March 27	Liquids	Psalms 66
	Day 35	Tuesday	March 28	Fruits & Veggies	Psalms 91
	Day 36	Wednesday	March 29	Liquids	Psalms 92
	Day 37	Thursday	March 30	Fruits & Veggies	Psalms 139
	Day 38	Friday	March 31	Fruits & Veggies	1 Corinthians 12
	Day 39	Saturday	April 1	Half Portions	Romans 12
	Day 40	Sunday	April 2	Half Portions	2 Peter 1
	Day 41	Monday	April 3	Liquids	2 Peter 3
	Day 42	Tuesday	April 4	Fruits & Veggies	James 1
	Day 43	Wednesday	April 5	Liquids	James 2
	Day 44	Thursday	April 6	Fruits & Veggies	James 3
	Day 45	Friday	April 7	Fruits & Veggies	James 4
	Day 46	Saturday	April 8	Half Portions	James 5
	Day 47	Sunday	April 9	Normal Eating	Luke 24

The word "LENT" is displayed in large, bold, metallic letters that appear to be part of a heavy-duty lock or door mechanism. The letters are dark and show signs of wear and rust. Below the letters, a sword with a blue blade and a gold hilt is positioned diagonally, pointing upwards towards the right. The background is a dark, textured surface with a greenish tint at the bottom.

LENT

Replenish, Reduce and Release

Taking Territory in 2023

It is the vision of New Faith Baptist Church International to provide programs that address the needs of the church and the community at large. What you will come to now is that money alone can never solve a money problem: it is only through introspection of the spirit that we acquire the Godly wisdom we need to handle money.

So many people in the body of Christ live in bondage daily because of their lack of understanding about how money operates in the kingdom. Money is a tool that God uses to achieve transformation in the lives of people by “Releasing” it for work in (Pembroke, Ford Heights, Africa, India, the Cathedral and your house), and evaluation in the life of the giver. If a person can get their attitude about money in line with Biblical principles, they will see breakthroughs in other areas of their life. You will literally set your family (and generations to come) up for an open heaven because of the seeds you have sown into the kingdom.

A Biblical Basis for Financial Faithfulness

My Dream from Lee Jenkins

1. The African-American community in America will emerge from hundreds of years of continuing economic bondage by creating a culture of financial faithfulness that we pass on from generation to generation.
2. By learning to handle money according to the principles of Scripture, we as individual families in the African-American community will build a reservoir of capital and financial security (*REPLENISH*). Can African-American kids climb up from poverty to financial security? I believe we can, but it is a very steep and high mountain. Because there is little or no economic capital passed down from generation to generation, many Black kids start at the very bottom of the mountain, and a smaller percentage make it to the top. As African-American families develop the habit of savings (*RELEASING*) for the next generation, it's like building a base camp that makes climbing to the summit a realistic possibility for their children.
3. We will not diminish that which is most important to us. We will fortify our families, our churches, and deepen our spiritual Commitments.

Replenish, Reduce and Release

Pastor Felder



WEEK 1

What is your Financial Vision?

- You cannot fix what you will not face.
- You must be willing to face what is wrong to fix it.
- Likewise, you must be willing to face what is right to achieve it.
- Too many of us avoid our faults and ignore what we have seen, heard or known to be the truth because we naturally do not like change.
- Change means we must let some things go. Some areas must die. But change also means that there is a new birth waiting.
- A new birth in our finances, based on spiritual values and truth, means new life that will be born into a new life of abundance. (2010 *Journey to Financial Freedom*)

Week 1 Scriptures 02-22-23	Week 1 Activities
<p style="text-align: center;">Habakkuk 2:2</p> <p><i>Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald^(w) may run with it.</i></p>	<p>People don't plan to fail; they fail to plan! Pray and meditate over your financial plan</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Matthew 6:33</p> <p><i>But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.</i></p>	<p>What values do your finances reflect?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write down five values that are important to you regarding finances. <p>When you make choices about what you value, you will begin to attract and increase the very things that you value!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">2 Chronicles 20:20</p> <p><i>"Listen to me, Judah and people of Jerusalem! Have faith in the LORD your God and you will be upheld; have faith in his prophets and you will be successful."</i></p>	<p>Pray and meditate over each financial value and the vision and the plan you have for each.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Deuteronomy 28:12-14</p> <p>¹² The LORD will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. ¹³ The LORD will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the LORD your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom. ¹⁴ Do not turn aside from any of the commands I give you today, to the right or to the left, following other gods and serving them.</p>	<p>From the scripture you read and the exercises you completed give a brief summary on how you will execute the following in your church and home:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Replenish! Reduce! Release!</p>



WEEK 2

Your Daily Walk

This is a lot to take in. Some of us are impatient: now that we have seen the face of God and have turned from our ways, we want God to deliver us RIGHT NOW from our financial mess. But it took time to get into the financial mess we are in and it will take prayer, obedience, discipline, and time to get us out. It's going to take a lot of undoing to undo all of the doing we have done!

Along this path, you are bound to face contradictions to what God has promised. These contradictions are manifested through fear, worry, temptation and pride.

Week 2 Scripture 2-26-23	Week 2 Activity
<p>Mark 9:23</p> <p><i>"If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes."</i></p>	<p>Create a vision for each financial value you named.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a short-term vision: How do I want the (value) area of my finances to look over the next 60 days? Please be realistic!
<p>Jeremiah 29:11</p> <p><i>For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.</i></p>	<p>Continue to create a vision for your financial values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the (value) area of my finances was perfect, this is how I would describe it:
<p>Psalms 119:36-38</p> <p><i>Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain. ³⁷ Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word.^[a]</i></p> <p>³⁸ Fulfill your promise to your servant, so that you may be feared.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to create a vision for financial values: Write down the daily/weekly activities I must engage in to reach the short-term vision of my 5 values.
<p>Psalms 37:23</p> <p><i>The LORD makes firm the steps of the one who delights in him;</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It's time to start your budget A budget is your road map to prosperity <p>Use your bank statement to track your spending over the last 3 months</p>
<p>Proverbs 22:7</p> <p><i>The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is slave to the lender.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make a list of all your debts Make a list of all your income. <p>You can do it, God is training His children in the way they should go, once they learn they will not depart</p>
<p>Deuteronomy 8:18</p> <p><i>But remember the LORD your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms his covenant, which he swore to your ancestors, as it is today.</i></p>	<p>Getting out of debt starts with a decision. Once the decision is made, add God's wisdom to it.</p> <p>What's your decision?</p>



Deuteronomy 28:12-14

¹² The LORD will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. ¹³ The LORD will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the LORD your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom. ¹⁴ Do not turn aside from any of the commands I give you today, to the right or to the left, following other gods and serving them.

From the scripture you read and the exercises you completed give a brief summary on how you will execute the following in your church and home:

Replenish! Reduce! Release!

WEEK 3

Mounting Debt

According to the Journal Record December 2022 issue Americans started 2022 with more than \$1 trillion in outstanding credit card balances. The Center for Microeconomic Data states household debt has risen to 16.51 trillion dollars in the 3rd quarter of 2022.

According to Crown Financial Ministries we have so much personal debt in our country that the average person has been described as someone driving on a bond financed highway, in a bank-financed car, fueled by charge card-financed gasoline, going to purchase furniture on an installment plan to put it in a savings-and loan financed home.

*Dreaming of a Radical Change of Lifestyle!
Seeking Wise counsel*

Mark 9:23

“If you can’?,” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.”

Week 3 Scripture 3-5-23	Week 3 Activities
Proverbs 15:22 <i>Plans fail for lack of counsel, but with many advisers they succeed.</i>	We should seek experienced people in the area in which we are attempting to make a decision. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial literacy class Countability Partner
Genesis 45:5-7 ⁵ And now, do not be distressed and do not be angry with yourselves for selling me here, because it was to save lives that God sent me ahead of you. ⁶ For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. ⁷ But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. ^[a]	It's time to start your money autobiography: https://coaching.stewardshipoflife.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/A-Money-Autobiography.pdf

<p>2 Kings 4:1-7</p> <p><i>4 The wife of a man from the company of the prophets cried out to Elisha, “Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that he revered the LORD. But now his creditor is coming to take my two boys as his slaves.” (read all 7 verses)</i></p>	<p>What do you have to work with?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pull your credit reports ● https://www.annualcreditreport.com/ ● https://www.consumerfinance.gov/ ● Negotiate credit card debt ● https://www.bankrate.com/finance/debt/how-to-negotiate-with-credit-card-companies/ (example)
<p>2 Kings 4: 2—3</p> <p><i>² Elisha replied to her, “How can I help you? Tell me, what do you have in your house?” “Your servant has nothing there at all,” she said, “except a small jar of olive oil.” ³ Elisha said, “Go around and ask all your neighbors for empty jars. Don’t ask for just a few. ⁴ Then go inside and shut the door behind you and your sons. Pour oil into all the jars, and as each is filled, put it to one side.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● List Everything you own ● (Healthy Habits) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Smart Shopping <input type="checkbox"/> Coupons <input type="checkbox"/> Buy in bulk <input type="checkbox"/> Warranties <input type="checkbox"/> Tax credits <input type="checkbox"/> 401K matching contributions
<p>2 Kings 4:5</p> <p><i>⁵ She left him and shut the door behind her and her sons. They brought the jars to her and she kept pouring. ⁶ When all the jars were full, she said to her son, “Bring me another one.”</i></p>	<p>What are the opportunities for additional income?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Selling household items ● Selling clothes ● 2nd job ● Home-based business
<p>2 Kings 4:6-7</p> <p><i>⁶ When all the jars were full, she said to her son, “Bring me another one.” But he replied, “there is not a jar left.” Then the oil stopped flowing. She went and told the man of God, and he said, “Go, sell the oil and pay your debts. You and your sons can live on what is left.”</i></p>	<p>Don’t give up.</p> <p>Never give up in your efforts to get out of debt. It may require hard work and sacrifice, but the freedom is worth the struggle.</p> <p>All things are possible with God!</p>
<p>Deuteronomy 28:12-14</p> <p><i>¹² The LORD will open the heavens, the storehouse of his bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none. ¹³ The LORD will make you the head, not the tail. If you pay attention to the commands of the LORD your God that I give you this day and carefully follow them, you will always be at the top, never at the bottom. ¹⁴ Do not turn aside from any of the commands I give you today, to the right or to the left, following other gods and serving them.</i></p>	<p>From the scripture you read and the exercises you completed give a brief summary on how you will execute the following in your church and home:</p> <p>Replenish! Reduce! Release!</p>



WEEK 4

A Change in Perspective

My whole perspective changed after I learned what the Bible actually taught. I wanted to give however I was frustrated by another problem: an unlimited number of needs and my limited resources. How could I decide whom to give? My church, the hungry poor, campus and prison ministries, missionary efforts, radio and television programs, and many other vital ministries needed support.

God evaluates our actions on the basis of our attitudes. God's attitude toward giving is best summed up in John 3:16" *God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.*" Note the sequence. Because God loved, He gave. Because God is love, He is also a giver. He set the example motivated by love.

Week 4 Scripture 3-12-23	Week 4 Activities
<p>2 Corinthians 8:1-5</p> <p><i>And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ²In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, ⁴they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. ⁵And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.</i></p>	<p>If Giving is merely to a church, a ministry, or a needy person, it is only charity. But if it is given to the Lord, it becomes an act of worship.</p> <p>Identify three principles from this passage that should influence how much you give. Prayerfully with your spouse if married. Be sure to seek the Lord's guidance to determine how much you should give.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.
<p>1 Corinthians 13:3</p> <p><i>If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, ^[a]but do not have love, I gain nothing.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does this scripture tell you about the importance of a proper attitude in giving? 2. How do you think a person can develop the proper attitude in giving? 3. How would you describe your attitude in giving?
<p>2 Corinthians 9:7</p> <p><i>Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does this scripture tell you about the importance of the proper attitude in giving? 2. How do you think a person can develop the proper attitude in giving? 3. How would you describe your attitude in giving?
<p>Acts 20:35</p> <p><i>In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"</i></p>	<p>How does this principle from God's economy differ from the way most people view giving?</p>

<p>Proverbs 11:24-15</p> <p><i>One person gives freely, yet gains even more; another withholds unduly, but comes to poverty.</i></p> <p>²⁵ <i>A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed.</i></p>	<p>What are the benefits found in this scripture?</p>
<p>Matthew 6:19-</p> <p><i>"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. ²⁰ But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.</i></p>	<p>There are dangerous consequences if you just live for pleasure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does this scripture reflect your resources?
<p>Deuteronomy 5:6-7</p> <p><i>These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.</i></p>	<p>From the scripture you read and the exercises you completed give a brief summary on how you will execute the following in your church and home:</p> <p>Replenish! Reduce! Release!</p>



WEEK 5

Money Talks

Money came by the house the other day. As soon as I opened the door to let him in, I sensed that something was wrong. He walked aimlessly into the living room and plopped himself into my favorite chair.

“Okay, if I sit here?

“Sure, Money, can I get you something to drink?” Money sometimes drops by to discuss his problems, so I wasn’t totally surprised to see him looking so discouraged.

Got any diet drinks?” He waited to catch my eye and then added, I’ve put on a few pounds lately.” I just shook my head. Money was the master of the bad pun.

I handed him his drink and then we got down to business.

“Money, if you don’t mind me saying so you look horrible. You haven’t been fighting with Greed again, have you? (*Money Came by the House the Other Day*, Robert W. Katz)

“Your money beliefs, even those you aren’t aware of drive your behaviors”

Week 5 Scriptures 3-21-2023

Deuteronomy 30:15-16

¹⁵ See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. ¹⁶ For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in obedience to him, and to keep his commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.

Ecclesiastes 12:8

“Meaningless! Meaningless!” says the Teacher.^[a]
“Everything is meaningless!”

Week 5 Activities

Money Scripts

Money is bad.

People who have internalized this script will twist evidence to support their belief. For example, some claim the Bible says, “Money is the root of all evil.” Actually, the verse they are quoting says that the love of money is the root of all evil.

- Is money good, bad or neutral?

Money Scripts

“More money will make things better”

There are many variations of this money script. When that arbitrary “more money” point is reached, however, security or happiness never quite arrives. It’s like a donkey chasing a carrot on a stick . . . always just out of reach.

- Write down a time when you experienced a financial abundance
- Write down a time when you experienced financial lack
- What would you do differently today?

<p>Genesis 39:2-3</p> <p><i>The Lord was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. 3 When his master saw that the Lord was with him and that the Lord gave him success in everything he did,</i></p>	<p>Money Script</p> <p>Don't deserve money</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Either people believe they don't deserve money because of the level of poverty in the world • Or they feel entitled • Write down how much is enough for you.
<p>Matthew 25:14-15</p> <p><i>"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag,^[a] each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey.</i></p>	<p>Money Script</p> <p>There will never be enough money.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lord has given us the authority to be stewards • How are you faithful in what he has given? • How are you faithful in little things? • How are you faithful with another person's possession?
<p>1 Corinthians 4:2</p> <p><i>"Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.</i></p>	<p>Money Script</p> <p>Money is unimportant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • God wants us to be faithful over all of our money • We have to be good stewards whether we have a lot or a little money • Describe stewardship over money.
<p>Isaiah 40:26</p> <p><i>Lift up your eyes and look to the heavens: Who created all these? He who brings out the starry host one by one and calls forth each of them by name. Because of his great power and mighty strength, not one of them is missing.</i></p>	<p>The Lord's power and understanding are beyond our abilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which of the money scripts could be keeping you poor, unhappy and/or unfulfilled?
<p>Deuteronomy 5:6-7</p> <p><i>These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. ⁷ Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.</i></p>	<p>From the scripture you read and the exercises you completed give a brief summary on how you will execute the following in your church and home:</p> <p>Replenish! Reduce! Release!</p>



WEEK 6

Reclaiming Your Future

God calls us to live in the present even as we keep our minds and hearts on eternity. This duality applies to our finances as well. We must accept our present reality and take responsibility for how we got to this point. However, we must also look to the future and move into the freedom that comes from being grounded in our relationship with Christ.

Understanding the relationship between time and money is crucial if you are to break the shackles of debt and experience debt free living. (*Say Yes, To No Debt*, Deforest B. Soaries, Jr.)

Week 6 Scriptures 3-26-2023	Week 6 Activities
<p style="text-align: center;">Isaiah 43:19</p> <p><i>See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Overall Financial Goal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What have you found useful? • What have you learned about yourself? • What do you need to do to stick to your goals
<p style="text-align: center;">Genesis 41:34-36</p> <p><i>Let Pharaoh appoint commissioners over the land to take a fifth of the harvest of Egypt during the seven years of abundance. ³⁵ They should collect all the food of these good years that are coming and store up the grain under the authority of Pharaoh, to be kept in the cities for food. ³⁶ This food should be held in reserve for the country, to be used during the seven years of famine that will come upon Egypt, so that the country may not be ruined by the famine."</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does this passage say about saving? • If you are not saving now, how will you begin?
<p style="text-align: center;">Luke 16:1-2</p> <p><i>Jesus told his disciples: "There was a rich man whose manager was accused of wasting his possessions. ² So he called him in and asked him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your management, because you cannot be manager any longer.'</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What have you learned about how you spend money? • What are the areas in which you can spend money more wisely? • How can you improve your money habits?
<p style="text-align: center;">James 4:13-15</p> <p><i>¹³ Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." ¹⁴ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that."</i></p>	<p>Areas to review to improve credit score/history:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pay bills on time • Keep credit card balances low • Increase length of credit history • Minimize the frequency of new credit request • Keep a combination of different types of debt.

<p>1 Corinthians 7:23</p> <p><i>You were bought at a price; do not become slaves of men.</i></p>	<p>What do you know about credit and debt? Answer the following true or false.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most people spend less if they pay with cash rather credit? • You should check your credit report at least once a year? • If you make a credit card payment late or miss it altogether, your interest rate may go up? • The information on your credit report affects whether you can get a loan or insurance, and how much you will have to pay for it. It can also affect your employment or housing prospects.
<p>Ecclesiastes 12:8</p> <p><i>"Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher.^(a)</i> <i>"Everything is meaningless!"</i></p>	<p>Money Scripts</p> <p><i>"More money will make things better"</i></p> <p>There are many variations of this money script. When that arbitrary "more money" point is reached, however, security or happiness never quite arrives. It's like a donkey chasing a carrot on a stick . . . always just out of reach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Write down a time when you experienced financial abundance • Write down a time when experienced financial lack • What would you do differently today?
<p>Jeremiah 29:11</p> <p><i>For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.</i></p>	<p>Time, transformation and action!</p> <p>Things do not change, we do!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Face your fears • Visit your past • Understand the present • Contemplate the Future • Transform your relationship with money
<p>Psalms 78:4-7</p> <p>We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power; and the wonders he has done. He decreed . . . which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands.</p>	<p>From the scripture you read and the exercises you completed give a brief summary on how will execute the following in your church and home:</p> <p>Replenish! Reduce! Release!</p>



WEEK 7

Strategy for Independence

Finally, it is wise to establish a strategy for independence. God has no grandchildren. Passing our faith in Christ to the next generation can be compared to a relay race. Any track coach will tell you relay races can be won or lost in the passing of the baton from one runner to another. Seldom is the baton dropped once it is firmly in the grasp of a runner. If it is going to be dropped, it is in the exchange between runners. Adults have the responsibility to pass the baton of practical biblical truths to the younger generation. At times during the training, it may seem as if there is little progress. But be consistent and persistent. May our generation leave our children the blessed legacy of financial faithfulness. (Crown Financial Ministries)

Week 7 Scriptures 4-2-2023	Week 7 Activities
<p>Ecclesiastes 12: 13-14</p> <p><i>Now all has been heard; her is the conclusion of the matter: Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every deed into judgement, including every hidden thing, whether it is good or evil.</i></p>	<p>Write a glimpse of how you see your future in the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If positive, post it on your bathroom mirror to remind you of your future daily. • If negative, what do you have to do to change it?
<p>2 Corinthians 4:18</p> <p><i>So fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.</i></p>	<p>List 3 financial objectives you want to accomplish during the rest of your life, and how you will accomplish them.</p>
<p>Hebrews 11:1</p> <p><i>Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.</i></p>	<p>Review your plan and pray over it, tweak as needed. Commit yourself to prayer and fasting over your finances.</p>
<p>1 John 1:9</p> <p><i>If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.</i></p>	<p>Ask God to forgive your financial mistakes. If you have incurred unnecessary debts, lived beyond your means, and done just about everything wrong financially, know this: God will forgive you.</p>
<p>Matthew 6:31, 33-34</p> <p><i>So do not worry, saying "What shall we eat? Or What shall we drink? Or What shall we wear?..." But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble on its own.</i></p>	<p>Stop worrying so much about money. Worry stifles creativity, causes stress, and is the enemy of your peace of mind. Worrying will keep you broke and your financial potential unfulfilled.</p>
<p>Mark 11:23</p> <p><i>I tell you the truth, if anyone says to this mountain, go, throw yourself into the sea; and does not doubt in his heart but believes that what he says will happen, it will be done for him.</i></p>	<p>Change the way you speak (and think) about your situation. Start watching what you say about money and how you think about money. You will be whatever you talk about and think about the most. Stop meditating on what you don't have and start believing on God for what you hope to have!</p>
<p>Genesis 18:19</p> <p><i>For I have chosen him, so that h will direct his children and his household after him to keep the way of the lord by doing what is right and just, so that the Lord will bring about for Abraham what he has promised.</i></p>	<p>From the scripture you read and the exercises you completed, give a brief summary on how you will execute the following in your church and home:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Replenish! Reduce! Release!</p>



Being

SALT

How to Have a Conversation About Jesus

You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.

You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

- ☒ We get to **SHARE** the good news!
- ☒ Share the **GOSPEL** not religion, morality, or experience.
- ☒ Many “**CHRISTIANS**” are not Christians.
- ☒ **GOD** saves people; we don’t save people.
- ☒ Always try to **FOLLOW-UP**; have a plan!
- ☒ We get to share, but we must **PRAY**.



Start Conversations

- There are LOTS of ways to start a spiritual conversation:
- Hi, my names is _____ and this is _____. We're part of New Faith Baptist Church International. Do you have a minute to talk?
- Hi, we're for NFBCI and we're out inviting people to our church. Have you thought about joining a church? What is your religious background?



Ask Questions

Get to know you questions:

- What's your Name?
- Where are you from?
- What high school did you go to?
- What was it like?
- What are you involved with at your church



"Until all have heard..."

Top questions for gospel conversations:

1. Do you have a religious background? What did that look like growing up? What does it look like now?
2. Oh, you said you're a Christian, what makes you a Christian?
3. What does it take to go to heaven? How sure are you, on a percentage that you'll go to heaven?
4. Suppose you were to stand before God today and he asked you, why should I let you into heaven? What would you think to say?
5. Do you know what the Gospel is? (The heart of Christianity, the central message of the Bible, the overall reason that Jesus came, what it means to be a Christian) Can I share it with you in about 4 or 5 minutes?



Listen to the Answers



Tell Them the Good News About Jesus

- Did you know that what you just shared with me; the reason for how you can get into heaven isn't exactly what the Bible teaches? The Gospel tells us that we can't earn heaven by our own efforts. I can share the gospel with you in about four minutes right now if you would like me to. (Make sure to give them an approximate time frame and be prepared to give a clear presentation. Tools are encouraged.)
- Can I tell you my story of how I became a Christian?
- Can I share with you the basic Christian message (or the Gospel)? It will only take 4 or 5 minutes.

- Have you ever seen this booklet that simply explains how to have a personal relationship with God?
- Can I share it with you? It will only take about four minutes.
- Learn several ways to simply share the Good News.



VISION

*To be a people of faith
who seek the heart of God through
worshipping, witnessing and
sharing the love of Christ (God's Son)
with the world.*

MISSION

*Living the faith through worship, witness
and wondrous works.*

THEME

Taking Territory in 2023

COME WORSHIP WITH US!

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Youth Worship Service 12:00 p.m.
Tuesday Night Prayer 7:30 p.m.



Rev. Dr. Trunell D. Felder
Senior Pastor

25 S. Central Avenue • Matteson, Illinois 60443
Phone 708-720-1318
www.newfaith.org