

Awaken Northwest

PRAYER GUIDE



Northwest
GLOBAL MISSIONS

NWBC Prayer & Fasting Guide

As we approach Mission OKC, we want to invite you to join us as we seek the Father.

The verse that we cast as the vision for Northwest this year is 2 Chronicles 7:14, *“If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land”* (ESV).

Prayer is one way that we can actively humble ourselves and devote our energy to seeking God’s face. Fasting is also a way to humble ourselves and seek the face of God. When we fast, we deprive ourselves of the immediate gratification that comes from responding to our appetites. Instead, we point ourselves to a greater need, a hunger and thirst for God.

Fasting and praying acknowledge the truth of Jesus’ declaration: “Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God” (Matthew 4:4). Fasting puts us in touch with this reality. Psalm 42:1-2 says, *“As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God?”*

Fasting is not a way for us to impress God or manipulate him. It is a way for us to turn from our physical appetites and recognize our greater hunger and need for God. Sometime this month if it is just one day or all thirty as you refrain from eating (or some other

time-consuming activity such as TV or computer time), be sure to devote that time to prayer. We have provided a guide to help you as you spend this time in prayer.

Here are some other helpful suggestions:

1. Drink plenty of water to keep yourself hydrated. If you need to drink juices or other liquids, remember that keeping a strict fast is not the goal.
2. Don’t give up too quickly. Press through, and let your body feel the hunger.
3. Decide ahead of time when you will break the fast, and commit to wait.
4. Be careful to not fill up your time with activities that keep you from praying.
5. Spend some extended time with your children in prayer at the beginning of the day. Talk to them about how we need God just like our bodies need food.
6. Commit to meet with members of the team or friends for a time of prayer during the lunch hour.
7. Plan a date with your spouse, and use the time to pray together instead of eating dinner.
8. Use the prayer guide and your Bible reading to fuel and lead your prayer time.
9. Journal what you believe God is saying to you during this time.

DAY

1

Gospel Proclamation

- ² Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.
³ At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison--
⁴ that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.
⁵ Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time.
(Colossians 4:2-5 ESV)

Father I know you have called me to be in prayer for our city. We are being watchful at what you are going to do through your church during Mission OKC. We pray for the Lord to open a door for us to proclaim the beautiful mystery of Christ to those you are preparing for us to go to. May your people declare the message of the gospel clearly and may we remember what we are created for while we use our time, to bring you glory.

DAY

2

Life on Life Discipleship

- ¹⁴ And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach (Mark 3:14 ESV)

God, I know you sent Christ for a purpose and so I trust that you are sending me for a purpose. I know you have set an example for me of how to make disciples. Lord allow me to give of my time, energy, money, to invest my life into people pointing them to Jesus and then sending them out to proclaim the good news of Christ. Lord help me to know you more intimately and deeply in these next 30 days. Give me the strength to run the race you have given me.

DAY 3

On Mission

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18-20 ESV)

Lord, as we pray for our city, we recognize you are the one in authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, we recognize you have given us, your church, the task of making disciples of Christ. We understand we in and of ourselves are inadequate to do the work you've called for us to do, but we know that Christ will be with us. May you move people to proclaim Christ through baptism, cause people to obey what you have commanded, and may you have people go into a lost and dying world for your glory. Lord create in us a heart for your mission

DAY 4

Worship

¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (Rom 12:1-2 ESV)

Lord, we come before you understanding the great mercies of God that you have graciously bestowed upon us, your church. We are undeserving and yet you have given us eternal life through Christ. Our response to your great salvation is a life of worship that is lived out through a response to the gospel. Father transform our life into worship, renewing our minds daily so that we may know what Your will is for our life. May you bring about worshipers of Spirit and truth to this city

DAY 5

Prayer

¹ Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."

² And he said to them, "When you pray, say: "Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread,

⁴ and forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation." (Luke 11:1-4 ESV)

Father, teach us to pray. Lord help our hearts to yearn to see your kingdom come. Give us a desire to pray for what you want oh Lord. Help us to see your city as you see it. Lord, your name is worthy to be praised. May we be reminded that you are our provider and protector. Help us to forgive as you have forgiven us. Lord teach us to be people of prayer. Do not let us give up on this 30 days. Let us run the race to the finish.

DAY 6

Community

²⁷ Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel,

²⁸ and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God.

(Philippians 1:27-28 ESV)

Lord, you are the reason we come together as a church. Lord help us to be a people who live out our live worthy of the gospel of Christ. Help us to be a people who stand firm in one spirit and one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel. Lord help us to be on mission together, united as the body of Christ. Lord as we reach our city help us to be led by the spirit. Help the gospel drive us to accomplish what you desire for us. Lord may we at Northwest be a reflection of You.

DAY

7

Word of God

¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

¹⁷ that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work. (2Ti 3:16-17 ESV)

God, we lift up this city that they would look to the Word of God. We pray for ears to be opened to hear the very Word of God that is breathed out by you. We ask that we ourselves would be trained in righteousness through it. We know we are not able to do anything apart from you so we ask that the Word of God would make us competent and equipped for the work that you have for us. We look to the Word of God for correction and reproof in our own life and we desire to use it to teach others.

DAY

8

Love in Action

¹ So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy,² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.³ Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Phi 2:1-11 ESV)

Father, help us to have the mind of Christ and think of others above ourself. Help us, your church, to have the same love, be in one accord and one mind. Lord help us look to the interest of others. Let us have the humility of Christ who humbled himself to give up His life for us. We are encouraged in Christ and comforted from His love, therefore we love

DAY

9

Gospel Proclamation

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

¹⁷ For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith." (Romans 1:16-17 ESV)

Lord, we pray that we will be unashamed of the gospel. Lord we pray that you would bring the power of gospel to our city. Prepare us Lord to proclaim it because we know it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes. Father open the eyes of people to hear and respond in faith. Father place the gospel in the forefront of our mind so that we may be able to be ready to proclaim the power of God for salvation.

DAY

10

Life on Life Discipleship

²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

²⁵ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

²⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul? (Matthew 16:24-26 ESV)

Lord you have the way to eternal life. We look to you as the one worthy to follow. We pray you would give us the strength to deny ourself and die daily to our own selfish ambition and vain conceit and live in Christ. Lord help us as a church follow Jesus and invite others to follow Him with us. Help us to think about others rather than ourself. Father give us people we can invest our life into and follow Jesus with them.

DAY

11

On Mission

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Act 1:8 ESV)

Lord, we pray that the Holy Spirit would empower your church to be a people on mission in their own city (Jerusalem) in their own state (Judea), in their own country (Samaria), and to the ends of the earth. Lord use us to be your witnesses of the beautiful message of the gospel. Help us not to rely upon ourselves but to rely upon the Holy Spirit. Lord prepare the hearts of your church to be a people who are called to be witnesses in their workplace, home, school, neighborhood, and marketplace.

DAY

12

Worship

⁹ After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" (Revelation 7:9-10 ESV)

God, we long for the day when we will worship you in the throne room of heaven. We know that you have called all nations to yourself, and have made a way for salvation for us through Christ. We respond to the good news and the lamb of god that was slain in worship of the one true God. God help us to have a heart for people to one day rejoice in your salvation and the gospel of Christ. Lord help us to respond to you in worship.

DAY 13

Prayer

²And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. (Luke 10:2 ESV)

Lord of the harvest we pray for an army of people who would be willing to be laborers in the harvest field. Father we are on our knees in prayer for this church and this community of believers to be raised up to sow seeds of the gospel and gather those who have produced fruit in their life. We pray that we would have a harvest that only God could provide. Lord let us your church be those laborers that go into the fields and see where you are working and join you there in the work. We pray you would send us.

DAY 14

Community

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ For the body does not consist of one member but of many. (1 Co 12:12-14 ESV)

Father you have uniquely gifted each and every person in the church to work together for your glory. Father we are baptized into one body and were given one spirit to be the body of Christ. Lord help your church be unified and working together to accomplish God's mission and reaching our city. Father help your church with different members be one body. Help us each to fulfill the call in our life for your glory

DAY 15

Word of God

⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Colossians 3:16-17 ESV)

Lord let the Word dwell in your people so much so that they must encourage one another teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom. Father help us to sing the Word of God in our hearts with thankfulness of what He has done. Lord it is your Word that inspires us to respond with love in action. Lord let the Word of God change our mourning into dancing so that we can give thanks in all circumstances for the glory of God.

DAY 16

Love in Action

²¹ Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. ²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing. (James 1:21-25 ESV)

Father help us to be a people who receive the very Word of God and therefore respond in action doing the word. Lord let us, your church, not just be hearers of the Word but doers. Lord help us to love our God and love our neighbor, Lord help us to be people who respond in meeekness producing in us gospel- centered living. Help us to put into practice what we have learned and see the love of Christ transform our life

DAY 17

Gospel Proclamation

¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

¹⁴ How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching?

¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" (Romans 10:13-15 ESV)

Lord we know you are calling people to yourself. We know that those who call on the name of the Lord will be saved. We know you have sent us to declare the message of the gospel to people who have never heard. Father send us into the world to declare the glorious message of God's grace and love. Father arm us with armor of God with the shoes ready for the gospel of peace. You are readying your church to be sent, Begin with me. Give me a heart for your people.

DAY 18

Life on Life Discipleship

And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

²⁰ Immediately they left their nets and followed him. (Mat 4:19-20 ESV)

Lord we follow you and we pray that you make us fishers of men. We pray we invest in the kingdom of God. We pray we would be able to leave our nets and spend our time as followers of Jesus first. We know that if we follow you and know you intimately and closely we will become people that invest our lives into others in the making of disciples. We ask you Lord that you raise up disciples who make disciples

DAY 19

On Mission

¹⁵ And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.

¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. (Mark 16:15-16 ESV)

Father we trust that you are calling your church to go. We rely fully upon you that you are at work in the hearts of mankind. We know that faith brings about salvation and baptism pictures that great salvation. Father strengthen our faith in you that gives way to proclamation of the gospel. Help us to remember how great our salvation is and the reason we go into the world to proclaim the gospel. Father help us to feel the weight of lostness for our city and our neighborhood.

DAY 20

Worship

³ And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"

⁴ And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke.

⁵ And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" (Isaiah 6:3-5 ESV)

Lord you are Holy, and we worship you for who you are. We recognize our sin and recognize we are unable to stand in the midst of a Holy and righteous God. And yet you saved us not because we were deserving but because of your great grace. It is only through Christ that we have direct access to the father. Lord when you speak the foundations shake. Speak to us, your people, that we may worship and see your glory in and through your church.

DAY 21

Prayer

³¹ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness. (Act 4:31 ESV)

Lord, let us be reminded that prayer is a corporate practice and that when God's people pray, you move. Father may we you people be people of prayer that the Holy Spirit may fill your people and work in and through them. May you come in power and shake the place where your people gather. Lord as a result of prayer may your people be filled with the Holy Spirit to speak the Word of God with boldness.

DAY 22

Community

²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,
²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrew 10:24-25 ESV)

Father unify the body of Christ, your church, through the power of the gospel of Christ. Give us such a love for one another that we are stirring up one another toward love and good works. Lord we are in need of the encouragement that comes through the gathering and as we prepare to reach your city we pray that we would encourage others in the church to be involved in the mission of God.

DAY 23

Word of God

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. (Luke 24:44-48 ESV)

Father the Word of God points us to the greatest message ever told, the gospel, and we thank you for giving it to us. We pray that our minds would be opened to the scriptures and that we too would proclaim this Word to all people. Father we are witnesses of the truth of God's Word. We thank you for giving it to us and now open the door for us to share it with others. May we be a people who are so filled with the Word of God that all we can do share it.

DAY 24

Love in Action

⁸ So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us. ⁹ For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. ¹⁰ You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our conduct toward you believers. ¹¹ For you know how, like a father with his children, ¹² we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. (1 Thessalonians 2:8-12 ESV)

Lord help us not only to share the gospel with people but also to give of our lives to the people you have called us to. We pray that the gospel exudes from our conduct toward people. We pray that we would encourage others to walk in a manner worthy of God. Lord let our lives be used for your own kingdom and your glory. Father give us a desire to labor for you and what you want.

DAY 25

Gospel Proclamation

⁷ for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

⁸ Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God,

⁹ who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, (2 Timothy 1:7-9 ESV)

Lord give us the boldness to declare the testimony of Christ. Father we know that you have not given us a spirit of fear but you have given us the Holy Spirit which brings power, a love that is inexplicable, and a sound mind that is able to control our thoughts. Lord we want to share in the calling you have called us to. Lord let your church boldly proclaim the gospel not because we are good but because of your great salvation.

DAY 26

Life on Life Discipleship

¹ You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ² and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. (2 Timothy 2:1-2 ESV)

Lord, we are praying for people to entrust the gospel into the hands of others who will be able to teach and train others. Father help us to be strengthened to find faithful men and women of God. Lord we know that you desire for your Word to go forth through the intentional investment into the lives of people. Help us to give our time our energy and our resources to faithful men and women who will be able to teach and train others.

DAY 27

On Mission

²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."
(John 20:21-23 ESV)

Father you are sending us into this broken world with the power of the gospel that has the ability to transform lives. We have been given the Holy Spirit to go and tell people the message of forgiveness of sins. Help us as your people to point people to the cross of Christ recognizing we are sent for a mission and a purpose and that our life matters for the promises of God. Lord give us the peace and the power that can only come through your Holy Spirit. As you send us into your city may your name be made known.

DAY 28

Gospel Proclamation

²⁴ Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life. (Joh 5:24 ESV)

Lord we join together to pray for ears to be open and hearts to believe in the one who has eternal life. Father we your people are ready to declare the life-giving truth. Father we want to see people pass from death to life. Give us the ability to stand in the midst of a broken word and proclaim the truth. Father we know there is an impending judgment. Give us the ability to do the work of the gospel with urgency.

DAY 29

Life on Life Discipleship

³¹ So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

³² Give no offense to Jews or to Greeks or to the church of God,

³³ just as I try to please everyone in everything I do, not seeking my own advantage, but that of many, that they may be saved.

¹ Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ. (1 Corinthians 10:31-11:1 ESV)

Father help us to live out faith for the glory of God. Help us to point people to Christ. It is not our own desires that we run after but that of those who are lost that they may be saved. Lord help us to live in such a way that brings glory to you and teach others to do the same. Lord help us to remember it is all about you.

DAY 30

On Mission

³ Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.

⁴ Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road.

⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!'

⁶ And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you.

⁷ And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house.

⁸ Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you.

⁹ Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' (Luke 10:3-9 ESV)

Father we see that you desire for us to trust you. We trust you oh God to send us to the people that you have prepared for us. We know that you have prepared people of peace ready to receive us. Help us invest in those people of peace and declare the kingdom of God. Lord you have given this church the unique opportunity to make a large impact for your name.