

WEEK OF PRAYER & FASTING

MONDAY 27TH - FRIDAY 31ST
JANUARY 2025

UNITED IN REVIVAL



B1 CHURCHES TAUNTON

UNITED IN REVIVAL

Fasting draws us nearer to God as we seek the advance of His Kingdom.

Fasting eliminates distractions for a spiritual purpose - to know renewal from the inside out.

Fasting shows our humility before God, positioning us to know His love & grace

Fasting enhances sensitivity to the Holy Spirit; attuning spiritual ears to hear clearer.

Fasting reveals our true nature. God exposing areas on which He wants to work.

Strategically plan your fast & when you pray

Get medical advice if needed

Drink lots of water

Journal thoughts & prayers.

Record what God says

Be accountable. Share your journey

Let hunger prompt prayer

Faith not feelings. If you think nothing's happening, it is

Don't get legalistic. It's not about rules but relationship

Wisely break your fast. Let your body readjust

Types of Fasting

Absolute Fast. No food or water for a period of time.

Complete Fast. No food. Water or juice only.

Selective Fast. Fruit, veg & liquids. No meat, sweets, breads.

Partial Fast. No food between specified times.

Media Fast. Abstain from TV, films, gaming, Social Media.

WEEK OF PRAYER & FASTING



UNITED IN REVIVAL

“WE FAST BECAUSE WE’RE HUNGRY FOR GOD’S WORD & GOD’S SPIRIT IN OUR LIVES. WE FAST BECAUSE WE LONG FOR GOD’S GLORY TO RESOUND IN THE CHURCH & GOD’S PRAISE TO RESOUND AMONG THE NATIONS. WE FAST BECAUSE WE YEARN FOR GOD’S SON TO RETURN & GOD’S KINGDOM TO COME. ULTIMATELY WE FAST SIMPLY BECAUSE WE WANT GOD MORE THAN WE WANT ANYTHING THIS WORLD HAS TO OFFER US.”
(JOHN PIPER)

“MORE THAN ANY OTHER DISCIPLINE, FASTING REVEALS THE THINGS THAT CONTROL US. THIS IS A WONDERFUL BENEFIT TO THE TRUE DISCIPLE WHO LONGS TO BE TRANSFORMED INTO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST.”
(RICHARD FOSTER)

‘TO SET ASIDE OUR LEGITIMATE APPETITES & CONCENTRATE ON PRAYER DEMONSTRATES THAT WE MEAN BUSINESS, THAT WE ARE SEEKING WITH ALL OUR HEART, & THAT WE WILL NOT LET GO OF GOD UNTIL HE ANSWERS”
(ARTHUR WALLIS)

WEEK OF PRAYER & FASTING



UNITED IN REVIVAL

DAILY MORNING ZOOM PRAYER

EACH MORNING 6.30 - 7.00AM

MEETING ID: 833 8778 8909

PASSCODE: 131992

DAILY EVENING PRAYER GATHERINGS

MONDAY @ RIVERSIDE CHURCH
(7.30-8.30PM)

TUESDAY ON ZOOM - 7.30-8.15PM

WEDNESDAY @ TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH
(7.30-8.30PM)

THURSDAY ON ZOOM - 7.30-8.15PM

FRIDAY @ NORTH STREET CHURCH
(7.30-9.00PM)

WEEK OF PRAYER & FASTING



MONDAY 27TH JANUARY

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

NEHEMIAH 4
MATTHEW 19:13-14

Throughout the ages, the spiritual battle for our children, our families & our marriages has raged.

The Bible declares that children are gift from the Lord (Psalm 127:3) & Jesus made space to receive them to Himself (Matthew 19:13-14).

The Bible repeats the value & importance of family, even from the beginning. (Genesis 1:28)' it is the most vital building block in society.

The Bible reveals marriage to be God's idea, His concept (Genesis 2:24); it cannot be redefined or reinvented by anyone else. Marriage sits central to creation both in time & eternity (Ephesians 5:22-33).

In Nehemiah 4, as God's people went about God's work, opposition came in the form of accusation, threat & intimidation. Nehemiah responded & said to the people, "Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great & awesome, & fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, & your homes." (v14).

We may not be engaged in the construction of a city wall but as God's people in this day, serving God's purpose in this generation, we still face enemy opposition.

There is no doubt children have a special place in God's heart. There is no doubt God still has 'family' at the heart of His model for society. There is no doubting God's design for marriage & His desire that it continue to represent the eternally glorious relationship between Christ & His church.

Nehemiah's rallying call is as relevant as ever; to fight for our children, our families & our marriages. We must employ two of the most potent weapons in our armoury - prayer & fasting. So, let us contend in this way that, as in the days of Nehemiah, God would frustrate the plans of the enemy & enable His people to fulfil all His good purpose for the glory of His name!

UNITED IN REVIVAL

THANKS TO
SIMON TAYLOR
OAKWOOD CHURCH



MONDAY 27TH JANUARY

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

PRAYER POINTS

For God's hand of protection upon the children in our generation.

For our kids to know Jesus for real & walk in relationship with Him - 'God bring revival to the children of our town!'

For schools & teachers, social workers & health care professionals & those who work with children in many different spheres of life.

For parents to know 'wisdom from above' in raising their children before the Lord.

For families to know protection & guidance and to be filled with God's peace & love.

For families facing difficulties of various kinds, to know the Lord's grace & strength making a way through.

For Christian marriages to be strong, healthy & flourishing in the Lord.

For those whose marriages are struggling at this time, to know God at work to bring reconciliation, restoration & hope for the future.

That individually & collectively, we would know wisdom & courage to stand up for God's design when it comes to the family & marriage.

UNITED IN REVIVAL

THANKS TO
SIMON TAYLOR
OAKWOOD CHURCH



TUESDAY 28TH JANUARY

THE TOWN

JEREMIAH 29:7

MARK 16:15-16

JOHN 4:35

I love the verse in Jeremiah that says, "Seek the peace & prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper" (Jeremiah 29:7).

Most of us live in & around Taunton. We can learn from Gods direction to the Jews to pray for our town. The number of stories of God moving in revival & transforming places is truly inspiring.

Just imagine Taunton, completely & utterly transformed by the power of Jesus - the majority of the population loving & serving our King. Think about what that would mean for every aspect of our lovely town: harder-working & more honest people, full churches, the need for new church plants, healings, baptisms, people filled with the Spirit, fewer abortions, less crime, more peace, more joy, safer & more productive environments - the changes are endless!

Why don't we, together, believe for God to move in this town &, by His grace, save a tithe (10%) of Taunton for His glory? That would be 8,000 people if we include the outlying areas as well. I know this seems huge, but think about it this way:

Maybe we currently have 1,500 born-again believers in Taunton. Imagine over five times that amount! If each of us believed & prayed for every Taunton Christian to lead one person to Christ this year, by the start of 2026, we could be at 3,000 believers. Another year of doing the same, & we would reach 6,000. Repeat this in year three, & we'd have 12,000 believers! Hitting our goal with an additional 50% on top! We then aim for 20% & go again!

Do you have faith for God, by His Spirit, to rest on us His saints & partner with us to see our town prosper & be saved? He's done it in elsewhere, He can do it here! He responds to faith! Let's pray for Taunton - His kingdom come, His will be done.

UNITED IN REVIVAL

THANKS TO
BRUCE IZZET
LIVING LIGHT (TAUNTON)



TUESDAY 28TH JANUARY

THE TOWN

PRAYER POINTS

Pray 'Your Kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven'

Pray for the peace and prosperity of Taunton, following the guidance of Jeremiah 29:7.

Pray for revival in Taunton, imagining our town transformed by the power of Jesus.

Pray for faith and vision to see 10% of Taunton's population come to Christ.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to empower believers to step out in faith and share the Gospel with those around them. Give them eyes to see the Harvest

UNITED IN REVIVAL

THANKS TO
BRUCE IZZET
LIVING LIGHT (TAUNTON)



WEDNESDAY 29TH JANUARY

JOHN 15

THE CHURCH

1 CORINTHIANS 11

COLOSSIANS 1

You don't have to walk far in Taunton to find a 'church.' It's the same everywhere, even around the world - though exceptions do apply!

In Taunton, each 'church' is particular to its location, rooted in a community, with a unique history. And yet, each local church is united to *the* Church (capital 'C'). Where a local church is a gathering of individuals under the Lordship of Christ in the present, *the* 'Church' is all local churches gathered up into the One Church. Thus the local is connected to the global & historic confessing Church. This means we are rooted, not just in our community with brothers & sisters in Christ today, but historically & globally with brothers & sisters throughout time & space, for 2000 years.

I want to encourage you to remain in, root down & contend for the truth of Christianity within the local church. There is much to be dismayed about in our culture - the rise of secular humanism, atheism, cultural Marxism & all the Woke traits that inevitably follow. We may think the game is up, the church is tired, we are few in number & stretched.

But being rooted in the historic, global church, we also know the truth that, to paraphrase G. K. Chesterton, five times over our history it looked as though the church had gone to the dogs. But in each case, it was the dog that died. Long live the Church!

What we need in the local church are men & woman who will display more courageous ambition to intelligently proclaim Christ in a decaying culture. This requires a resurrection of confidence in the Gospel, a word that carries the idea of faith & trust. If we are not 'on fire' for Christ, how can we pass the flame on? Rather, we Christians are to become fire, so that we may ignite lives.

And yes, Jesus is the Head, we are His Body. Yes, Jesus is the Vine & we are the branches. But if I could put it like this: Being a Christian & being church & going to church should make us look like a cat who comes out of the King's palace with whiskers glistening of cream.

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THANKS TO
RICHARD MATCHAM
TAUNTON BAPTIST CHURCH



WEDNESDAY 29TH JANUARY

THE CHURCH

PRAYER POINTS

Consider what these quotes are saying & pray!

"I put up with the church in the hope that it might change; in the same way, the church puts up with me in the hope that I might change." Desiderius Erasmus (1466-1536)

"Half Gospels have no dignity and no future. Like the famous mule, they have neither pride of ancestry nor hope of posterity. We must make it clear that Christianity faces the world with terms, and does not suffuse it with a glow; that it crucifies the world, and does not merely consecrate it; that it recreates and does not merely soothe or cheer it; that it is life from the dead, and not simply bracing for the weak or comfort for the sad."

P. T. Forsyth (1848-1921)

"We shall have to break the habit of having church in such a way that people are deceived into thinking that they can be Christians and remain strangers."

Stanley Hauerwas (b. 1940)

Being a Christian and being church and going to church should make us look like a cat who comes out of the King's palace with whiskers glistening of cream.

Richard Matcham (b.1971) 😊



THURSDAY 30TH JANUARY

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

LUKE 15
1 TIMOTHY 4

So many of us feel strongly about the need to pray for revival amongst the younger people of our neighbourhoods, our town & our nation. The challenges seem so great, the mountain seems so high yet our God is the One Who can move mountains.

There are encouraging signs of something of an awakening among Gen Z – those in their teens & twenties. This is in part driven by the ‘meaning crisis’, the ‘mental health crisis’ & a general lack of hope for the future. There is evidence of some in this generation turning to the timeless truths of the Bible & the existence of God, the same truths that their parents rejected.

We must pray in these days that the Lord stirs in these young people & young adults a hunger for truth & for answers that only the Gospel of Jesus Christ can provide.

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of Man came to seek & to save the lost.”

Psalm 145:18 “The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.”

Psalm 107:19-20 “Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, & he delivered them from their distress. 20 He sent out his word & healed them, & delivered them from their destruction.”

Luke 15:21-24 21 “And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven & before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ 22 But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, & put it on him, & put a ring on his hand, & shoes on his feet. 23 And bring the fattened calf & kill it, & let us eat & celebrate. 24 For this my son was dead, & is alive again; he was lost, & is found.’ And they began to celebrate.”

UNITED IN REVIVAL

THANKS TO
BEN THORNE
LIVING LIGHT (BRIDGWATER)



THURSDAY 30TH JANUARY

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

PRAYER POINTS

Let's cry out to God together for this generation, for a Sovereign move of God and for the church to be ready to receive them.

Let's pray for anointed workers – for parents and grandparents in the faith to rise up to help disciple this generation.

Let's pray that this generation will call on God with sincerity of heart as the Lord promises to be those who call on Him in truth.

Let's pray for the Lord to bring healing, salvation and deliverance to this generation.

Let's pray for the workers in youth ministries, like Taunton Youth for Christ, and young adult ministries, like those university campuses.

Let's pray for the lost sons and daughters who have walked away from the Lord to come back.



FRIDAY 31ST JANUARY

REVIVAL

2 CHRONICLES 7:14

PSALM 42:1-5

DANIEL 9:4-6,9-10, 18-19

What is revival? There are many definitions.

Jon Tyson said, “Revival begins with the simple truth that God comes where people want Him.”

Arthur Wallis described revival with two simple words: “God came.”

Duncan Campbell, who led the Hebridean revival described revival as, “A community saturated with God.” He also argued that revival comes at the discovery or rediscovery of Jesus.

Malcolm Macdonald challenges believers with the question, “How much of God do we want?” How much of the Holy Spirit will we allow to impact us?

The psalmist writes, “Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You? Show us Your unfailing love, Lord, and grant us Your salvation” (Psalm 85:6-7). The psalmist, challenges us to earnestly cry out to God to fill us with His life giving presence.

This verse reminds us that revival begins with a deep longing for God’s presence to touch our hearts & impact our lives. Only His Spirit can awaken our hearts. If we want God to transform our churches, & our community, then revival begins with us. How much of God do we want? How hungry & thirsty are we for Him to revive, transform, & rescue the people we are called to love & pray for?

UNITED IN **REVIVAL**

THANKS TO
JAMES TAYLOR
NORTH STREET CHURCH



FRIDAY 31ST JANUARY

REVIVAL

PRAYER POINTS

When we pray, remember that God loves you, cares for you, thinks about you, wants to hear from you, & speak to you.

Jesus is knocking on the door of our heart. He says, “Look! I stand at the door & knock. If you hear My voice & open the door, I will come in, & we will share a meal together as friends.” (Revelation 20:3).

1. Adoration - Praise the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit for God’s love.
2. Confession - Acknowledge the mistakes and apathy of the church.
3. Thanksgiving - Appreciate all that God is doing to expand His Kingdom.
4. Supplication - Ask the Lord to revive us, His church, and the community.



**AS LONG AS WE'RE
CONTENT TO LIVE
WITHOUT REVIVAL,
WE WILL.**

LEONARD RAVENHILL

