

#SBC21

WE ARE GREAT COMMISSION BAPTISTS

PRAYER & FASTING GUIDE



NASHVILLE





THREE AREAS OF PRAYER

At our best, we are a Convention that rallies around the Great Commission, taking the Gospel to all peoples and calling everyone to respond to the grace of Jesus Christ. But apart from Christ we can do nothing. Only God can “establish the work of our hands” (Psalm 90:17) and only He can rescue men and women from the kingdom of darkness and bring them into His Kingdom. (Colossians 1:3) Because salvation belongs to Him, we must pray.

For Great Commission Mobilization (May 26)

- Pray for our missionaries and church planters, Ask God to strengthen, protect and sustain them. And pray that through their witness the gospel would spread rapidly and God would be honored as people respond. (2 Thessalonians 3:1-5)
- Pray for #Go2Years, that college graduates and young professionals would respond to Jesus' command to go and make disciples of all nations. Ask God to compel many to give two years to the mission of God, either overseas with IMB or with a church plant in the U.S. (Luke 10:2)
- Pray that every church would judge success by sending capacity and not seating capacity, and that every church, led by the Holy Spirit, would set apart and send out those called by God to serve as His ambassadors in the world. (Acts 13:2-3)

For Unity in the Gospel (June 2)

- Pray that our Convention would reflect the beauty in the diversity of all peoples in our nation. And pray that as one Body, we would live in unity, anticipating that great day when men from every tribe and tongue and nation will gather in worship around the throne of God. (Revelation 5:8-10)
- Pray that we would continue to stand on the inerrant, infallible, all-sufficient Word of God while celebrating our differences in style, culture, and geography. Ask God to lead us in valuing all men and women as image bearers. (Colossians 3:11-15)
- Pray that our love for one another would testify to a watching world that we have been reconciled and redeemed by Jesus Christ. (1 Peter 1:22-23)

Pray for the Holy Spirit to Anoint Our Meeting and Our Ministries Around the Meeting (June 9)

- Pray for our evangelistic efforts in Nashville. Ask God to use Crossover and “Who’s Your One?” events around the city to expose many to the Gospel and lead them to faith in Jesus. (Acts 2:37-41)
- Pray for that hundreds would respond to the Great Commission at the Send Conference June 13-14. Pray that many would willingly offer themselves to go wherever God calls them to go and do whatever he asks them to do. (Isaiah 6:8)
- Pray that everything our messengers do on the floor—every motion passed, every panel and speech, and every officer elected—would be done in a manner worthy of the Gospel. Ask God to strengthen our Convention and cause us to continue to bear fruit and grow in the knowledge of God. (Colossians 1:9-14)

ABOUT FASTING

Why do we fast?

Simply put, the goal of fasting is to turn ourselves from worldly things and set our minds and hearts fully on God. It’s not a way to manipulate God or coerce him to answer our prayers, but rather it acknowledges our complete dependence upon him. Fasting awakens us to the reality that we are so often driven by our fleshly desires and appetites. It humbles us and awakens us to our great need for and reliance on God. Fasting highlights our hunger and need for God, making way for fervent prayer. As you consider fasting, we want to encourage you to listen to the Holy Spirit. Ask God to lead you in this time of seeking His face. Whether you choose to fast for one day or several days, the point is to humble yourself in a new way and draw near to God.

FOUR AREAS OF FASTING

- You might choose a selective fast, eliminating certain things from your diet over the next 21 days. Eating only fruits and vegetables, what some might call a “Daniel fast,” is an example of this type of fasting.
- Another option is a partial fast, which is refraining from eating for a set period on that day. As an example, You could choose to fast from a single meal or from sun-up to sundown.
- Some of you may feel led to engage in a complete fast, refraining from eating and only drinking liquids for particular days or even an extended period of time.
- If fasting from food is not possible, you might choose to fast from something else, such as social media, television, or certain times or activities on your cell phone. Again, the point of such a fast is to pull away from any distraction in order to seek the face of God.

