

Pastor's Message

We begin the New Year in gratitude for 145 years of God's abundant outpouring of mercy, grace, and love upon the Mount Jezreel Baptist Church! Our God desires our utmost and very best living in response to such awesome wonders given us. In recognition and honor of His everlasting goodness we will start the year by renewing our commitment to Kingdom service by spiritually strengthening ourselves as Jesus did through **worship, (revival), fasting and prayer**. We trust God (*Proverbs 3:4-5*) will provide for all our needs and equip us for His work. We want to be ready to serve God with Spirit filled passion and purpose.

The MJBC Fast is a modified fast from all dairy products and meats, including beef, pork, veal, lamb, poultry (small bits of chicken and turkey may be used in soups and salads), and most fish products. We also deny ourselves of all starches, breads, desserts, and any other foods made with dairy products. **Read *Daniel 1:3-17***.

During the fast we will maximize prayer and study time by reducing the TV – watching habit! Let's use this time to read and **study the WORD and apply the WORD to our daily living**. Use social media to communicate the messages of God and build prayer partnerships! In our radio-listening habits - listen to gospel music, gospel preaching, and Bible teaching. During this modified fast, please focus on glorifying Christ in all aspects of your lives - physically, spiritually, morally, economically, and in stewardship. **Read *Philippians 2:5-11***.

You will be tempted in many areas, but remember to focus on the power of Scripture everyday as you think and meditate on the WORD. **Read *Matthew 4:1-11***.

Disciples under doctor's care or who have certain medical conditions should consult their physician concerning this fast. **During and after this fast, may we experience God's presence, power and blessings.**

In HIS service, your servant,

The Rev. Eldridge Spearman, Senior Pastor

Fasting and Praying are a time of self-denial and preparation for ministry with a purpose. It is also a time for dealing with a need or crisis.

The definition of biblical fasting is very simple. It is a surrender to disciplined sacrifice.

According to the Rev. Dr. Tony Evans, "Fasting is the denial of a desire of the flesh to focus on a spiritual issue." Prior to His public ministry, after His baptism, Jesus fasted and prayed for 40 days and nights.

Fasting humbles us so we may receive more fully the grace and power of God, allowing us to walk more deeply in His righteousness and strength. It is a commitment to refrain from seeking physical food to seek God for our sustenance and spiritual nourishment. (Matthew 5:6).

Don't attempt to fast without the power hook-up of prayer. Prayer with faith and obedience, joined with a right heart attitude and a right heart action will yield a loving response from God (Psalm 50:14-15). To help prepare you for this experience, consider the Old Testament story of the widow of Zarephath, who during a famine gave up one meal and subsequently had food for herself and her son for many days. (I Kings 17:8-16).

When you exercise discipline and control over your flesh, and you are serious about obeying God, then you will see His Spirit moving in your life!

When praying, you may use what are sometimes described as four elements of prayer based on the acronym ACTS: Adoration (praising God), Confession (repentance of sin), Thanks (express gratitude for all God's blessings), Supplication (requests for others and ourselves).

And we pray as directed by Jesus: in His name! (John 14:14; 16:23).

Finally, let your focus be on building a genuine, loving, intimate relationship with **CHRIST** by surrender, submitting to Him as **LORD** and serving **GOD** by serving others.



2018

“Celebrating 145 years of God’s Mercy, Grace and Love”

New Year Revival, Fast and Prayer 2018

January 2, 2018 (12:00 a.m.) through
January 14, 2018 (12:00 p.m.)

“We live by what we believe...” 2 Corinthians 5:7 (NCV)

“Therefore, I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them”
Mark 11:24 (NKJV)

Mount Jezreel Baptist Church

420 University Boulevard East
Silver Spring, Maryland 20901

301-431-2800
www.mtjezreel.com
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Things to Pray for During the Fast

Pray ...

- ❖ for all Ministries of the Church
- ❖ for divine direction for the pastor and Church officers, deacons, trustees, lay pastors
- ❖ for Home and Foreign Missions, especially Liberia & Guyana
- ❖ for Church Alive! Conference; Koinonia Bible Institute
- ❖ that we may know & do God's will
- ❖ that we will work to glorify God
- ❖ for Peace throughout the world,
- ❖ for healthy minds and bodies for Kingdom service
- ❖ that we live mature Christ-centered lives
- ❖ for the anointing of the Holy Spirit upon all MJBC disciples
- ❖ for forgiveness of sins; forgiveness of others
- ❖ for boldness in our lives for Christ
- ❖ for our Christian School and Freedom School
- ❖ for the whole church to serve Christ with passion and purpose
- ❖ that the fruit of the spirit will operate along with the gifts of the spirit in our Church
- ❖ for God's divine direction for the pastor and church officers
- ❖ **to become a tither and a 100% tithing Church**
- ❖ for President Trump, his family and his cabinet
- ❖ for our other elected officials and all those in governmental authority
- ❖ for total congregation participation in Church School, Bible Study, and WOW worship
- ❖ for the healing/prevention of all diseases
- ❖ for uplifting, genuine worship
- ❖ for strong, faithful marriages and families
- ❖ for the needs of single adults/single parents
- ❖ for the MJ senior housing project, jobs and economic growth and development
- ❖ for the youth of the church and the world
- ❖ for unity in the Body of Christ; the poor & least among us
- ❖ for one another that brotherly love may continue among us
- ❖ for elementary, middle, high school and college students
- ❖ for Peaceful, productive protests for JUSTICE for all Americans
- ❖ for all of God's Children
- ❖ for our men and women in military service
- ❖ to become debt free disciples and a debt free church

Read each Scripture at the beginning of each day, and repeat the Word during the day.

<p>January 2</p> <p>PRAISE GOD FOREVER!</p> <p>Psalm 100</p>	<p>January 3</p> <p>LIVE TO GLORIFY GOD & CELEBRATE VICTORY IN JESUS!</p> <p>Ephesians 5:1-21 1 John 5:1-5</p>	<p>January 4</p> <p>THANK GOD FOR FORGIVENESS & BE FORGIVING!</p> <p>Psalm 103:1-5 Matthew 18:21-35 Colossians 3:13</p>
<p>January 5</p> <p>LIVE THE PROMISES OF GOD!</p> <p>Joshua 1:8-9 John 15:5-8</p>	<p>January 6</p> <p>LIVE THE COMMANDMENTS!</p> <p>Deuteronomy 28:1-4 James 4:7 Ephesians 6:10-18</p>	<p>January 7</p> <p>LIVE IN OBEDIENCE!</p> <p>John 14:23-24 Hebrews 5:7-10</p>
<p>January 8</p> <p>LIVE IN UNITY!</p> <p>John 17:20-23; Acts 2:42-47 1 Corinthians 1:10</p>	<p>January 9</p> <p>PUT SIN TO DEATH!</p> <p>Romans 7:21-8:2 Galatians 5:16-26</p>	<p>January 10</p> <p>PRAY ALL THE TIME!</p> <p>Luke 18:1-8 1 Thess. 5:16-22 James 5:14-16</p>
<p>January 11</p> <p>STUDY THE WORD! 2 Timothy 2:15-16; 3:14-16 RESPECT LEADERSHIP!</p> <p>Titus 3:1-2 Hebrews 13:7, 17</p>	<p>January 12</p> <p>WORK FOR THE KINGDOM AGENDA!</p> <p>Ephesians 2:8-10 James 1:22-27 MAKE DISCIPLES! Matthew 28:16-20</p>	<p>January 13</p> <p>LIVE, SERVE & SHINE FOR THE KINGDOM!</p> <p>Matthew 5:13-16</p>
<p>January 14</p> <p>BE A TITHER & GENEROUS GIVER!</p> <p>Proverbs 11:24-25 Malachi 3:8-12 2 Corinthians 9:6-8</p>	<p>January 15</p> <p>JUSTICE FOR ALL! Isaiah 42:1-4; 59:13-20 Micah 6:6-8 HEAL OUR LAND! 2 Chron. 7:13-14</p>	<p>Be A Christ-like, Humble, Available, Moldable, Passionate, Servant (CHAMPS)</p> <p>John 13:2-17; 34-35</p>

First Seven Days January 2 –8
You may eat any variety of fruits and vegetables as often as you like. This includes soups.

Second Six Days January 9–14
The menu is the same as the first six days, Small bits of chicken or turkey may also be added to salads.

What to Drink
Drink only 100% fruit and/or vegetable juices, water and ginger ale during the 14-day consecration.

Note: Salsa can count as a vegetable dish since it is made from all vegetables.

Corn is a starchy vegetable, according to the American Diabetes Association. Hummus is a good snack alternative. Soy milk products are approved also.

Above all, if you have any questions, please consult your family doctor



Pray for the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit: Luke 11:13; "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, (with no doubting) ...and it will be given to him." James 1:5-6

