

Lent Season - A Time of Extreme Devotion

Join our family of faith for a time of extreme devotion for this time leading up to the resurrection celebration of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

For the entire six weeks remaining of Lent, commit yourself to daily prayer and self-denial (fasting is a personal choice). If you choose to fast, give up something significant in your life that would change your pattern of living. This challenge should lead you to fill the void with something scriptural that can impact your faith and service for the Lord (feel free to ask the pastor for guidance). The guide below has weekly suggestions for this special time.

THIRST FOR LIFE!

WEEK 1 (Sunday Feb. 21st) – Deepen your thirst for the essentials of life

- Show gratitude to the Lord knowing that He satisfies our thirst and hunger – Psalm 107:8-9
- Pray and seek the kingdom of righteousness.
 - Matthew 6:33
 - Isaiah 32:1-3
 - Isaiah 44:2-4
 - John 4:7-15

WEEK 2 (Sunday Feb. 28th) – Let the instruction of the Lord prosper your heart

- Psalm 1:3
- Psalm 19:7
- Psalm 23:3
- Jeremiah 31:25
- Acts 3:19

WEEK 3 (Sunday Mar. 7th) – Encourage others toward a life of faith – Philemon 1:7

- Graciously introduce yourself to people around you.
 - Pray for them before and after your greeting.
 - Extend loving generosity to your family and friends (space, time, service, heart, and other resources)
- Give a written invitation to join you for a church service – Easter Sunday would be a great target date (April 4th). *Online services are an option:* Direct people to www.mpbc-indy.org.
- Be a “seed planter” – modeling a life of hope and peace for others to see.
 - Speak prayerfully with encouraging words to those you encounter.
 - Acts 18:24-26

- Jude 1:3

WEEK 4 (Sunday Mar. 14th) – Extreme Need Assessment

For every glass of fresh water, you drink each prayerfully remember those who don't have the same option.

- Pray for the communities in developing countries who are victimized by lack of fresh drinking water.
 - 783 million people do not have access to clean water.
 - 6-8 million people die annually due to water related diseases.
 - Children are not able to go to school regularly because of the need to help the family transport water from rivers, lakes and ponds.
 - There is a 50% mortality rate among children in these effected communities.

WEEK 5 (Sunday Mar. 21st) – Find a Way to Continue to Help Those in Need – Matthew 25:35-36, 40

- Mission efforts all over the world are making a difference in lives of people with desperate needs.
- Join a ministry team in our church ministry options. Contact our church office for details – 317.856.0589.
- Proverbs 11:25 reminds us to be generous to refresh lives of others.
- Research these links for ways to help:
 - www.feedingtheorphans.org (Feeding the Orphans)
 - www.abhms.org/afc (American Baptist Churches, USA mission effort)
 - www.teamworldvision.org (Team World Vision)

WEEK 6 (Sunday Mar. 28th) – Immerse yourselves in spiritual matters

- Watch our Holy Week devotions from our app (search “MPBC Indy”)
- Read the gospel narrative of the Passion Week.
 - Matthew 21:1-18, 26-28
 - Mark 11, 14-16
 - Luke 19:28-48, 22-24
 - John 12-21

WEEK 7 (Easter Sunday, April 4th) – Celebrate this day as the moment our salvation became a real option – “...we thank God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!” 1 Cor. 15:57

- Jesus defeated the enemy's only power over the human race (death) by resurrecting from the dead and became alive again for all eternity!

This can be your story too. Go to “NEXT STEPS” on our website to get plugged in to a life of faith.