

# *restored*

A SEASON OF RESTORATION

**It is the season of Lent**, a time in the Christian calendar that begins on Ash Wednesday and continues for approximately six weeks up to Easter. Most people associate Lent with a season of sacrifice, a time to go without or to give things up.

Historically, those who celebrate Lent remove distractions from their life as a way to honor the time when Jesus fasted for 40 days in the wilderness (see Matthew 4:1-11), as He prepared to begin His life of ministry. During that time, Jesus faced and defeated the temptations of the enemy. That is why Lent is a time to fast and to face temptation, just like Jesus did.

### **But Lent is so much more than that.**

If you read the passage in Matthew, you will notice that each time Jesus faced the temptations of the enemy, He drew on the power of the word of God. He drew in closely to His Father for the strength He needed for the moment.

His time away had prepared Him for the moment He would face down His enemy. What Jesus said to Satan in Matthew 4:10 reminds us where our strength comes from: "Get out of here, Satan," Jesus told him. "For the Scriptures say, 'You must worship the LORD your God and serve only Him.'"

We must worship the Lord our God. We must serve only Him. More than anything else, Lent is a season that reminds us where our strength comes from – time spent alone with our Father, worshipping and serving Him. This where we find restoration and renewal.

**Over the next six weeks (February 22 – April 2)** leading up to Good Friday, we challenge you to intentionally pull away from the busyness of your life, to spend time every day with the Lord in His Word, and to fast something in your life. Find something in your life you can set aside for the next 40 days so you have more time in your life to dedicate to the Lord.

He desires to spend time with us, to talk with us and to show us the things He wants to make new. He wants to restore us. God wants us to realign our lives with His promises.

Find a spot that will be your place to meet with God every day over the next 40 days, and each day read a chapter from the book bible in correspondance with the reading plan. Study the scriptures and expect God to speak to you, expect Him to RESTORE you.

Keep a notebook next to you, and every time you read a chapter, ask God this question: "Holy Spirit, what are You telling me? What do You need me to learn from this chapter today?" And trust God to give you answers, and to restore your life for the new things that He has planned ahead for you!

# Reading Plan

# Reading Plan

## FEBRUARY

February 22 Read Mark Chapter 1  
February 23 Read Mark Chapter 2  
February 24 Read Mark Chapter 3  
February 25 Read Mark Chapter 4  
February 26 Read Mark Chapter 5  
February 27 Read Mark Chapter 6  
February 28 Read Mark Chapter 7

## MARCH

March 1 Read Mark Chapter 8  
March 2 Read Mark Chapter 9  
March 3 Read Mark Chapter 10  
March 4 Read Mark Chapter 11  
March 5 Read Mark Chapter 12  
March 6 Read Mark Chapter 13  
March 7 Read Mark Chapter 14  
March 8 Read Mark Chapter 15  
March 9 Read Mark Chapter 16

### *Book of John Begins*

March 10 Read John Chapter 1  
March 11 Read John Chapter 2  
March 12 Read John Chapter 3  
March 13 Read John Chapter 4  
March 14 Read John Chapter 5  
March 15 Read John Chapter 6  
March 16 Read John Chapter 7  
March 17 Read John Chapter 8  
March 18 Read John Chapter 9  
March 19 Read John Chapter 10  
March 20 Read John Chapter 11

# Reading Plan

## MARCH

March 21 Read John Chapter 12

March 22 Read John Chapter 13

March 23 Read John Chapter 14

March 24 Read John Chapter 15

March 25 Read John Chapter 16

March 26 Read John Chapter 17

March 27 Read John Chapter 18

March 28 Read John Chapter 19

March 29 Read John Chapter 20

March 30 Read John Chapter 21

March 31 Prayerful Day

April 1 Prayerful Day

April 2 Come Expectant

# *Prayerful Days*

On these Prayerful days we invite you to position your heart towards God, spend the day in prayer, and pray the the following prayers with us.

### **MARCH 31ST PRAYER**

Father God, I thank You for challenging me to draw away with You for the last 40 days. You have taught me how important it is to make consistent room for You in my life, even if that means cutting other things out. Father, I have prepared my heart for Your restoration. Thank you for showing me the places in my life where You plan to restore and rebuild.

Thank You for reminding me that I am called to more, to believe for more, to expect more. Now, Lord, I yield my life to Your renewal. Make me new. Restore me. Rebuild me. Thank You for choosing me as a vessel for Your honor. As I end this season of Lent, I am prepared to step into the new season ahead that You have prepared for me. I will follow you. Amen

### **APRIL 1ST PRAYER**

Father God, making room in my busy schedule for You has taught me how important it is to return to You on a daily basis. Help me to keep this place with You. But even more than that, it has taught me about Your promises and Your blessings for me. You sent your Son, Jesus as a living sacrifice to save and restore Your people, not to live ordinary lives, but to live extraordinary lives. Father, in the face of hardship, let me never forget that You have given me the powerful gift of the name of Jesus.

Remind me to speak His name over my own life and over the difficult situations I will face. Remind me to speak healing, to speak blessing, to speak deliverance, and to speak restoration, by the power of the name of Jesus. As we approach Good Friday, the day when we remember the sacrifice of our Savior, thank you for reminding me that I am called to walk in the authority He purchased for me. I am called to experience restoration for myself and to be a restorer of people. I am honored to live as an example of Your love. Amen.

*God has a restoration  
plan for you.*

We are expecting that over the course of these 40 days that God has transformed your life in ways you couldn't have imagined. We want to invite you to come join us at our Good Friday service, and thank God for everything He's done in your life this season, and what He's going to do moving forward.



