



THE PRIVILEGE AND POWER OF PRAYER

Scriptures for further study

Ephesians 3:14, 19 | Psalm 51 | Isaiah 40

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

“When love for God meets the presence of sin, fasting and prayer enables us to plead for His pardon and His power to defeat it—and causes us to celebrate the Redeemer who made both possible.”

Psalm 19:12-14 | Matthew 4:1-11

1. In Psalm 19:12, what concern does David have regarding "hidden faults"? In verse 13, what does David pray for concerning "presumptuous sins"? What is David's prayer as he closes the psalm in verse 14? How does David view God?
2. In Matthew 4:1-11, what do we learn about fasting from the example of Jesus? Why do you think Satan came to tempt Jesus during this time? What does Jesus' response to these temptations teach us about how we should fill ourselves when we are emptied during a fast? Why is it important for you to fill yourself with God's Word during your fast?
3. Read Psalm 63:1 and 1 Peter 2:2-3. Why might it be important, that when we fast, we replace whatever time we might have spent eating, watching tv, on social media, etc., seeking God? How might good things distract us from focusing on our relationship with God?
4. Why is it important to consider our motivation in practicing spiritual disciplines? How might considering our motives drive us back to the gospel?
5. How do we honor God through fasting? What good things in your life are most likely to distract you from focusing on your relationship with God? How might the discipline of fasting help you reorder your priorities?
6. If applicable: how has the Prayer & Fasting Guide helped you this week? Which devotional thought meant the most to you? Why?
7. What two things does David request in Psalm 19:14? Why does David refer to God as his Rock in verse 14? How is God your Rock?