

near.



**grace church
2026**

welcome

PRAYER & FASTING

Prayer and fasting have been woven into the life of God's people throughout every generation. Across Scripture and throughout church history, we see men and women humbling themselves before the Lord through these practices—seeking His presence, His guidance, and His renewing work.

When Jesus spoke to His disciples about fasting, He said, "When you fast" (Matthew 6:16), assuming it would be a regular rhythm in the life of those who follow Him. In the book of Acts, the early church fasted and prayed before making important decisions (Acts 13:2; 14:23), reminding us that prayer and fasting often go hand in hand (Luke 2:37; 5:33).

Throughout Scripture, fasting is presented as something good, natural, and necessary—not a way to manipulate God, but an invitation to bring our whole selves before Him. Fasting is a way of praying with our bodies, minds, and spirits. It is a way of saying to God, "You are my deepest need."

welcome

This booklet is meant to serve as a companion and resource for you during this season of prayer and fasting. Each week includes a liturgy or borrowed prayer, Scripture, spiritual practices to try, and a story to help you engage more deeply with the theme. The content is not divided into individual days; instead, we invite you to move through each week's material at a pace that feels attentive and prayerful, lingering where you sense the Spirit drawing you.

Our hope and prayer is that everyone in the Grace Church family will find a way to participate in this season together. We encourage you to gather with a few others—friends, family, or your life group—and ask the Holy Spirit how He might be inviting you to fast together this month. As a church body, we are also inviting everyone to participate in a communal fast on Wednesday lunchtimes.

If fasting from food isn't possible for you due to medical or personal circumstances, we encourage you to ask the Lord how He might be inviting you to participate in another way—perhaps by fasting from distractions, comforts, or habits that compete for your attention. The heart of this season is not about restriction, but about seeking the Lord together with open hands and open hearts.

welcome

As we fast and pray together, may we encounter God's presence in fresh ways, discern His voice more clearly, and be prepared for all that He desires to do in and through our church family in the year ahead.

THE PRAYER ROOM

The Prayer Room will be open daily, Monday through Saturday, from 6:00am to 9:00pm. This set-apart space will offer interactive ways to engage in prayer, and we invite you to join us there at any point during the series. You are welcome to sign up for an hour to pray individually, as a family, or with a small group.

SCRIPTURE READING

During this month, we have selected a portion of Scripture to help shape us as a community: 1 Kings 18:41–46. Each week, we will read this passage from a different Bible translation, allowing us to listen more deeply and attentively. We invite you to linger in this Scripture each day—absorbing it, meditating on it, and allowing it to sink in. Together, we will practice prayerful reading, opening ourselves to God's presence and inviting the Holy Spirit to speak through guided, reflective questions.

welcome

a shared prayer

Lord,

As we enter this season of prayer and fasting,
we come with open hands and honest hearts.

You see us as we are —
distracted, hungry, hopeful, and in need of You.

Teach us to seek You with our whole selves —
in our words and our silence,
in our feasting and our fasting,
in our strength and in our weakness.

Draw us closer to Your heart.

Unite us as one people, one church, one family —
longing for Your presence, listening for Your voice,
and trusting that You are already at work among us.

Prepare us, Lord,

for all that You desire to do in and through us.

May this time of prayer and fasting make space
for Your Spirit to renew, realign, and restore.

We offer this season to You, Jesus.

Meet us here.

Amen.

week 1 real

"prayer – Is honesty with God in practice"

This first week, our theme is REAL. Prayer begins with honesty — showing up before God as we truly are, without pretense or performance. We often struggle to experience God because we don't bring our real selves to Him. God will not connect with your false self — He longs to connect with the real you.

As you engage with the readings, prayers, and practices ahead, may you discover that honesty in prayer is not something to fear, but an invitation to freedom and deeper relationship and connection with God and with others.

"(Prayer) is brutally honest, naked and vulnerable. It's when your deepest desires and fears and hopes and dreams leak out of your mouth with no inhibition. It's when you talk to God with the edit button in the 'off' position and you feel safe and heard and loved".
John Mark Comer 'God Has a Name'

"The heart is hopelessly dark and deceitful, a puzzle that no one can figure out. But I God, search the heart and examine the mind. I get to the heart of the human. I get to the root of things. I treat them as they really are. Not as they pretend to be."

Jer 17:9-10 MSG

week 1 real

scripture reading

1 KINGS 18:41-46 ESVUK The Lord Sends Rain

⁴¹ And Elijah said to Ahab, “Go up, eat and drink, for there is a sound of the rushing of rain.” ⁴² So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Mount Carmel. And he bowed himself down on the earth and put his face between his knees.

⁴³ And he said to his servant, “Go up now, look towards the sea.” And he went up and looked and said, “There is nothing.” And he said, “Go again,” seven times.

⁴⁴ And at the seventh time he said, “Behold, a little cloud like a man's hand is rising from the sea.” And he said, “Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot and go down, lest the rain stop you.'”

⁴⁵ And in a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel.

⁴⁶ And the hand of the Lord was on Elijah, and he gathered up his garment and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

Holy Spirit, what are you highlighting in this passage-of who You are?

for me?

for Grace Church?

for the global Church?

real week 1

daily prayer points

DAY 1

Pray for our elders to discern, with the Pastoral Search Team, the next Lead Pastor

DAY 2

Pray for the children of Grace to fall in love with Jesus as their friend and savior.

DAY 3

Pray for our high school student leaders. They are the backbone of our Middle School ministry. Pray that they continuously serve out of overflow.

DAY 4

Pray that the Spirit keep forming us into a people who live from God's abundance even in uncertain times. In a world marked by anxiety, division, and the constant ache of global conflict, ask that the pressures around us not pull us into fear or scarcity. Pray that Grace would grow into a community whose generosity becomes a quiet but radiant sign of God's freedom and fullness breaking into the world.

DAY 5

Pray for the Holy Spirit to stir fresh vision, creativity, and courage in us as we join God's work in new ways—especially through opportunities like Grace Gardens, where we are connecting deeper with our neighbors, strengthening community, and opening doors for global impact.

DAY 6

Pray for the openness and responsiveness of our entire church family to engaging with the musical, visual, emotional, and creative workings of the Spirit in our midst so that we are formed more fully in our hearts as well as our heads.

DAY 7

Pray that we be a community who open our hands wide, sharing our resources, our time, and our lives with steady confidence in the Kingdom that cannot be shaken.

week 1 real

daily practices

MORNING

The Practice of Presence

Seeing God and allowing Him to see me.

Like God asking in the garden of Eden, Genesis 3:8-10

“Where are you?”, He always comes looking for the real us.

What will you answer when he comes looking for you today?

We can start to orient ourselves with simple

honest reflection. (Confessing the loss of shalom).

Naming all that we are currently experiencing.

Where are you in your mind? (What are you thinking/feeling?)

Where are you in your body? (What are you sensing?)

Where are you in your soul? (What are you grieving/longing for?)

EVENING

Take 3 deep slow breaths

James Finley said, “If God were to cease loving you even for a second, you would simply cease to exist.”

Breathe deeply and answer simply and honestly.

Reflect/ Where did I encounter You today Lord?

“God is not remote from us. He is at the point of my pen, my pick, my paint brush, my needle -- and my heart and my thoughts.” – Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

week 1 real

liturgy + borrowed prayers

A Prayer of Saint Augustine of Hippo

Lord Jesus,
let me know myself and know you.
Let me desire nothing apart from you.

Teach me to see clearly my weakness and your strength,
my sin and your mercy,
my confusion and your wisdom.

Free me from pretending to be what I am not.
Let me die to my false self
and live my true life in you.

May I cling to nothing more than I cling to you.
Call me, that I may see you;
look on me, that I may love you;
and bring me at last to rejoice in you forever.
Amen.

week 1 real

community stories

Michael Kaspar
VisionSynergy, Director of Global Initiatives

Years ago, while serving in a leadership role for a team of over 40 at a large mission organization office, I experienced the benefits of influence, power, and a modest budget. Everywhere I went in that mission office, I was respected and sought after. After a strategic planning process and a conversation with my leader, I was moved lower in the team due to reorganization. I spiraled into confusion, wondering, "God, what are you doing? Why would you take away something I loved and where I was bearing kingdom fruit?"

Now, over a decade later, Psalm 16:6 resonates deeply in my heart: "The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; surely I have a delightful inheritance." I am using more of my natural gifts than ever. My family is provided for, and I sense God's pleasure as I engage in strategic work among unreached peoples and network leaders. I grow and learn daily. I get to teach, equip, and coach eager leaders for kingdom collaboration, leadership health and growth of the Church, the bride of Christ.

Had I remained in that former role, with its perceived influence, I would not have witnessed the incredible impact of Jesus' prayer in John 17 for unity in the Body of Christ, an impact I now see almost weekly through VisionSynergy and the Lausanne Movement. Though the challenge and disappointment were very real at the time, God's goodness has been undeniable through his loving, merciful, kind, and grace-filled nature.

week 1 real

community stories

Reflection questions:

God, shine your tender light on the hidden motivations of my heart. Help me to see what is true.

What position, possession, role, or recognition do I believe will give me the value and acceptance I crave?

Whose approval am I seeking? What would happen if I got it? What would happen if I didn't?

Am I clinging to anything you want me to let go of?

Show me my value as your child alone and help me release the need for human recognition and cultural definitions of success.

week 1 real

meditations for fasting

Fasting is learning through the practice of subtraction.
Reflect on a season of subtraction and what it added to your formation.

Methodist Covenant Prayer

I am no longer my own but yours
Put me to what you will
rank me with whom you will
put me to doing
put me to suffering
let me be employed for you
or laid aside for you
exalted for you
or brought low for you
let me be full
let me be empty
let me have all things
let me have nothing
I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things
to your pleasure and disposal
and now, glorious and blessed God
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
you are mine and I am yours
So be it
And the covenant now made on earth
let it be ratified in heaven
Amen

“The things you do not have to say make you rich.
Saying things you do not have to say weakens your talk.
Hearing things you do not need to hear dulls your hearing.
And things you know before you hear them--those are you,
Those are why you are in the world.”
— William Stafford, Crossing Unmarked Snow

near

week 2

proximity gives way to attunement

This week, our theme is NEAR.

When we intentionally seek out the presence of God—setting other things aside and creating space to listen—we discover that nearness shapes us. Proximity forms familiarity, and over time, familiarity forms expertise.

For example, I spend a lot of time in my pantry. I'm constantly grabbing ingredients, choosing snacks, and organizing shelves. Because I'm there so often, I usually have an accurate sense of what's inside. My kids come to me when they want to know what snacks are available because, in our home, I've become the "authority" on all things pantry-related. I know what's there, what's missing, and what needs to go on the next grocery list—all simply because I spend time in that space.

It's the same in our relationships: proximity breeds intimacy, and intimacy grows attunement.

Our relationship with God works the same way. It's about nearness. It's about honesty. And when we draw near, He does the rest—because He's already in the room.

*For God alone I patiently wait;
he is the one who delivers me.
He alone is my protector and deliverer.
He is my refuge; I will not be upended.
Psalm 62:1-2*

God is not indifferent, abstract or far-off.
His affection for us is ongoing, deep, unstoppable and very NEAR.

week 2 near

scripture reading

I KINGS 18:41-46 NIV

41 And Elijah said to Ahab, "Go, eat and drink, for there is the sound of a heavy rain." 42 So Ahab went off to eat and drink, but Elijah climbed to the top of Carmel, bent down to the ground and put his face between his knees.

43 "Go and look toward the sea," he told his servant. And he went up and looked.

"There is nothing there," he said.

Seven times Elijah said, "Go back."

44 The seventh time the servant reported, "A cloud as small as a man's hand is rising from the sea."

So Elijah said, "Go and tell Ahab, 'Hitch up your chariot and go down before the rain stops you.'"

45 Meanwhile, the sky grew black with clouds, the wind rose, a heavy rain started falling and Ahab rode off to Jezreel. 46 The power of the Lord came on Elijah and, tucking his cloak into his belt, he ran ahead of Ahab all the way to Jezreel.

*Holy Spirit, as I return to this story again,
what are you highlighting in this passage -
of who You are?*

for me?

for Grace Church?

for the global Church?

near week 2

daily prayer points

DAY 8

Pray for wisdom as our elders guide Grace during this transition from Gary to our next Lead Pastor.

DAY 9

Pray for the children of Grace to feel accepted and welcomed by our entire church family making them excited to come to church.

DAY 10

Pray for our adult student leaders that they step into inter-generational ministry with a listening and full heart. Pray that every generation be a part of our student ministry.

DAY 11

Pray that God deepens Grace Church as a community where belonging is more than a feeling; it is a shared way of life. Ask that the Spirit guide us with wisdom as we work to create clear, welcoming pathways for people to enter into the life of our church. Pray that every step someone takes toward connection would draw them into relationships that are safe, transforming, and rooted in the love of Jesus.

DAY 12

Pray that the Spirit guides us into relationships that are life-giving and reciprocal—connecting across generations, cultures, and communities, including children at risk, foster families, immigrant families, and those in economic need, to bring holistic hope and transformation.

DAY 13

Pray for opportunities to expand our family of creators crafting beauty and story together, and the deepening relationship and discipleship ties of creative people here at Grace.

DAY 14

Pray that Grace be a place where strangers become friends, and friends grow into a family shaped by grace, presence, and mutual care.

week 2 near

daily practices

MORNING

YAHWEH Breath Prayer

Place one hand over your heart and the other over your stomach. Inhale slowly and deeply until your lungs are at capacity. Holding your breath, notice the pinch of fullness in your body. Exhale without rushing your breath out, matching the speed of your inhale.

As you do this whisper the word His name.

Inhale: YAH

Exhale: WEH

EVENING

A PRAYER OF REFLECTION

Lord, remembering the day that has passed,
where and how did I experience your nearness?

*"But as for me, it is good to be near God.
I have made the Sovereign Lord my refuge;
I will tell of all your deeds."
Psalms 73:28*

week 2 near

liturgy + borrowed prayers

Excerpt from Breastplate Prayer of St. Patrick

Christ be with me,
Christ within me,
Christ behind me,
Christ before me,
Christ beside me,
Christ to guide me and restore me.

Christ beneath me,
Christ above me,
Christ in quiet,
Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all who love me,
Christ in the mouth of friend and stranger.
Amen.

week 2 near

community stories

Eugen & Amanda Ciumac **Republic of Moldova, Missions Partners**

After doctors had mentioned it may be difficult for Amanda to get pregnant, we were at peace in whatever God's will would be. We felt led to take a month-long period of prayer and fasting as a married couple to seek the Lord in various areas for our life.

As we were nearing the end of this time, on the day we were specifically praying about God's will for a child, we found out Amanda was pregnant. All we could do in response was laugh with joy for God's miraculous provision.

He is good and faithful no matter the outcome. As we take time for prayer and fasting, we draw closer to the Lord and experience His presence in a deeper way.

week 2 near

community stories

Reflection Questions:

Jesus often asked people directly 'What do you want me to do for you?' How would you answer him today?

When God's response to our request seems to be 'no' or 'wait' or silence, what rhythms can you intentionally continue to practice to invite God's presence and create space to hear his voice?

What helps you notice God's presence with you? breathing? nature? beauty? music? movement? Spend time with these today. What is God saying to you through them?

week 3 ready

seeing with clarity

Starting here, what do you want to remember?
How sunlight creeps along a shining floor?
What scent of old wood hovers, what softened
sound from outside fills the air?
Will you ever bring a better gift for the world
than the breathing respect that you carry
wherever you go right now? Are you waiting
for time to show you some better thoughts?
When you turn around, starting here, lift this
new glimpse that you found; carry into evening
all that you want from this day. This interval you spent
reading or hearing this, keep it for life –
What can anyone give you greater than now,
starting here, right in this room, when you turn around?
-William Stafford

Prayer is revision.

Prayer is where we direct our attention.
When we look at Jesus, see His colors;
and they clarify our colors.
Jesus' purity encourages purity in me.

Revelation 3:6,13,22 The Message

"Are your ears awake? Listen. Listen to the wind words, the Spirit blowing through the churches."

"spiritual maturity is largely a growth in seeing" - Richard Rohr

week 3 ready

seeing with clarity

Over the past two weeks, we've been slowing down enough to notice what has been true all along: God is not asking us to perform, but to come close. To be real with Him is not a spiritual achievement—it's an act of trust. And from that place of humility before God, honesty begins to reshape every other relationship in our lives.

We've also been practicing nearness. Not as a concept, but as a way of being. Because proximity changes us. When we stay close to God, our hearts begin to attune to His presence, our nervous systems learn peace, and—often without us realizing it—we're being quietly formed for whatever is ahead. The Kingdom becomes less abstract and more present, more visible, more real.

Now we arrive at week three: READY.

Readiness, in the way of Jesus, is not hustle or hyper-vigilance. It's availability. It's a settled openness of heart and hand. It's the posture of a life shaped by prayer, rooted in love, and awake to the movements of God in ordinary moments.

As we open ourselves to Him, we find that readiness looks like partnership—joining God in the slow, steady work of releasing shalom into the world. We begin to live not from anxiety or scarcity, but from the blueprint of the Kingdom itself.

This week, our prayer is simple:

God, form us into people who are ready—present, responsive, and willing to live from Your peace.

week 3 ready

scripture reading

1 KINGS 18:41-46 The Message

41 Elijah said to Ahab, “Up on your feet! Eat and drink—celebrate! Rain is on the way; I hear it coming.”

42-43 Ahab did it: got up and ate and drank. Meanwhile, Elijah climbed to the top of Carmel, bowed deeply in prayer, his face between his knees. Then he said to his young servant, “On your feet now! Look toward the sea.”

He went, looked, and reported back, “I don’t see a thing.”

“Keep looking,” said Elijah, “seven times if necessary.”

44 And sure enough, the seventh time he said, “Oh yes, a cloud! But very small, no bigger than someone’s hand, rising out of the sea.”

“Quickly then, on your way. Tell Ahab, ‘Saddle up and get down from the mountain before the rain stops you.’”

45-46 Things happened fast. The sky grew black with wind-driven clouds, and then a huge cloudburst of rain, with Ahab hightailing it in his chariot for Jezreel. And God strengthened Elijah mightily. Pulling up his robe and tying it around his waist, Elijah ran in front of Ahab’s chariot until they reached Jezreel.

Holy Spirit, once more I ask for eyes to see this scripture with freshness and curiosity.

*What are you highlighting in this passage –
of who You are?*

for me?

for Grace Church?

for the global Church?

week 3 ready

daily prayer points

DAY 15

Pray for God's provision, protection and unity for the Grace family during this important transition in our story.

DAY 16

Pray the children of Grace will be developing into spiritually healthy Christians as they move towards their teenage years.

DAY 17

Pray for our students' spiritual formation. That they will be filled spiritually and find the rhythms that grow them spiritually and move them outside the church walls that impacts their community.

DAY 18

Pray that the Holy Spirit form us into a church for whom prayer becomes like breath – natural, steady, and life-giving. Pray that Grace grow into a people who listen for God's voice with openness, respond with trust, and carry a posture of prayer into every moment, so that our community becomes a living reminder of God's nearness in a restless world.

DAY 19

Pray that the Spirit form us into agents of holistic Kingdom flourishing—bringing God's justice, mercy, and peace into the ordinary rhythms of our daily lives, touching our families, communities, workplaces, and beyond.

DAY 20

Pray for the wisdom and presence of mind to see the beautiful truth and the stories of what God is doing in our midst so that we can share them with others well.

DAY 21

Pray that our shared spiritual practices, both in our life together and in the quiet places of our own lives, would root us more deeply in God's presence and in community with one another

week 3 ready

daily practices

MORNING

Pray the words from 1 Samuel 3, "Speak Lord, your servant is listening." and then remain quiet for 5-10 min listening.

Write down anything you hear, think or notice.

Invite the Holy Spirit to speak further if you have the time.

EVENING

A PRAYER OF REFLECTION

Return to the morning's listening prayer and what came up.

Invite the Holy Spirit to share with you his heart.

"We can make our minds so like still water that beings gather about us that they may see, it may be, their own images, and so live for a moment with a clearer, perhaps even with a fiercer life because of our quiet."

— William Butler Yeats

week 3 ready

liturgy + borrowed prayers

Prayer of Good Courage/ paraphrase

O God,
you call your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden,
through perils unknown.

Give us faith to go out with courage,
not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love is supporting us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayer of Abandon

"Father, I abandon myself into your hands;
do with me what you will.
Whatever you may do, I thank you;
I am ready for all, I accept all.
Let only your will be done in me, and in all your creatures—
I wish no more than this, O Lord.
Into your hands I commend my soul,
I offer it to you with all the love of my heart.
-Charles de Foucauld

week 3 ready

community stories

Melody Benson

Standing at the kitchen counter, I adamantly recited all of the reasons why Emi, our 16 year old daughter, could most certainly not move to New York City! My patient husband listened and offered perspective until I eventually moaned through tears, "She's supposed to go, isn't she?" He silently nodded. I quietly added, "I thought I had one more year with her at home..."

In His kindness, the Lord had already answered numerous specific prayers and opened door after door in unexpected ways making it clear that the ballet training program in NYC was the next step for our girl. She was ready but was I? I needed to trust Him and let her go. Months later, as we prayed with her in her dorm lobby before saying goodbye, Matt and I both had an incredible peace and confidence that she was exactly where she was supposed to be. God's invitation to her (and us) was to be ready to step with Him into a future in which He is already present. Being aware of His nearness to us today nurtures a ready spirit eager to join Him into the places He may lead because, in the end, He is there.

week 3 ready

community stories

Emi Benson

My jaw dropped as I read the email sitting in the car in my high school parking lot. "Pre-professional ballet program", "New York City", "This coming school year". I knew it could never actually happen, but as I stared through the glass at the safe little town that had guided me through childhood, a voice in my head kept whispering, "but what if it could". Turns out, sometimes all God needs is a "what if" to make the impossible a reality.

As the day I moved to New York grew closer, I found myself in a constant circle of doubt, panic, and anxiety. I had spent the past few months eagerly anticipating this new season of my life, but suddenly questions and unknowns began clouding my mind. What if I made the wrong decision? What if I'm not ready for this? In the midst of the stress, I woke up one morning to a message repeating in my mind, "It's my plan not yours, I have written your story". Where I saw fragmented scraps of paper, The Lord saw a beautiful novel, perfectly authored from cover to cover. He knew I was ready to read the next chapter even when I was afraid to turn the page.

As I began my life here in the city, the Lord filled every day with confirmations, and answered prayers in miraculous ways. Having a friend to go to Church with, being surrounded by a supportive environment at my ballet school, experiencing kindness in the most unexpected of places. These are just a few of the countless blessings the Lord has placed in my life. The streets of New York are probably the last place many would expect to encounter the Lord. However amidst the beautiful chaos that I now call home, the Lord is constantly present and working. He is near even when we least expect.

week 3 ready

community stories

Reflection Questions:

Gather a few friends, your family or your life group, ask God for insight and together help each other reflect on the past year. It is difficult for us to see and discern alone.

What has God been growing in you? What does your close community see?

What might God be preparing you for?

What emotions are you feeling about what God may be leading you towards?

Pray for each other.

As you re-enter school, the workplace and your usual weekly rhythms of life after the holidays, what practices can you put in place individually and together with others, to help you remain open and attentive to God's presence and voice?

week 3 ready

remembrance + celebration gathering

**Please join us for an evening of
creative prayer & worship
as we lean into God's presence together
and reflect on all that God has said and done
during this time of prayer & fasting.**

Friday 23rd January

Grace Church Sanctuary

**Come exactly as you are
Real with yourself
Real with others
to draw near to God
to let Him reveal himself to us as He truly is
to enjoy being WITH Him
and to abide IN Him as we remain open
to following Him daily
in simple joyful responsiveness to his voice**

Live in me. Make your home in me just as I do in you.
John 15:4 MSG

The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged.

Deuteronomy 31:8 NIV

week 4 with

Sunday Gathering

As we conclude this intentional season of prayer and fasting, we will approach our Sunday gathering a little differently.

We'll meet at Grace at 9:30 am and then head out in groups to pray over key areas in our community. For those who need to remain on site, the prayer room will be open. We encourage everyone to participate.

This isn't a performative act of piety—it's a humble posture of intercession over the places we inhabit every day, asking God to surprise us and move in our midst.

Isaiah 62:1-2,6-7 declares:

*"For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
for Jerusalem's sake I will not remain quiet,
till her vindication shines out like the dawn,
her salvation like a blazing torch.
2 The nations will see your vindication,
and all kings your glory;
you will be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will bestow.*

*6 I have posted watchmen on your walls, Jerusalem;
they will never be silent day or night.
You who call on the Lord,
give yourselves no rest,
7 and give him no rest till he establishes Jerusalem
and makes her the praise of the earth.*



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