

# UNTO THE LORD FAST

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DAY THREE

CHRIS RIVERA

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Victory Family,

My name is Chris Rivera. It's an honor to be a part of these incredible devotionals once again. I'm confident that the Holy Spirit will guide us in sharing His wisdom and truth through this devotion as He's given me a unique word for us today.

Today we'll explore the profound meaning of "truth in love" and its significance in our current time. As I sought God's guidance, I couldn't help but think of the pivotal moment when sin was completely broken off my life. Hallelujah!!!

Let me share a brief glimpse of my journey. I had been in bondage to hidden sins that I resisted letting go of, out of fear of losing my wife. Instead of embracing the holy fear of the Lord, I gave into the enemy's lies, believing there was no escape. Each time I sought the Lord on how to overcome this sin, He consistently gave me the same response, "Confess to your wife."

The Lord's desire was for me to embrace the truth and find freedom. However, my stubbornness and fear held me back from living in the truth and I persistently insisted on finding an alternative solution. I think of Pastor Brian's words now, "Give no place to the enemy." Oh, how right that is!

But that's precisely the fact of the matter. There is no other path to breaking free from sin and loving someone authentically.

**True freedom comes from embracing the truth only found in Jesus.**

**As Jesus said in John 8:32 (NKJV), “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free.”**

**On the fateful night of February 27, 2025, the Holy Spirit intensified His conviction within me. I knew I had to surrender this sin to Him. I rushed to the altar, tears streaming down my face, seeking His guidance.**

**The Lord repeated His words, “Confess to your wife.”**

**Then, an unexpected encounter happened. A young man approached me and said, “The Lord told me to tell you to surrender yourself and let Him love you.”**

**Overwhelmed with emotion, I began to weep and rushed to my wife. She looked at me with confusion and asked, “Are you okay?”**

**In that moment of vulnerability, I confessed everything to her. Instead of anger or threats of leaving, like the enemy’s lies said would happen, the love of Jesus poured out of her onto me, and she embraced me in a warm hug.**

**Ever since that very moment, I felt the shackles of sin break off my life and I was no longer a slave to it. Praise the Lord!!! I experienced the love of God through my wife. It was because I had trusted in God’s word that He had spoken to me moments before. Praise God!!**

**True love requires truth and obedience. As Jesus said in John 14:15 (NKJV), “If you love Me, keep My Commandments.”**

**You see, I wasn’t walking in “true love” because I wasn’t being obedient to the Lord’s commands.**

**I was avoiding the truth because I feared man more than the Lord. But the Lord in His love confronted me with truth. And I'm so thankful that He did because He set the perfect example of how to confront sin, and it was with His love that night.**

**In 1 Corinthians 13:6 (NKJV) it says love "does not rejoice in iniquity but rejoices in the truth."**

**Love and truth go hand-in-hand with each other. It's so necessary for us as the body to be walking in truth and also holding each other accountable with the truth in love.**

**Jesus clearly talks about the seriousness of sin. I mean He even mentions how it is better for us to enter the Kingdom with one eye rather than two eyes, if one causes us to sin. Mark 9:47 (NKJV) says, "And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter kingdom of God with one eye, rather than two eyes, to be cast into hell fire."**

**That's so deep. Jesus is telling us truthfully out of love even though it sounds harsh; how much more valuable living righteous is compared to living in sin.**

**Victory family, I tell you truthfully in love, no amount of sin is ever worth being separated from the Father for eternity.**

**If you are watching or reading this today and are struggling with letting go of sin, repent and believe in what Jesus did on the cross.**

**In Romans 6:1-2 (NKJV), Paul says, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?"**

**In closing, I pray this really encouraged you all to live and speak the truth in love because ultimately God allowed me to go through this so that I could bring glory to His name through my testimony. I want to encourage each and every one of you to allow the Holy Spirit to confront your lives. Don't run from the truth but embrace it. Also, if you see a brother or sister in Christ living against the word of God, rebuke that sin and call them out of it in love.**

**Victory family, I love you and I want to thank our leaders Pastor Brian and Bren for having a heart that seeks the Lord's heart.**

**Let's pray:**

**Father, I pray today that You continue to pour out Your love and mercy on us. Thank you, Jesus, for the opportunity to fast and to be able to further deepen our relationship with You. Jesus, I pray for those who feel like they have no way out of sin, that You expose the lie of the enemy and that You break every chain of bondage during this fast. I also pray for those who are mature and immature in faith, that You keep them strong and firmly planted next to You and that nothing will cause them to stumble in this hour. For we know Jesus, Your return is soon.**

**LIVE IN TRUTH AND STAY READY.**