

1095 Allen Road | Greenville NC 27834

Fray. Fast. Repent

40 DAY FAST JOURNAL

March 5, 2025 - April 19, 2025

Season

REV. DR. STEPHEN GREENE HOWARD, SENIOR MINISTER PHONE: (252) 752-4156 | FAX: (252) 752-4405

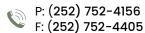
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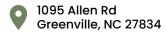
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Dr. Stephen Greene Howard, Senior Minister







March 5, 2025

Beloveth,

Grace, mercy, and peace be unto you!

As we embark on this spiritual journey, it is my ardent prayer and hope that each of you be lifted higher during these difficult and challenging times. It is a joy to partner and journey with you in this endeavor for forty days.

May these forty days bring deliverance from the giants in our lives, realizing that Giants do Fall.

Our Lord and Master assured us of great power if we spend time in fasting and praying, it is my conviction that as we attempt a closer walk with God, the Lord will grant us Grace and Strength in the time of need.

I have confidence in you and what God is able to do through all of you. Stretch; it's within your reach!

Remember that you are in my prayers constantly.

Because of Calvary,

Stephen Greenes Howard

Rev. Dr. Stephen Greene Howard

Senior Minister

Fasting

1. Why Should You Fast?

If you do not already know of the power and importance of fasting, here are some key facts:

- Fasting was an expected discipline in both the Old and New Testament eras. For example, Moses fasted at least two recorded forty-day periods. Jesus fasted 40 days and reminded His followers "when you fast...," not "if you fast...."
- Fasting and prayer can restore the loss of the "first love" for your Lord and result in a more intimate relationship with Christ.
- Fasting is a Biblical way to truly humble yourself in the sight of God (Psalm 35:13; Ezra 8:21). King David said, "I humble myself through fasting."
- Fasting enables the Holy Spirit to reveal your true spiritual condition, resulting in brokenness, repentance, and a transformed life.
- The Holy Spirit will quicken the Word of God in your heart and God's truth will become more meaningful to you.
- Fasting can transform your prayer life into a richer and more personal experience.
- Fasting can result in a dynamic personal revival in your own life and make you a channel of revival to others.

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14.

II. Preparation

A. Spiritual Preparation

In preparation for this special time with God, I strongly urge you to examine your heart and detect any unconfessed sin. Scripture records that God always requires God's people to repent of their sins before God will hear their prayers. King David said:

(Psalm 66:16-20) Come and hear, all of you who reverence the Lord, and I will tell you what the Lord did for me: For I cried to the Lord for help, with praises ready on my tongue. The Lord would not have listened if I had not confessed my sins. But God listened! God heard my prayer! God paid attention to it!

Blessed be God who didn't turn away when I was praying and didn't refuse me kindness and love.

In your prayers, confess not only obvious sins but less obvious ones as well, the sins of omission as well as the sins of commission experiences. These may be experiences of leaving your first love for our Lord. Examples are worldly-mindedness, self-centeredness, spiritual indifference, and unwillingness to share your faith in Christ with others, not spending sufficient time in God's Word and in prayer, or a poor relationship with

your spouse, your children, your pastor, or other members of your church.

B. Physical Preparation

Although fasting is primarily a spiritual discipline, it begins in the physical realm. You should not fast without specific physical preparation.

If you plan to fast for several days, you will find it helpful to begin by eating smaller meals before you abstain altogether. Resist the urge to have "that last big feast" before the fast. Cutting down on your meals a few days before you begin to fast will signal to your mind, stomach, and appetite that less food is acceptable.

Some health professionals suggest eating only raw foods for two days before starting a fast. I also recommend weaning yourself off caffeine and sugar products to ease your initial hunger or discomfort at the initial stages of your fast.

C. How to Fast Safely

As you begin to fast, you may hear from concerned loved ones and friends who urge you to protect your health, and they are right. You should protect your health. But I assure you that if done properly, fasting will prove to be not only a spiritual blessing, but a physical blessing as well.

Consult your doctor before you begin your fast. But be aware that many doctors have not been trained in this area and so their understanding is limited. Even so, it would be wise to ask your doctor for a physical exam to make sure you are in good health. You may have a physical problem that would make fasting unwise or dangerous. Also, if you are under any type of

medication, make sure you talk to your doctor before changing your regime. Prudence and caution are in order.

III. Four Kinds of Fasting

- 1. The Normal Fast- Going without food for a definite period during which you ingest only liquids (water and or juice)
- **2.** The Absolute Fast- Allows no food or water at all and should be for a brief period.
- 3. The Partial Fast-Omitting certain foods or adhering to a schedule that includes limited eating. It may consist of omitting one meal a day. Eating only fresh vegetables for several days is also a good partial fast. People who have hypoglycemia or other diseases might consider this kind of fast.
- **4. A Rotational Fast-**Eating or omitting certain families of foods for designated periods. For example, grains may be eaten only every fourth day. The various food families are rotated so that some food is available each day.

IV. Seven Fasts for Journey

1. The Disciple's Fast

Purpose: "To loose the bands of oppression"

Key Verse: "This kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting" (Matthew 17:21)

2. The Ezra Fast

Purpose: To "undo the burdens"

Key Verse: "So we fasted and entreated our God for this, and He answered our prayer" (Ezra 8:23)

3. The Elijah Fast

Purpose: "To break every yoke"

Key Verse: "He himself went a day's journey into the wilderness...He arose and ate and drank; and He went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights" (1Kings 19:4, 8)

4. The Widow's Fast

Purpose: "To share our bread with the hungry"

Key Verse" "The jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the Lord spoken by Elijah" (1 Kings 17: 16)

5. The Daniel Fast

Purpose: So "thine health shall spring forth"

Key Verse: "Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank" (Daniel 1:8)

6. The Saint Paul Fast

Purpose: To allow God's "light to break forth like the morning sight, and neither ate nor drank"

Key Verse: "And he, Saul or Paul, was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank" (Acts 9:9)

7. The John the Baptist Fast

Purpose: That "your righteousness shall go before you"

Key Verse: "He shall be great in the sight of the Lord and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink" (Luke 1:15)

Prayer for Lent

Loving God,

As the season of Lent unfolds, you call us to return again and again,

As you invite us to reflect on your love made visible in the person of Jesus, align our lives more closely with you through prayer, fasting and generous giving.

Bless our desire to accompany Jesus' suffering here and now.

With Your grace, may we live Lent fully and move with transformed hearts into the abundant life of Easter morning.

Amen.

Suggested Fasting Guide 2025

The Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church

Fast for Spiritual Renewal

"Then I proclaimed a fast there at the River of Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God, to seek from Him the right way for us and our little ones and all our possessions."

Ezra 8:21

March 5, 2025 - April 19, 2025

FASTING

March 5, 2025, 6:00 p.m. - April 19, 2025, 6:00 p.m.

Weeks 1 & 2

Liquids only between 6:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Recommended Meals: Fruits & Vegetables

Week 3

Liquids only between 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Recommended Meals: Fruits, Vegetables, whole grains.

Week 4

Liquids only between 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Recommended Meals: Fruits, Vegetables, whole grains, nuts, and seeds

Week 5+

Liquids only between 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Recommended Meals: Fruits, Vegetables, Legumes, Tofu, Soy products, seasonings, salt, herbs, and spices.

Morning Prayer

Monday, March 17, 2025, 6:30 a.m. - 7:30 a.m. Deacon Sheila Edwards

Good Friday Service - 7 Last Words from the Cross

Friday, April 18, 2025 @ 6:00 pm

Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains

Suggested Liquids: Water, Tea, Energy drinks, Fruit drinks or Juice

If you are unable due to any reason, but still want to Fast, suggested times are from 6:00 a.m.-12:00 noon or 12:00 noon-6:00 p.m.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS A SUGGESTED FASTING GUIDE PLEASE CONSULT YOUR PHYSICIAN BEFORE PARTICIPATING IN ANY TYPE OF FAST

ALLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT TO LEAD YOU THROUGH THIS FAST, REMEMBER YOUR MEDICAL CONDITIONS AND ADJUST YOURSELVES ACCORDINGLY

IF YOU CANNOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY TYPE OF FAST,
PLEASE PARTICIPATE BY READING YOUR DAILY
SCRIPTURES AND COMPLETING THE PRAYER GUIDE AND
WORKSHEETS

God Bless...

Developing an Intimate Relationship with God

The season of Lent is a period of 40 days, excluding Sundays, that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on the Saturday before Easter Sunday.

Lent is a time of renewal and rebirth. During that time, the entire Body of Christ joins in remembrance and celebration of commitment to The Lord Jesus Christ.

This season, we will focus on developing a meaningful prayer life and fast for renewal and Bible Study. Using our prayer Journal, we will write our confessions and petitions. Acknowledging our thanks and listing persons that we will intercede for daily.

If you plan to fast — Please remember your physical limitations. Persons with physical disabilities should exercise caution before participating in a fast and should always seek the advice of their Physician. Persons who are diabetic, expectant mothers, and persons with other types of illnesses should not participate in any fast. Please seek the advice of your Physician or use your sound judgement before participating in any type of fast.

Pray and read your scriptures daily. Our Goal is to understand the true purpose of prayer as we seek to develop a consistent and effective daily prayer life and daily devotional life.

As we begin our 40 Day Fast for Spiritual Renewal, let us consider meditating and praying on these things:

Week 1 – Introspective Spiritual Examination

Scripture: 2 Corinthians 7:14 Song: "Have Thine Own Way Lord" #125

Ash Wednesday – March 5, 2025

Prayer Emphasis: Humility Instructions: Liquids Only Beginning at 6:00 p.m. **Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m. - Associate Ministers** Prayer Request_____ Today, I deny myself_____ Personal Testimony _____ Thursday, March 6, 2025 Scripture: Galatians 2:20 Song: "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" #405 Prayer Emphasis: Discipline Instructions: End Fast at 6:00 p.m. Fruits & Vegetables Prayer Request _____ Today, I deny myself_____ Personal Testimony_____

Prayer Emphasis: Obedience Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00 p.m. Fruits & Vegetables Prayer Request		
Song: "Lead On, Oh King" #397		
p.m.		

Song: "Trust and Obey" #171

Friday, March 7, 2025

Scripture: Acts 5:29

1	ong: "Something Within Me" #275
Prayer Emphasis: Health Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00	p.m.
Fruits & Vegetables	
Prayer Request	
Today, I deny myself	
Personal Testimony	
T 1 M 1 11 2025	
Tuesday, March 11, 2025 Scripture: Proverbs 3:6; 11:15 Song: "A	ll the Way My Savior Leads" #207
Prayer Emphasis: Direction	
Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00	p.m.
Fruits & Vegetables	
Prayer Request	
Today, I deny myself	
Personal Testimony	
Personal Testimony	

Monday, March 10, 2025

Scripture: Isaiah 58:6-14 Song: "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" #234			
Prayer Emphasis: Deliverance			
Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00 p.m.			
Fruits & Vegetables **Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m Deacon Ministry**			
27 chang 1 rayer over plant 2 check liquidary			
Prayer Request			
Today, I deny myself			
Personal Testimony			
Thursday, March 13, 2025			
Scripture: Proverbs 3:7 Song: "Lead Me, Guide Me" #355			
Prayer Emphasis: Wisdom Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m. 3:00 p.m.			
Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00 p.m. Fruits & Vegetables			
17 miles & regeneres			
Prayer Request			
Today, I deny myself			
Dangon al Tagtimon			
Personal Testimony			

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Prayer Emphasis: Knowledge Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, & Lentils		
Prayer Request		
Today, I deny myself		
Personal Testimony		
Saturday, March 15, 2025 Scripture: Matthew 17:20 Song: "My Faith Looks Up to Thee" #203 Prayer Emphasis: Faith Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00 p.m. Fruits & Vegetables		
Prayer Request		
Today, I deny myself		
Personal Testimony		

Song: "Send the Light" #410

Friday, March 14, 2025 Scripture: Psalm 119:66

Scripture: Romans 12:1-2 Song: "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name" #517			
Prayer Emphasis: Worship Attendance Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00 p.m.			
Prayer Request			
Today, I deny myself			
Personal Testimony			
Tuesday, March 18, 2025 Scripture: Habakkuk 2:2-3 Song: "We've a Story to Tell" #409			
Prayer Emphasis: Vision (casting, catching, and cultivating)			
Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00 p.m.			
Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils			
Prayer Request			
Today, I deny myself			
Personal Testimony			

Monday, March 17, 2025

Scripture: Mark 10:43-44; 1 Timothy 3:8-10 Song: "A Change to Keep" #190 Prayer Emphasis: Leadership Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils **Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m.: Deaconess Ministry** Prayer Request_____ Today, I deny myself Personal Testimony ______ Thursday, March 20, 2025 Scripture: Matthew 28:18-20 Song: "Hark! The Voice of Jesus' Calling" #396 Prayer Emphasis: Evangelism & Church Growth Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils Prayer Request_____ Today, I deny myself_____ Personal Testimony _____

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

Prayer Emphasis: Stewardship Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils
Prayer Request
Today, I deny myself
Personal Testimony
Saturday, March 22, 2025 Scripture: Psalm 37:4 **Prayer Emphasis: Pastor & First Family** Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils Prayer Request
Today, I deny myself
Personal Testimony

Song: "Take My Life" #338

Friday, March 21, 2025

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30

Prayer Emphasis: Protection Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains		
Prayer Request		
Today, I deny myself		
Personal Testimony		
Tuesday March 25, 2025 Scripture: Psalm 32:8 Song: "He Leadeth Me" #209 Prayer Emphasis: Guidance Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 3:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains, & Lentils		
Prayer Request		
Today, I deny myself		
Personal Testimony		

Song: "A Mighty Fortress is our God"

Monday, March 24, 2025 Scripture: Psalm 37: 28

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Scripture: John 17: 17-21 Song: "The Church is One Foundation" #377 Prayer Emphasis: Unity		
Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils Prayer Request		
Personal Testimony		
Saturday, March 29, 2025 Scripture: Leviticus 26:6 Prayer Emphasis: Peace Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Fish, & Lentils	Song: "It is Well" #189	
Prayer Request		
Today, I deny myself		
Personal Testimony		

Friday, March 28, 2025

Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils			
Prayer Request			
Today, I deny myself			
Personal Testimony			
Tuesday, April 1, 2025			
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 Prayer Emphasis: Families	Song: "A Christian Home" #373		
Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:00 p	. <i>m</i> .		
Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains, & Lentils			
Prayer Request			
Today, I deny myself			
Personal Testimony			

Song: "How Great Thou Art" #25

Monday, March 31, 2025

Prayer Emphasis: Protection

Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Scripture: Psalm 8

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 Scripture: Isaiah 53: 4-5	Song: "Glory to His Name" #191			
Prayer Emphasis: Spiritual Healing Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 5:00 p.m.				
Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m. – Finar	ice & Budget Ministry			
Prayer Request				
Today, I deny myself				
Personal Testimony				
Thursday, April 3, 2025				
Scripture: Luke 23:34	Song: "At the Cross" #79			
Prayer Emphasis: Forgiveness				
Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6.	•			
Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains, & Le	entils			
Prayer Request				
Today, I deny myself				
Dang and Tagting and				
Personal Testimony				

Scripture: Philippians 2:13 Prayer Emphasis: The Unsayed	Song: "The Old Rugged Cross" #96						
Prayer Emphasis: The Unsaved Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils							
Prayer Request							
Today, I deny myself							
Personal Testimony							
Saturday, April 5, 2025 Scripture: John 19:26-27	Song: "He Will Remember Me" #93						
Prayer Emphasis: Responsibility to Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains, &	• Belong - 6:00 p.m.						
Prayer Request							
Today, I deny myself							
Personal Testimony							

Friday, April 4, 2025

Monday, April 7, 2025 Scripture: Matthew 27: 46 Song: "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone" #8.
Prayer Emphasis: Why
Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:00 p.m.
Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils
Prayer Request
Today, I deny myself
Personal Testimony
Tuesday, April 8, 2025 Scripture: John 19:28 Song: "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" #80 Prayer Emphasis: Desire to be Fulfilled Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains, & Lentils
Prayer Request
Today, I deny myself
Personal Testimony

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 Scripture: John 19:30 Song: "Am I a Soldier of the Cross" #388 Prayer Emphasis: Finalizing God's Assignment Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 5:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils **Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m Men's Ministry**					
Prayer Request					
Today I deny myself					
Personal Testimony					
Thursday, April 10, 2025 Scripture: Luke 23:46 Song: "At Calvary" # 90 Prayer Emphasis: Relationship with God Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains, & Lentils					
Prayer Request					
Today, I deny myself					
Personal Testimony					

Scripture: John 15: 13-14	Song: "I Gave My Life for Thee #82					
Prayer Emphasis: Service Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils						
Prayer Request						
Today, I deny myself						
Personal Testimony						
Saturday, April 12, 2025 Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15: 57-58 Prayer Emphasis: Victory **Instructions: Rest and Fresh Fi	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,					
Prayer Request						
Today, I deny myself						
Personal Testimony						

Friday, April 11, 2025

Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lentils
Prayer Request
Today, I deny myself
Personal Testimony
Tuesday, April 15, 2025 Scripture: John 19:28 Song: "Oh How I Love Jesus" #10 Prayer Emphasis: Love Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains, & Lentils
Prayer Request
Today, I deny myself
Personal Testimony

Scripture: Matthew 5:23-24 Song: "Is Your all on the Altar" #183

Monday, April 14, 2025

Prayer Emphasis: Reconciliation

Wednesday, April 16, 2025						
Scripture: John 13:34-35 Song: "Breathe on Me" #388						
Prayer Emphasis: Healing						
Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 5:0	_					
Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains & Lent						
Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m Women's	Ministry – in the Sanctuary					
Prayer Request						
Today, I deny myself						
Personal Testimony						
Thursday, April 17, 2025 – Maundy Thu	ırsday					
Scripture: 1 Corinthians 11:23-26	Song: "At Calvary" #90					
Prayer Emphasis: Spiritual Sacrifices						
Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:0 Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains, & Lend	-					
Prayer Request						
Today, I deny myself						
Personal Testimony						

Scripture: Hebrews 10:16-25 Song: "I Gave My Life for Thee" #82 Prayer Emphasis: Covenant Relationship Instructions: Liquids only 6:00 a.m 6:00 p.m. Fruits, Vegetables, Whole Grains
Prayer Request
Today, I deny myself
Personal Testimony
Saturday, April 19, 2025 Scripture: 1 Peter 4:1-8 Song: "Victory in Jesus" #511 Prayer Emphasis: Remembering Christ Suffering Instructions: Rest and Fresh Fruits
Prayer Request
Today, I deny myself
Personal Testimony

Friday, April 18, 2025 – Good Friday

Ministries Responsible for Leading the Church in Prayer During Lent

March 5 – April 19, 2025

Church-Wide Zoom Prayer

Wednesday, March 5, 2025 - Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m. Associate Ministers

Wednesday, March 12, 2025 - Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m. Deacon Ministry

Wednesday, March 19, 2025 - Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m. Deaconess Ministry

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 - Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m.

Trustee Ministry

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 - Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m. Finance & Budget Ministry

Wednesday, April 9, 2025 - Evening prayer 6:00 p.m. *Men's Ministry*

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 - Evening Prayer 6:00 p.m. Women's Ministry-in the sanctuary

Prayer of St. Francis

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace; where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; and where there is sadness, joy.

O Divine Master,
grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood, as to understand;
to be loved, as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life.

Amen.



The Future

Of Mow!

"Surely He took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered Him punished by God, stricken by Him, and afflicted."

Isaiah 53:4







