

## **2024 COVENANT LIFE CHURCH'S 37 DAY FAST**

*[January 1<sup>st</sup> through February 6<sup>th</sup>]*

### **FRIDAY, JANUARY 5<sup>th</sup>**

Ministering to my **family** in the New Year.

**1 Corinthians 13:4-7** [PASS] *"Love is large and incredibly patient. Love is gentle and consistently kind to all. It refuses to be jealous when blessing comes to someone else. Love does not brag about one's achievements nor inflate its own importance. <sup>5</sup> Love does not traffic in shame and disrespect, nor selfishly seek its own honor. Love is not easily irritated or quick to take offense. <sup>6</sup> Love joyfully celebrates honesty and finds no delight in what is wrong. <sup>7</sup> Love is a safe place of shelter, for it never stops believing in the best for others. Love never takes failure as defeat, for it never gives up."*

#### **THOUGHT for TODAY:**

This scripture passage is often used in wedding ceremonies, but it also describes how family members should love and treat each other. Strong families are necessary if we are to have strong churches, cities, states, and nations. Families are essential for the health and longevity of civilizations. Families consist of moms, dads, kids, teens, young adults, grandparents, in-laws, cousins, aunts, and uncles. The dynamics in today's families have a wide range of difficulties and opportunities for Christ impacting their lives.

#### **SCRIPTURE:**

**Colossians 3:13-14** [CEV] *"Put up with each other, and forgive anyone who does you wrong, just as Christ has forgiven you. <sup>14</sup> Love is more important than anything else. It is what ties everything completely together."*

**PRAYER:** Father, help me to minister Your love to my family. I want to be an example of Jesus to everyone in my family. Help me to love and forgive. I will do my best to treat each family member as Jesus would treat them and see them as You see them. I am determined to speak positively over all of them by choosing to speak Your Word to them. I ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance in moving beyond the hurts of the past and forging new thoughts and creating memories with them that bring joy to their life and mine. I ask for Your strength and blessing in the name of Jesus, amen!

#### **WHAT TO PRAY:**

- Forgive yourself when you may have failed and if possible, ask to be forgiven by those in your family who you have hurt.
- Love is not only a feeling, but a choice and an action. Choose to love.
- Do your best to let go of past hurts and disappointments where family is concerned. Make new memories that will bring joy and delight to your soul.
- Put family first. Make them a priority in your life. God first, then family.
- Pray for your family consistently. Serve your family consistently. Choose your family consistently. This

**WORSHIP SONG:** *"King of Kings"* (Lyric Video) / Hillsong Worship

<https://youtu.be/Of5IcFWiEpg?feature=shared>

**TODAY, I NEED TO PRAY FOR:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**WHAT IS THE LORD SAYING TO ME TODAY?** \_\_\_\_\_

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