

2023 DANIEL FAST

R.E.A.L.

Relationships Everyone's Always Looking for

DAY 21

Romans 12:9-13 [The Voice Translation] *“Love others well, and don’t hide behind a mask; love authentically. Despise evil; pursue what is good as if your life depends on it. ¹⁰ Live in true devotion to one another, loving each other as sisters and brothers. Be first to honor others by putting them first. ¹¹ Do not slack in your faithfulness and hard work. Let your spirit be on fire, bubbling up and boiling over, as you serve the Lord. ¹² Do not forget to rejoice, for hope is always just around the corner. Hold up through the hard times that are coming and devote yourselves to prayer. ¹³ Share what you have with the saints, so they lack nothing; take every opportunity to open your life and home to others.”*

CONGRATULATIONS! We have come to the last day of the Daniel Fast. If this is the first time you have fasted or you have participated many times in a corporate Daniel Fast, I am so thankful for your commitment to the Lord, to our church, and to one another.

This Daniel Fast was a dedication to strengthening and improving three relationships: first and foremost, for you to love the Lord with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, secondly to love yourself, and thirdly to love others. All three of these endeavors are the Relationships Everyone's Always Looking for.

My encouragement to all of you for the rest of 2023 is to pursue God with an unbridled passion to know Him intimately. That He loves you and because of His love, you know that you are His “*preferred companion*,” His friend. Worship and respect our Lord who is the Almighty God. Secondly, love yourself so you can love your neighbor. Your neighbor is everyone God puts in your path. Forgive yourself. Never allow the enemy to constantly mention your past mistakes and failings. You are forgiven of your sins and the old you is dead. Love yourself so you can love others and let them feel God’s love through you. Lastly, open your life to new relationships, strengthen your current friendships, and pray about repairing any past relationships that might be restored. Open your heart, your life, and your home. Be determined to live the abundant life that Jesus has given you. I am praying, hoping, believing, and speaking that 2023 will be your best year ever!

We love you, Pastor Mark and Teresa, and Pastor Mike.

It’s time to build Relationships Everyone's Always Looking for!

Worship Song:

"Echo" (In Jesus Name) – Charity Gayle

<https://youtu.be/B33nt6eDBWM>

Scripture Readings:

Mark 12:29-30 [New Living Translation] *Jesus replied, "The most important commandment is this: 'Listen, O Israel! The LORD our God is the one and only LORD. ³⁰ And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.'"*

Mark 12:31 [New Living Translation] *Jesus replied, "The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself. No other commandment is greater than these.'"*

Romans 12:9, 13 [The Voice Translation] *"Love others well...take every opportunity to open your life and home to others."*

Prayer:

Father, I am so glad I devoted the first 21 days of the New Year to fasting, prayer, and worship. Thank You for giving me the strength to push through the hunger pains and headaches to be where I am today. Help me, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to be this determined in all that I do for the rest of my days upon this earth. May I feel Your presence in every decision, every relationship, and in every situation that I face. I asked for Your guidance in all of my relationships. May I be the answer to someone's prayer concerning a new friendship. I believe You love me. I will love myself so I can love others. And I am open to Your leading and guidance into every one of my relationships. I love You, I love myself, and I love people. It is going to be a **MOMENTOUS** year! In the Name of Jesus I pray, amen!

Today, I need to pray for:

What is God telling me today?
