

Welcome to a Life changing adventure! Over the past several months we have been preparing for this very exciting next step as a church. TOGETHER, we will, as ONE body advance the kingdom as we trust the Lord and follow him in obedience to his word. I hope you have prayed about and pondered this matter and are ready to **JUMP IN**! I have heard from many of you that you are.... *"ready to MOVE FORWARD"*. Throughout the next year the Lord has given me several priorities that I believe he wants us to focus on. Over the coming weeks and in this manual, our primary objectives will be on Serving Evangelism, Prayer Evangelism, & Blessing Evangelism.

God has some wonderful plans for this church and YOU as an individual. We must align ourselves with HIS plans and purpose for our lives and MOVE in that direction. I am reminded of the story of Moses when he was leading the children of Israel out of captivity, through the Red Sea. In Exodus 14, I discover two critical words... **MOVE** and **FOCUS**! The Egyptian army was pressing down on the Israelites and the Bible says... *"They were afraid"*. They questioned Moses and asked, *"Have you brough us out into the desert to die"*? Moses replied, *"do not be afraid STAND FIRM and you will see the deliverance the Lord will bring to you today"*; v. 14 "The Lord will fight for you; you need only to BE STILL". VS. 15 Then the Lord said to Moses, *"WHY ARE YOU CRYING OUT TO ME*? **TELL THE ISRAELITES TO MOVE ON**, raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on the dry ground."

You may be wondering why the words **MOVE** and **FOCUS** have become significant to me as I read this passage. In vs. 14 Moses is quoted as telling the people to simply be still and witness the deliverance of the Lord. Then in vs. 15 we read, (from the Lord to Moses) "Why are you crying out to me, **MOVE**" As if to say, what are you thinking, there is an army approaching and they plan to destroy you. You had better get moving! Often in our personal lives we become spiritually lethargic or lazy. Many times, it is because we do not hear clearly what the Lord is speaking to us. That is the reason the word FOCUS stands out to me as I study this passage of scripture. We must remain focused and steadfast upon the Lord so that we are able to discern His voice and the leading of the Holy Spirit.

The **reason for these 40 days of Transformation** is because we truly believe that God desires to take us to the next level, spiritually. He wants to get you across the "red seas" in your spiritual lives. The things that may seem insurmountable or impossible to cross; God is ready, willing and able to get us over. However, we must first MOVE! Secondly, we must FOCUS so that we can clearly hear from Him. The next 40 days of BLESSING, SERVING, AND PRAYING will enable all of us to focus on Hm and MOVE in the direction the God desires to take us.

May God bless you and speak to you on your journey. May the next 40 days be the beginning of a LIFESTYLE of abiding in Him, (following Him). I believe and pray that the next several weeks will be much more than a "program" of sorts, rather 40 days of focus that will lead you to a life transformed, and lifestyle of DISCIPLESHIP.



IT'S TIME FOR A TRANSFORMATION

Before you read any further, ask yourself the question, "Am I willing to follow Jesus"? He is calling you now, as He called the 12 disciples, *"Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."*

My Prayer:

Lord, please help me to do my very best to fulfill the commitments of the next 40 days as outlined in the booklet I will receive. I give you all that I am and ask that you would increase my passion and desire for the things of God. Lord take me into a place of intimacy with you, a relationship with you that is more than I have ever experienced. Lord I also ask you to help me be a world changer, for the Kingdom of God. Lord, I ask that you use me specifically in the areas of **Blessing, Serving, and Praying** for others, AMEN!

40 Days of Transformation What is a Lighthouse of Prayer?

A lighthouse of Prayer is a term to represent a believer consciously choosing to be a light for Christ in the world he lives in. To be a lighthouse, a believer intentionally prays for, seeks to serve and bless his neighbors, with the goal of showing the light of Christ to others. Your focus could be your home, apartment, dorm, workplace. <u>Most Christians want to be a light; they want to make a difference in this world.</u> They just don't know <u>HOW TO</u> or *have trouble making prayer and serving others a lifestyle.*

The tools that we hope to provide for you will help you become a light in your workplace, your neighborhood and in every sphere of influence. What is meant by sphere of influence? A sphere of influence is anywhere that you find yourself on a regular basis and can make an impact. Your spheres of influence include your home, workplace, gym, salon, church, anywhere else you spend time and energy.

Simply knowing the concept of being a light often does not translate into practical behavior. This booklet will give you daily challenges that will help you establish a lifestyle of letting your light shine in this dark world. You can make a neighborhood chart as a tool to help you practically apply these principles. You may even want to draw a diagram of your workplace to apply the same concepts. Every Sunday your assignment will focus on being a lighthouse in your world.

Consider making a chart with each day of the week on it. Use this booklet to help aid in this process. Below you will find a sample chart to give you a general idea. Simply, the cart can be used to help you track your progress in each of the areas of SERVICE, PRAYER, AND BLESSING



evangelism. Don't worry if you haven't filled out the entire chart by the end of the 40-days. Set a goal to how much of your work sheet you will complete during the 40 days. Keep the chart in your bible or on your refrigerator. Be aware of not writing sensitive matters on the chart that don't need to be seen by others.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday



Uniting for a Purpose

"...If as one people speaking the same language, they have begun to do this then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them." Genesis 11:6

God Himself said, nothing would be impossible for them." What was the powerful key that God knew would give man more authority? Unity was the key. One people with one language, one goal, and one purpose could do the impossible. Reaching a city is impossible if there are Lone Ranger Christians and Lone Ranger Churches.

Carlos Anacondia, who in the revival in Argentina has seen over 1 million conversions, is quoted as saying that if there is 10% unity in the churches of a city, you will see 10% of the power of God; 30% unity will see 30% of the power of God. If you have 100% unity, you will have an open heaven. God has used him greatly in Argentina where cities have experienced church growth of 500% citywide.

George Otis Jr., in his video "transformations", has given us tangible evidence of what a united church can see happen if the believers are united for the right purpose. If you have seen the video, you will notice that the elements of fasting, unity among churches, prayer, worship, and the power of God are all evident. Do you want to see your city transformed? Do you believe your city can be changed? If you keep doing what you have been doing will your city be changed?

Some of you will get this introduction and not know anyone who has the faith to see the change in your city. God has used individuals who gave themselves to him to bring transformation to their city. Will you be among those who believe and become a vehicle to transform your city?

God will lead others who will lead many more to unite for the transformation of your city. Everyone needs to find others to unite with him/her. Whether there are two or 10,000 or 1,000,000, realize that there is more power in a united church.

For too long we have focused on coming together for large events. If God's children are going to transform this world, we need to unite for extended periods of prayer, ministry and service to reach our cities.

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Why 40 Days?

It takes 21 days to form a habit. The objective of the "40 Days of Transformation" is to create a heart for God in the life of each participant. Godly habits are established by a living for God one day at a time. **One day** of sacrifice leads to a **40-day** habit of service which leads to a **lifestyle** of selfless love! The following illustration shows us the impact of a sustained campaign:

A pastor in California was walking on the beach one morning. Suddenly he found himself amid a swarm of flies. Never in all his walks on the beach had he been under such a barrage of pesky flies. As he thought about the flies, the Holy Spirit asked him, "What are the names of Satan?" He pondered the names from Scripture: liar, father of lies, destroyer, and roaring lion. Then it struck him. Beelzebub is one of the names of Satan, and it means "lord of flies." The Pastor went home and began to study flies. He soon found that the life cycle of a fly is typically 40 days. Therefore, 40 days of sustained treatment is needed to wipe out an infestation of flies.

In citrus areas like Florida, there is a fly called the Mediterranean fruit fly which can cause major problems and destroy large citrus crops. When an infestation of the medfly occurs, it is as if everyone is living in a battle-zone. The state declares war on this tiny creature and carries out prolonged aerial and ground assaults. A onetime spraying is useless. It takes 40-days to wipe out a complete life cycle.

Why so much talk about flies? It is time to go beyond the onetime events. If we want to defeat the "lord of the flies," Satan, we must begin prolonged spiritual assaults. The 40 Day campaign is a sustained treatment of Godly influence, powerful prayer, and the love of Christ against Satan's destructive strategy on our neighborhoods, workplaces, and other spheres of influence.



Fasting

Fasting changes nations.

Throughout history when a nation, a group of people or an individual sought God with fasting and prayer, God moved in powerful ways and literally changed the course of entire nations. Esther was only a youth when she called the Jews to a fast that changed the world. Daniel had angelic visitation and victory in spiritual realms when he fasted. Israel repeatedly fasted when faced with overwhelming trials. Elijah and Moses both fasted for 40 days. Jesus Himself taught us fasting by His own example.

Fasting is a sacrifice.

You first need to ask God what you should fast. Biblical fasts usually included abstaining from all foods though some involved abstaining only from certain types of food. If you are new to fasting, you may ask yourself, "What one thing, if I gave it up for a time, would draw me closer to God?" The first thought of some is, "What is the least I can fast to get by?" Be careful! Desiring to just get by expresses a shallowness of love for God, a lack of faith in the power of prayer and fasting, and a lack of passionate zeal for change in your home, workplace, church, and city. Express your love, faith and passion for God with a serious sacrifice.

Fasting involves humbling ourselves.

James 4:6 "But He gives us more grace." That is why scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." When we humble ourselves under God's hand, God will lift us up.

Fasting leads to gratefulness.

We take so much for granted. We expect to have food and be able to eat what we want when we want forgetting that much of the world is hungry every day.

Fasting crucifies our flesh.

We begin to acknowledge that we cannot fast in our own strength. We spend so much energy and time eating what we want, when we want it, that we begin to deny ourselves something. Fasting gives us strength to overcome other areas as well.

Fasting at least one area of secular media is very important (TV, radio, internet, newspaper, movies).

Be sure to fast something that will help you spend more time with God. The media can consume a lot of our time and energy.



The following material on fasting has been adapted from Fast Forward by Lou Engle. It has been used by permission

"Fasting begets prophets and strengthens strong men. Fasting makes lawgivers wise; it is the soul's safeguard, the body's trusted comrade, the armor of the champion, the training of the athlete."

-Basil, Bishop of Caesarea (AD 330-379)

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With the call to enter into extended fasts, we must prepare ourselves adequately so that the fast will honor God and fulfill its purpose. Here are some suggestions to help and encourage you.

- 1. When doing any form of substantial fasting of food, seek medical advice and permission before the fast, especially if you have any existing medical concerns or conditions. Remember, fasting is an attitude of the heart!
- 2. **Fast and pray in order to humble yourself and purify your worship.** In fasting we are not trying to get something from God, but rather seeking to realign our hearts' affections with His. In fasting we can more readily say, "We love you, Lord, more than anything in the world." Any kind of lust is perverted worship but fasting enables us to cleanse the sanctuary of our hearts from every other rival.
- 3. **Don't boast about your fast.** It is fine to let people know you won't be eating, if you need to. What matters is whether the heart is filled with pride or false humility (Matthew 6:16-18)
- 4. **Do the fast with someone else.** Two are better than one! We encourage parents and children to consider fasting together. Several generations fasting together has a powerful impact!
- 5. **Have a clear target for prayer focus.** Without a vision (a clear prayer goal) the people perish. During a fast, have four or five prayer goals that are clearly articulated. When not deeply motivated by a clear goal, you will usually fast until breakfast! Write down your vision, so you can run with it (Habakkuk 2:2).
- 6. **Make your commitment and determine the length of your fast**. You can fast in many ways. You may want to fast one meal a day, for one whole day, three days or more.

Prayerfully consider a 40 day fast of one or more of the following: lunch, web surfing, makeup, red meat, non-Christian music, soft drinks and sweets. It can be very helpful to choose more than one. We would strongly encourage you to fast everything that pulls you down spiritually. Fast something that will increase your prayer life. Biblical fasts always consisted of food. Therefore, we encourage you to seriously consider the following fasts:

*A Daniel fast of vegetables and/or fruit and water only, is good for carrying a heavy workload. Fasting "meats and sweets" can be done by athletes who can get protein from other food sources.

*A fruit or vegetable juice fast allows you to enter into fasting but still gives enough energy to function. Many people have done a 40-day juice fast. Out of consideration for your health and metabolism, we would encourage teenagers to use juice and protein drinks for

sustenance. If you have sugar sensitivities or problems, consult your physician before attempting this fast.

*A water only fast has been done by many people. We would not encourage this kind of fast without strong medical supervision. A water only fast is very difficult, but very effective. Depending upon your weight and metabolism, you can survive forty days on water alone.

*A total fast is without water. **Do not** go beyond three days without water. Discuss your plans with your doctor. We do not encourage this type of fast without specific confirmation from the Lord through your church leadership.

7. **Prepare physically.** Two days before you fast, limit your intake of food to fruit and vegetables. Fruit is a natural cleanser and easy to digest. Stop drinking coffee before the fast. **Drink lots of water** to help your body detoxify. Prepare yourself for mental discomforts such as impatience, crankiness and anxiety. Expect physical discomforts. You may experience dizziness, headaches and different kinds of pains. The headaches are not a sign to stop fasting. Your body is working to cleanse itself of impurities.

8. **Take time to pray and read the Word.** This advice may seem obvious, but busyness and distractions can keep you from devotions. Reading books with testimonies of victories gained through fasting will encourage you. <u>Changing history through Prayer and Fasting</u> by Derek Prince, <u>Fast Forward</u> by Lou Engle and <u>God's Chosen Fast</u> by Arthur Wallis are recommended.

9. Expect to hear God's voice in the Word, dreams, visions, and revelation through fasting (Daniel 10:1,2). There is a fasting reward (Matthew 6:18). Some time ago, a Malaysian brother shared how during a forty day fast he was "caught up into the heavens." After the fast, he took a team into the interior of Borneo and saw a dead woman raised to life. Revival broke out in the village as a result of the team's ministry.

10. **Prepare for opposition.** On the day of your fast you can bet donuts will be at the office or anywhere else you will be. Your spouse will suddenly be inspired to cook your favorite meals. Press through. Many times, you may feel more tension build at home. Satan tempted Jesus during his fast, and we must expect the same. Discouragement may come in like a flood but recognize the source and take your stand on the victory of Christ.

11. **If you fail, don't give in to condemnation.** The "to fast or not to fast" dilemma can be a major tool of the enemy. Even though you may fail several times, God always extends grace.

12. Feel free to rest a lot and exercise with supervision.

13. **Breakthroughs often come after a fast, not during it.** Do not listen to the lie that nothing is happening. It is my conviction that every fast done in faith will be rewarded.

14. **Break the fast slowly, over several days with fruit juice or light soups.** On a light juice fast or a water fast your digestive system shuts down. Eating too much too soon can be dangerous. Break he fast with several days of diluted, non-acidic juice, then regular juice, followed by fruits and vegetables. Be careful!

In this section we provide you with helpful training in the four principles applied in the daily assignments. You will need to understand what prayer, servant, and blessing evangelism are. Following that is basic material on "How to Lead a Friend to Christ."

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Friendship or Blessing Evangelism

When you verbally bless a person and are sued by God to bring that person closer to God, you are practicing blessing evangelism. It is relational, rather than instructional. You share yourself, your time and your heart, rather than your knowledge of how to become a Christian. You establish the right to share the wonderful message of Jesus in the future.

Key Verses – Proverbs 18:21 "Life and Death are in the power of the tongue." James 2:9-10 "With the tongue we praise our lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be."

By our words alone, we can turn people away from God or make people thirsty for God. Even Scripture, which should impart life, can be used to wound as well as to heal. Blessing evangelism occurs when we see people (waiters, neighbors, bosses, policemen, bank tellers) as made in the image of God and see God's potential in people and bring it out.

Jesus spent time with people and saw in them the image of God. In many Biblical accounts, Jesus spent time and blessed people who were normally shunned and considered outcasts.

Several ways to bless people are:

- Spend time with them
- Speak encouraging words
- Listen to them
- Share with them
- Write a note to them
- Do something they love to do
- Send a gift to them
- Write a prayer for them
- Write a verse to them



Servant Evangelism

Servant evangelism is faith in action. In servant evangelism, we seek to meet the need of those around us. People are needy. By meeting a need, we hope to earn the right to share Jesus.

Key Verse—John 20:14-15 "Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you."

In Jesus' day, washing feet was a practical act of service since people walked barefoot or in sandals wherever they went. Household servants were expected to do this distasteful job. Jesus taught servanthood when He, the King of Kings, washed the feet of His disciples.

How can you be a servant to a people where you live and work? It may not go over very well to bring a bucket of water to your neighbors or the office and offer to wash people's feet. There is a place for that, but the office is probably not the place! You could pick up their trash, or mow their lawn, or help with a project. You could help them get to their car when it is raining. Look for practical things that someone has to do. When you see an opportunity to help, ask yourself, "why not me? Why not now?" You an also think of ways to serve your co-workers, boss, family, friends, and people in church.

When you serve another person, you break through that person's defenses. In Romans 12, it says, vs. 20 "On the contrary: If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." 21 "Do not be overcome by evil but overcome evil with good." We can overcome evil that is done to us by deeds of kindness rather than seeking revenge.

During the next 40 days, you will be asked to serve people in a variety of ways. You do not have to say anything when you serve them. They may or may not ask you why you are serving them. Many times, you may have a chance to explain to them what you are doing. You can tell them something like, "I just wanted to show you God loves you in a practical way, no strings attached!"



Prayer Evangelism

"Talk to God about your friends before talking to your friends about God."

Key Verses: 2 Corinthians 10:4,5 "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ."

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

Prayer is our most powerful weapon! Prayer is essential in our personal lives as well as in the lives of our churches. Without prayer, there is no power. God through our prayers transforms lives. If we want to be a positive influence in our world, we must take prayer seriously. We must humbly approach God and pour out our hearts to Him on behalf of our neighborhoods, workplaces, and other spheres of influence. Prayer, like nothing else, has the power to change a person, office, neighborhood, school, city, state, nation, and the world.

If you are not bold enough to talk to others, but you spend more time in prayer, you may have more influence and power than the one who talks boldly, but with little prayer and no power.

Pray privately to receive God's power. Pray with a friend. Pray as a group. Pray silently. Pray aloud. Read a prayer from the bible. Pray from your heart as would speak to a friend. Just pray! Do it often and with a heart for God to change you first, then change others through you.

Believers are praying with wonderful results. They are seeing people healed, marriages restored, lives saved, and their offices turned right side up for God.

Pray! Pray! Pray!

Expect miracles!

Expect a great God to do great things through you!

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Leading a Friend to Christ

Leading a friend to Christ doesn't have to be difficult! You may refer to these pages, but we encourage you to memorize the key steps so you can share without the book.

Believe

Key Verse: Acts 16:31 "They replied, 'Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.' "

"To believe" in this verse means to put your whole trust in Jesus. The Bible is saying that we must believe that Jesus Christ died to pay the penalty for our sins, and that He rose from the dead. When we truly believe we are willing to live for Him.

What we really believe is demonstrated more by what we do than by what we say. Believing in Jesus means turning your life away from sin and going in God's direction rather than your own. It does not mean that we become perfect, but that we are striving to love God and let Him have control of our lives.

Repent

Key Verse: Luke 13:3 "... but unless you repent, you too will all perish."

"To repent" means: "to turn away from." We have spent most of our lives doing our own thing and following our own agenda of things that have not pleased God. The Bible calls this sin. "To repent" means to turn away from sin or following our own agenda to following God's. We turn away from (give up) things that displease God. We turn to God and do the things that please Him.

Confess Your Sins

Key Verse: 1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."

Confessing sin is more than just saying, "I am sorry." It is not just being sorry for doing something wrong because you were caught. Confession means to agree with God's perspective on the matter, that what you did was wrong and that you hate the wrong just as God hates the wrong.

God hates sin but loves the sinner. God delights in forgiving us of our sins. That is why He sent Jesus to die on the cross for us to take away our sins. We must recognize our sins and ask for God's forgiveness. What we mist do is ask Jesus into our lives, confess our sins, and receive his forgiveness.

Confess Jesus Publicly

Key Verse: Romans 10:9 "That is you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."

To confess "Jesus is Lord" is to make a public declaration that you are a follower of Jesus. Do not be ashamed to tell others that you are a Christian or to follow His example by being baptized. When you choose to receive Jesus and become a Christian, you need to share this important decision. Tell you friends, your family and others. Find someone to baptize you. Meet with other believers to pray and encourage one another.



After you share the four main steps and you friend understands them, it may be time to make a decision. Ask your friend, "Do you want to ask Jesus to come into your life and forgive your sins and save you?" You may use the sample prayer below to lead your friend through this most important decision.

John 3:16 "God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Dear Jesus, I confess that I have sinned, and I believe Jesus died for my sins. I believe that God raised Jesus from the dead. I need you to forgive me and cleanse me from my sins. I am finished with living for me, and I want to live for you. Please fill me with your Holy Spirit. Thank you for saving me, for forgiving me, and cleansing me.