A CALL TO PRAYER

TRANSCRIPT
PASTOR ADAM STRAUSER

Greetings. Pastor Adam here. Welcome to our 21 days of prayer and fasting. You've listened to a call for character and we thank you so much for responding to that call and opting in to this special season of prayer and fasting, leading up to a whole year of character development in partnership with Doug Newton's team at Fresh Impact.

It's such a privilege to be here with you today. And I'm here for one purpose, and that is to call us into a season of prayer over this next 21 days. As God has been searching us and prodding us, He's prompted you to participate in this initiative, and so I say thank you.Thank you for your courage to sign up for something that you might not know all that's entailed. We really appreciate your willingness to be involved.

But I'm going to just give us a call today to stir our hearts together as we begin to seek the Lord together for one common purpose and that is to become Christ-like. And so as we think about where we are in this season of life and all that is on our plates and our busy schedules, I want our hearts to be ready for all that God has for us in this season.

REFLECTION:

You know, as the psalmist says, “Search me, O God, and know my heart.” Would that be your prayer today as you've signed up? As you've thought about, yeah, I want to grow in character and I want to hear what it's about and I want my heart to be ready.

You've made all of these steps to prepare yourself for this time together and now we come to the critical moment, this initial moment of spending time together where you make all of yourself ready, available to God, even the inmost part, your heart.

And so what we're doing in this time of prayer and fasting, is we're making ourselves available to the presence of God. We're making all of our lives, all of our makeup, all of the things that we bring to the table in personality, in strengths, in weaknesses.

We make all of those things available. All cards are on the table. Everything is out there in the open and it is searched by God. And so today, would you commit yourself to being sought out by God? And would you begin to learn to trust on how to give things over to Him? Because He cares and He's good.

So I'm going to pray for us as we begin this season together. And it really is a prayer of offering, of bringing yourself before God and allowing Him to have His way in you and through you in this character development season. So will you pray with me as we begin our time together? And right there where you are in your home, if you want to make yourself available to God, I just invite you to pray with your hands open and your palms up as a sign and a symbol that you're making yourself available to God in this 21 days of prayer and fasting. Let's pray together.

PRAYER:

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid. We pray that you would cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit in this season of fasting and praying that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name through Christ-like character to the glory of your name and to the glory of your kingdom, Christ. Amen.

Thank you.Won't you come along with us? Let's go together.