



CHRIST'S CHURCH
OF THE CANYON

Characteristically when the topic of “prayer and fasting” is discussed more-often-than-not Jesus’ 40 days in the wilderness of Judea is mentioned and even highlighted when the event comes up in a discussion. It’s one of those “markers” in Jesus’ life that helped to prepare the Son of God for His upcoming ministry. Too, it’s super important that we use His experience and allow His Spirit to impact our own experience with prayer and fasting. When we look at how each of the Gospel writers outline the event there are common threads found in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. All of the writers save John write of Jesus’ time in the wilderness. They all discuss His temptation and Satan’s role in the event. But when we take a closer look at Matthew and Luke’s writings one of the taken-for-granted parts of each narrative is God’s role in the whole event. When we read, and I would encourage you to look at the passages yourselves, Luke 3:22 and the events leading up to Jesus’ temptation notice what’s taking place? His baptism. God is personally involved in the baptism of His Son. Now go to Luke 4:1-2. Again, who is also involved in Jesus’ fast? The Spirit of God. And lastly when Jesus returns to Galilee to begin His ministry under whose power does He go? The power of the Spirit of God, Luke 4:14-15. As Christ’s Church of the Canyon undertakes this time of prayer and fasting, who’s involved, who oversees, and who gives us direction and upholds us during this time of seeking direction? You only have one guess. Yep, it’s the Spirit of God.

- Prayer prepares our mind for God’s leading
- Fasting prepares our body for God’s leading
- Prayer and fasting are about self-denial which is in stark contrast to the “feed my desires” of our current culture.

See you Sunday on the lawn at Camp Kare!

Pr. Wayne