



SPRING FEAST

RISE
UP

April 1 - May 28, 2023

VALLEY KINGDOM MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

"For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives." (NLT)

Romans 6:4



SPRING FEAST

Rise UP

Psalm Sunday Teaching
March 30th (Online)

RISE UP! (1 hour of Power) 6
am Prayer
April 1st

VKMI Palm Sunday Worship
April 2nd

Brother's Only Worship
(Follow by NCAA Championship Game)
April 3rd

Church Wide Fast
April 3rd-April 8th

iRise Online Prayer Week:
Recognize, Rebirth, Remember
April 4th-April 7th

Passover Teaching (Online)
April 5th

Good Friday (Online)
April 7th

Rise Up: VKMI Resurrection
Sunday Worship
April 9th

VFam Podcast
April 12th

First Fruit Worship
April 16th

Pentecost Teaching (Online)
April 20th

The Person of Holy Spirit
Teaching (Online)
May 18th

The Power of Holy Spirit
Teaching (Online)
May 25th

VKMI Pentecost Worship
May 28th

Rise Up!



Valley Kingdom International Church Family, it's time to prepare to Celebrate Jesus: Rise Up!!!

Roman 6:4 tells us

"For we died and were buried with Christ by baptism. And just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious power of the Father, now we also may live new lives." Roman 6:4"

The 3 P's of "Celebrate Jesus" during the Spring Feasts

The **Purpose** of the Feasts of the LORD

To Remember
(Come together)

The **Principle** of the Feasts of the LORD

To Recognize
(Clear vision of God)

The **Promise** of the Feasts of the LORD

The Rebirth
(New Covenant and Reaffirmation of His Promise)

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THE SPRING FEASTS

And the Lord spoke to Moses saying, “Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: the feasts of the Lord, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts.” Leviticus 23:1-2

The Spring Feasts consist of four festivals: Passover, The Feast of Unleavened Bread, The Feast of First fruits and Pentecost (The Feast of Weeks). These feasts are extremely important because they teach us to honor God for who He is and for what He has done for us. In addition, they teach us about God’s redemptive plan for mankind and how He powerfully intervenes in human affairs! Revelation 21:3 says “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God, Himself will be with them and be their God.”

PASSOVER

Passover begins at sundown, April 5th and ends at sundown, April 13th. This feast commemorates God delivering His people from bondage in Egypt. It also introduces God’s redemptive plan for mankind through the shed blood of Jesus Christ as the Passover Lamb for all. Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the Passover. He is the Lamb of God, sacrificed to set us free from the bondage of sin. The blood of Jesus covers and protects us, and His body was broken to free us from eternal death. For many, Passover and the feast of the Unleavened bread is both observed during Passover; however, we will not be in participate in the Passover Seder meal instead we will observe a church wide fast from April 3rd – April 7th.

Things You Need to Know

- Passover begins at sundown, April 5th and ends at sundown, April 13th
- The VFam Church wide Fast begins, sundown, Monday, April 3rdth, and ends at 6:00pm sundown Saturday, April 8th, 2023.
- The VFam I-Rise Inspiration and Prayer week begins Tuesday, April 4th through Thursday, April 6th at 7:00p.m. on Facebook and VKMI YouTube channel.
- All believers are to plan for a special sacrificial offering.
- For further information, go online to www.vkmi.org.

THE FEAST OF FIRSTFRUITS

The word First fruits mean “a promise to come.” On the day of First fruits, Sunday, April 16, 2023, the Church Family will bring a special offering to the Lord. This offering will represent the First fruits of any financial income since the Feast of Tabernacles which was held (October 2022). In Leviticus 23:9-14, the first crops of the barley harvest were offered to God as an offering of thanksgiving for the promise of an abundant harvest. This offering, lifted up

to the Lord, is called the early First fruits. In I Corinthians 15:23, Jesus is considered the First fruit of the harvest of all who have died in Him. This Feast was fulfilled when Jesus rose from the dead and ascended into heaven. For Christians, this feast is important because it celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

Things You Need to Know

- The Feast of First fruits begin at sundown, April 17th and ends at sundown, April 18th.
- VFam prepare to offer to the Lord a First fruit offering on Sunday, April 17th. You may bring your offering to the church, use the mobile app, give online, text VKMI to 77977, or mail your offering to the church to:

Valley Kingdom Ministries International
5217 W. 149th Street
Oak Forest, IL 60452

- VFam, we are asking every family to sacrifice \$1,000 towards the Valley campus makeover. You are welcome to sacrifice more; however, we encourage you to allow Holy Spirit to determine the amount of your special offering, symbolizing your thanksgiving to God for providing the “early” spring harvest.
- **Please Note: The First fruit offering is not your TITHE. It is separate and in addition to your tithe.**

THE FEAST OF PENTECOST (Feast of Weeks)

The Feast of Pentecost commemorates the giving of the Holy Spirit as in the New Testament. This feast is to be filled with joy and thanksgiving for God’s bountiful blessings of the harvest. During the celebration of Pentecost, believers will bring the First fruits of any financial income since the Passover. This offering is called the latter First fruit offering and symbolizes our thanksgiving to God for providing the “latter” spring harvest. The Church Family will offer its latter First fruits at the Pentecost Worship Celebration, Sunday May 28th. VFam, we are asking every family to sacrifice \$1,000 towards the Valley campus makeover. You are welcome to sacrifice more; however, we encourage you to allow Holy Spirit to determine the amount of your special offering.

Things You Need to Know

- Pentecost begins sundown, Saturday, May 27th and ends at sundown, Sunday, May 28th.
- The Pentecost Worship Celebration will be held Sunday, May 28th at 10:00am

SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE



VFAM CHURCH FAST BEGINS

Sundown, Monday, April 3, 2023



VFAM RISE UP ONLINE INSPIRATION AND PRAYER

Tuesday, April 4th through Thursday, April 6th, 2023

GOOD FRIDAY ONLINE WORSHIP

Friday, April 7th, 2023

ANNUAL CHURCH FAMILY FAST ENDS

Sundown, Saturday, April 8, 2023

FEAST OF PASSOVER

Sundown, Wednesday, April 5th thru Sundown, Thursday, April 13th 2023

FEAST OF FIRSTFRUITS

Sundown, Saturday, April 15th through Sunday, Monday, April 16th



RESURRECTION WORSHIP CELEBRATION

Sunday, April 9, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Valley Kingdom Ministries International

FEAST OF PENTECOST

Sundown, Saturday, May 27th through Sundown, Sunday, May 28th

FEAST OF PENTECOST WORSHIP CELEBRATION

Sunday, May 28th

Valley Kingdom Ministries International

FASTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR ADULTS

I. What is a Fast?

The Hebrew word for fasting means “to cover the mouth.” The Greek word for fasting means “not to eat.” Simply put, fasting means to abstain from food. Fasting involves turning away from foods that the body craves in order for our spirit to concentrate on God in worship, service, and praise.

Fasting has been a part of Christianity through the ages. It is a form of spiritual and scriptural sacrifice. Fasting does not change or impress God. Fasting changes us. Through fasting, Christians are empowered to discipline their daily relationship with the Lord.

The fast will consist of abstaining from food. In other words, you are fasting if you are not eating food. The primary method of fasting will be one (1) meal each day.

Social Media/TV Options

Fasting is an opportunity for Christians to practice the fruit of self-discipline by abstaining from personal pleasure to focus our entire attention on God. Therefore, during the Church Family Fast, you can also include abstaining from all forms of social media, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snap-Chat, etc. or you can choose the technical option by abstaining from watching shows on television, YouTube, Netflix, Hulu, or online streaming. The focus is to go silent and keep all forms of social media and TV off throughout the fast. **However, remember to choose either of these options or both only in addition to our primary method of fasting which is no food.**

II. Why Should We Fast?

Jesus Christ fasted! We fast as a VFam because God’s blessings reside in our unity. This special time encourages us to be “like-minded, having the same love and being of one accord and of one mind” (Philippians 2:1-3).

III. Who Should Fast?

Prayerfully, each member will participate in the VFam Spiritual Fast. Please consult your physician about your fasting if: (1) you are pregnant; (2) you are on prescribed medication; (3) you are under a doctor’s care; (4) you have experienced illness on a previous fast; (5) or, you do not normally eat anyway.

**YOUR PHYSICIAN’S ORDERS TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER THIS FAST! FOLLOW
YOUR PHYSICIAN’S ORDERS!!!**

IV. Why Fast?

The benefits include:

1. Having a closer relationship with God, our Father, who created us;
2. Focusing you on Jesus, the Supply, and Supplier of your benefits and blessings;
3. Becoming more sensitive and responsive to the Holy Spirit;
4. Presenting the opportunity for you to spend more time waiting on the Lord;

5. Intensifying your prayer life;
6. Aiding in removing unbelief;
7. Breaking yokes of bondage;
8. Sharpening your intellect, skill, discernment, and understanding;
9. Aiding in clarity of spiritual hearing when guidance or a decision is needed from the Holy Spirit;
10. Hastening emotional, spiritual, financial, and physical healing for both individuals and the community;
11. Fostering personal discipline that will help to reduce impulsive fleshly urges that do not align with Scripture; and,
12. Demonstrating (to yourself) an act of scriptural obedience.

How to Fast

The primary method of fasting for the VFam Spiritual Fast will be one (1) meal each day eaten after 6:00 p.m. Meals should be completed within 75 minutes from the moment you put food into your mouth.

Fasting Options include:

1. **“Veterans”** - Veterans are those members who have participated in the VFam Spiritual Fast two or more times.
2. **“First Round Draft Choices”** - (First Rounders are those persons who have never fasted or have only participated in a VFam Spiritual Fast one time.) First Rounders will eat two (2) meals per day, one at breakfast before 8:00 a.m. and one after 6:00 p.m. Be consistent; eat the breakfast meal at a routine hour. Complete your meals within 75 minutes from the moment you put food into your mouth. Please pray the daily prayer topic during the time of the skipped meal (lunch meal) and during your regular prayer time for the day.
3. **“Special Teams”** consist of persons who are under a doctor’s care, pregnant, or unable to miss a meal for health reasons. Special Teams should eat regularly scheduled meals. Participation in the VFam Spiritual Fast will consist of abstaining from foods such as sweets, carbonated beverages, breads, meats, or any food that you feel “you must have at least a little of every day.”

It is important for the VFam to be of one mind and heart. Please fast in accordance with the above-listed instructions. Fasts such as a “cleansing fast,” “grapefruit fast,” and others are not appropriate during this special time.

V. Requirements for Fasting

1. ***No nibbling!*** If you feel hungry (that’s expected and normal), drink water and most of all, spend time praying alone in His presence. (This time replenishes revives and restores you.)
2. ***No sweets (including sweeteners), chips, candy, chewing gum, soft drinks, or any other junk food should be eaten at any time during the fast by Veterans, First Rounders, or Special Teams.***
3. If you experience ***headaches, fatigue or weakness, faint feelings, nausea,***

fever, and/or extreme hunger, eat a piece of fruit, slice of bread, crackers, or vegetables (preferably raw). Consult your physician if these feelings persist.

4. **Water only!** Please restrict your liquid intake to water. No sodas, juices, fruit juices, lemon water, or flavored water. If you are fasting no food, please drink at least 64oz – 80oz of water each day. Raw vegetable juices are permitted if you are fasting no food.
5. If you experience “blackouts” while exerting energy, please eat a light, nutritionally-balanced meal.
6. If you are eating once a day, it is recommended that you do not exercise during the fast.
7. As I Corinthians 7:5 tells us, **no love-making for married folk!** (Single Christians are already abstaining). Both spouses should agree to the fast as a sacrifice of consecration to the Lord. If one of the spouses is not in agreement with I Corinthians 7:5, then do not abstain. There must be agreement between marital partners.
8. Individual prayer times for each day are 6:00 a.m. and after 7:00 p.m. If your schedule does not allow for these hours, please adjust your schedule to include a morning prayer time and an evening prayer time.
9. If you “fall off” the fast, get back on. Do not allow the devil to condemn you. Ask your covenant partner (see VFam Partnering on page 11) for help.

VI. What Are We Praying About During the Fast?

This Prayer Guide contains the prayer topics that we will pray during the fast and Spring Feasts. Please pray each prayer on the appropriate day as designated by the Prayer Topic Calendar.

VII. How Can We Be a Blessing While Fasting?

In Isaiah 58:6-2, the Lord explains that an acceptable fast to Him includes feeding and clothing those in need. In addition to praying, you can bless others by using some of the money you would spend on eating out or buying groceries to provide food and clothing for others.

VIII. Schedule of Fast

- April 3, 2023, Fast Begins
- April 8, 2023, Fast Ends

IX. Church Family Prayer

All church members (including children and youth) are asked to participate in the VFam I-Rise Online Inspiration and Prayer which begin Tuesday, April 4th – Thursday, April 6th, 2023 at 7p.m.

XII. You Can Fast in Jesus' Name!

While fasting, keep your countenance positive. Matthew 6:16-18 tells us not to “advertise our fasting.” Keep your fasting a secret. Be sensible and do your best. God does not smile upon “super fasters.” Expect God to be AWESOME and to do AWESOME things through you and the Church Family.

God bless you!

Fasting Instructions for Children and Youth

God gives us pastors according to His heart who will feed us with knowledge and understanding (Jeremiah 3:15). We must obey our pastors for they watch over our souls (Hebrews 13:17).

Parents should teach and guide by their example the importance of following the leadership of our pastors. When Pastor Bady proclaims the fast, children and youth are capable of obeying and participating.

Parents, please prayerfully consider including your children and youth in the Church Family Spiritual Fast. It will be a blessed experience for them and it will begin to lay a foundation for their future. Your support and encouragement are recommended to maximize your child's success.

I. What is a Fast for Children and Youth?

The Hebrew word for fasting means "to cover the mouth." Fasting has been a part of Christianity through the ages. It is a form of spiritual and scriptural sacrifice. Fasting does not change or impress God. Fasting changes us. Through fasting, Christians are empowered to discipline their daily relationship with the Lord.

II. Why Should Children and Youth Fast?

1. To have a closer relationship with God our Father and Jesus Christ;
2. To become more sensitive and responsive to the Holy Spirit;
3. To present the opportunity for you to spend more time waiting on the Lord; and
4. To build your prayer life.

As children and youth fast, they, too, will receive the benefits and blessings of obedience and fasting.

III. How to Fast

- Eat breakfast, lunch, and dinner.
- Eat healthy vegetables, fruits, meats, breads, milk, and cereal.
- Eat a healthy snack between meals such as fruit, vegetables, etc.
- Drink WATER, 100% JUICE, and MILK as the only beverages.

NO SWEETS, PIZZA, FRENCH FRIES, CHIPS, CANDY, CHEWING GUM, SOFT DRINKS, OR ANY OTHER JUNK FOODS!

IV. What Are We Praying About During the Fast?

Please help your child (ren) pray each prayer on the appropriate day as designated by the Prayer Topic Calendar.

VFAM PARTNERING

Ecclesiastes 4:12 states, **“Though one may be empowered by another, two can withstand him. And a threefold cord is not easily broken.”**

It is highly recommended that you choose a VFam Partner. This person will pray with you, encourage you, and remind you of God’s faithfulness. Choose someone who will walk with you throughout the duration of the fast.

Remember, your most important partners are God our Father, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. As One, trust them to help and strengthen you and VFam Partner(s) during the VFam Fast.

Guidelines for VFam Partnering

Guidelines for choosing VFam Partners are as follows:

- Married couples’ partner with married couples;
- Single women partner with single women; and
- Single men partner with single men.
 - Be sure to exchange telephone numbers or e-mail addresses.
 - During the fast, please communicate, pray, encourage and hold each other accountable.

Prayer Topic Calendar

Youth and Adults
Spring 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Prayer Topic: 6am Prayer Theme: Rise Up! (1 hour of Power)
2 Prayer Topic: VKMI Palm Sunday	3 Prayer Topic: Brother's Only Worship VFAM Church Fast begins	4 Prayer Topic: VFAM I-Rise Inspiration and Prayer	5 Prayer Topic: VFAM I-Rise Inspiration and Prayer Passover Teaching	6 Prayer Topic: VFAM I-Rise Inspiration and Prayer	7 Prayer Topic: Good Friday Worship	8 Prayer Topic: VFam Church Fast Ends
9 Prayer Topic: VKMI Resurrection Sunday Worship	10 Prayer Topic:	11 Prayer Topic:	12 Prayer Topic: Wednesday Podcast teaching – First Fruit teaching Commercial	13 Prayer Topic:	14 Prayer Topic:	15 Prayer Topic:
16 Prayer Topic: VKMI First Fruit Worship	17 Prayer Topic:	18 Prayer Topic:	19	20 Pentecost Teaching	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Prayer Expectations and Reflections

The Lord used today's scripture or prayer topic to reveal the role I am to play in bringing His plans into reality.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

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The Lord used today's scripture or prayer topic to reveal the role I am to play in bringing His plans into reality.

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