



# FALL FEAST 2023

*Resting In His Finished Work*

## **FEAST OF TRUMPETS**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

## **DAY OF ATONEMENT**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

## **FEAST OF TABERNACLE**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023

## **THE BROTHER'S GATHERING**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2023



**VALLEY KINGDOM MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL**

5300 W. 151st Street, Oak Forest IL 60452

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# **THE FALL FEAST SUMMARY**

## ***Resting in His Finished Work!***

**So, there is a special rest still waiting for the people of God. For all who have entered into God's rest have rested from their labors, just as God did after creating the world. So, let us do our best to enter that rest. *Hebrews 4:9-11***

The Fall Feast consist of three festivals: The Feast of Trumpets, The Day of Atonement, and The Feast of Tabernacles. 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 plan for humankind 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." During the Fall Feast season, we are expecting God to tabernacle with us. **This year, our VFam Fall Feast theme is "*Resting in His Finished Work!*"**

## **THE FEAST OF TRUMPETS**

The Feast of Trumpets, also known as Rosh Hashanah, celebrates the new year in Christ. It is believed that God created the world during this time. On this day, a shofar or trumpet is blown to mark the beginning of ten days called the "High Holy Days" or "Days of Awe." The blowing of the trumpet serves as a "wake-up" call to honor God as King, to remember His goodness and His faithfulness to His people, and to reveal and awaken the conscience and soul of His people. The High Holy Days consist of 10 days of repentance, reflection, and restoration. This period ends on the Day of Atonement.

### **God's Days of Rest**

As our Church Family prepares to celebrate the Fall Feast, consider scheduling the following days off from work. In Leviticus 23, God instructs the Israelites to "do no customary work" on specific days associated with the feasts. "No customary work" basically means to take the day off from work. The Lord understands if you have to work, but if you can, take the day off, enjoy the Lord and your family.

### **Things You Need to Know**

- The Feast of Trumpets begins sundown, Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> and ends sundown, Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Feast of Trumpets Worship Celebration will be held Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>.
- Please plan to participate in the Feast of Trumpets Worship Celebration by wearing their favorite NFL jersey to the Worship Experience.
- All believers are to plan for a special sacrificial offering.

- The VFam Family Fast begins at 6:00 p.m., Sundown, Monday, September 18 and ends at 6:00p.m. sundown, Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.
- VFam Virtual Prayer will be held Tuesday, September 19<sup>th</sup> thru Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. on Streamyard weekdays and weekends.
- Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> – Special Bible study night “Resting in the songs of the Lord.”

## **THE DAY OF ATONEMENT**

The Day of Atonement is considered the holiest day of the year. Known as the Day of Redemption, this is the day that believers stand before Almighty God and confess their mistakes and sins. Participating in this day helps the believer to recognize that sin has been forgiven through the blood of Jesus Christ. As believers confess their sins and recognize their dependence on God, Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross frees them of all unrighteousness. In Christ, we have a future and a hope!

### **Things You Need to Know**

- The Day of Atonement begins sundown, Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> and ends Monday, September 25<sup>th</sup>.
- The VFam Day of Atonement Evening Worship Celebration will be held, Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 10am VFam Worship Experience.
- Please plan to participate in the VFam Day of Atonement Worship Celebration by wearing all white to the service.
- All believers are encouraged to bring a special sacrificial offering.
- The VFam Fast ends at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup>.

## THE FEAST OF TABERNACLES



The Feast of Tabernacles is the climax of the Fall Feast and the most celebrative. It is God's appointed time for believers to come into His presence and celebrate His glory, provision, protection, and deliverance through Jesus Christ. Leviticus 23:40 says to "Rejoice before the Lord your God for seven days." Deuteronomy 16:14-15 says to "Be joyful at your Feast for the Lord your God will bless you and your joy will be complete." We will celebrate with singing, dancing, and great food. Mark your calendar to be a part of this exciting time.

The Feast of Tabernacles (aka Sukkot—soo-COAT) begins at sundown on Sunday, October 9th and ends at sundown on Monday, October 17th. *The Feast of Tabernacles celebration will begin with the Monday, October 10th VFam Brother's Only Worship Celebration at 7:00 p.m. and we will close out the feast together with the Feast of Tabernacles Closing Worship Celebration at 10am on October 16th.* Make plans now to attend these exciting events. You do not want to miss out on this joyful time with your Church Family!

We look forward to celebrating this Fall Feast season with the entire VFam community.

### **Things You Need to Know**

- The Feast of Tabernacles begins sundown, Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup> and ends sundown, Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>.
- The Feast of Tabernacles Opening Worship Celebration will be held Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup> during our regular 10 a.m., Special VFam Worship celebration: Culminating the Finished work of Jesus Christ.
- The Brothers' Only Worship begins at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup>. All MEN are encouraged to attend. According to Deuteronomy 16:16-17, all men are encouraged to bring a special offering.
- Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> Family Date night – Ending of the Feast of Tabernacles.
- All believers are to encouraged to bring a sacrificial offering on this final Fall Feast

celebration. You may bring your offering to the church, use the mobile app, give online, text VKMI and your dollar amount to 7797 or mail your offering to the church to:

Valley Kingdom Ministries International  
 5300 W. 151st Street  
 Oak Forest, IL 60452

## **FALL FEAST SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE**

<b>Fall Feast</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>Feast of Trumpets</b>	Sundown, Friday, September 15th, through Sundown, Sunday, September 17, 2023
<b>Feast of Trumpets Worship Celebration</b>	Sunday, September 17, 2023, 10 a.m.
<b>VFam Fast</b>	Sundown, Monday, September 18 <sup>th</sup> through Sundown, Wednesday, September 27 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Church Family Virtual Prayer</b>	7 p.m. Tuesday, September 19 <sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, September 26 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Day of Atonement</b>	Sunday, September 24 <sup>th</sup> , and ends sundown, Monday, September 25 <sup>th</sup> .
<b>Day of Atonement Worship Celebration</b>	Sunday, September 24 <sup>th</sup> at 10am VFam Worship Experience
<b>Feast of Tabernacles</b>	Sundown, Saturday, September 29 <sup>th</sup> through sundown, Friday, October 6 <sup>th</sup> .
<b>Feast of Tabernacles Worship Celebrations</b>	(Opening) Sunday, October 1, 2023, 10 a.m. Brothers' Only Worship, Thursday, October 5 <sup>th</sup> , 6pm. (Closing) Friday, October 6, 2023 Family Date night.

# **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.

## **II. Why Should We Fast?**

Jesus Christ fasted! We fast as a Church Family 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 Church Family 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 Church Family 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 Church Family Spiritual Fast two or more times. You will eat one (1) meal each day after 6:00 p.m.
2. **“First Round Draft Choices” - (First Rounders are those persons who have never fasted or have only participated in a Church 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 Church Family 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.” **YOUR PHYSICIAN’S ORDERS TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER THIS FAST! FOLLOW YOUR PHYSICIAN’S ORDERS!!!**

*It is important for the Church Family 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 pray.
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/sex 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 an 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 Power Guide contains the prayer topics that we will pray during the fast and Fall Feast. 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**

- Fast begins September 18<sup>th</sup>
- Fast ends September 27<sup>th</sup>

#### **IX. Church Family Prayer**

- All church members (including children and youth) are asked to participate in a virtual daily time of prayer, 7 p.m. – Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> – Tuesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### **X. 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?**

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.
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- 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

### September 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Feast of Trumpets Celebration	18	19 Prayer Topic: Miracles, Signs, and Wonders	20 Live Special Bible Study: Resting in the Songs of the Lord	21 Prayer Topic: Prayer for Healing	22 Prayer Topic: Prayer for Deliverance	23 Prayer Topic: Prayer for Mindset
24 Prayer Topic: Worship Day of Atonement Worship Celebration	25 Prayer Topic: Protection	26 Prayer Topic: Prayer for Salvation	27 Day of Atonement Special Fall Feast Sukkot Teaching	28	29	30

# Prayer Topic Calendar

## Youth and Adults

### October 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Feast of Tabernacles Worship Celebration			Playbook: Feast of Tabernacle: Special Teaching on Sukkot	Brother's Only Worship	Friday Family Date Night	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	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.

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## **Prayer Expectations and Reflections**

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