# Bishop Harry S. Grayson, Pastor Day CONSECRATION

# January 8<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>

ESSIAS TEMPLE CHURCH

# **Spiritual Transformation**

anctification

"...be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Romans 12:2

A Time for Prayer, Fasting, & Reading God's Word.

**Official** Guide

www.messiastemple.org

#### **Spiritual Transformation**

STREET,

Every year we have a fresh opportunity to examine our lives, assess our spiritual strengths and weaknesses, and develop a spiritual growth plan for the next 12 months. Why? The primary reason: the chief purpose of the Christian life is to know God. In order to know God we must experience spiritual transformation that results in Christian maturity.

This **transformation** is not about being "the best version of yourself" or even "becoming a better person". Spiritual transformation in Christ is all about being molded and **conformed (or morphed)** into the likeness of Jesus Christ (Romans 8:28-29, Colossians 1:28).

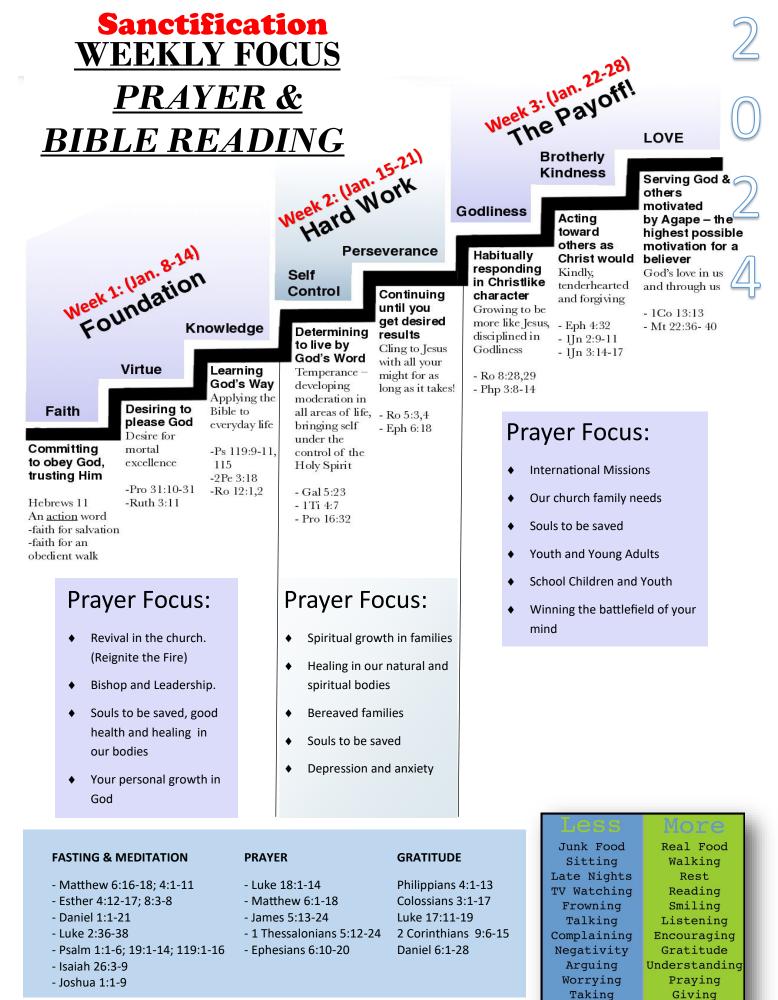
Why do we need **transformation?** Whatever season of life you're in right now there are areas of your life not in submission to Christ. The process of being **conformed** into the likeness of Christ is a life-long process where the Holy Spirit transforms every nook and cranny of our heart, mind, and soul to be more in conformity to the likeness of Christ. The biblical word for this process is **sanctification**. The apostle Peter exhorts believers to make "every effort" to grow in our faith on a regular, consistent, and diligent manner (2 Peter 1:1-15). The Bible indicates very clearly that no one drifts into maturity. It's a process; an intentional process. "For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love." — 2 PETER 1:5-7

Therefore, we enter 2024 with great expectations and a hopeful future that God will hear us and *"show us the evidence of our prayers be answered!"* The Bible reminds us that, 2 Chronicles 7:14 "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven..." People of God, we can be confident that when we pray, he will hear us (1 John 5:14)! We want to see people saved, and conditions changed to the glory of God. Therefore, let us unite during this fasting season with all sincerity, cry out to God in prayer, read His Word, and be spiritually transformed. We need God's mercy and grace to get through the days ahead.

## Remember, transformation takes place as you surrender to the Spirit, not by "trying harder" in the flesh. What do you need to focus on in 2024? Be intentional to pursue Him and His voice in the coming new year.

The **21-Day Consecration** is designed to help us grow in our relationship with God and become complete in body, mind, soul, and spirit. It's often said that it takes 21 days to change a habit, so this is not just about prayer and Bible study. It includes a partial fast, daily prayer, scripture readings and exercise. "Partial" fast means that we will eliminate some common things from our daily diet, but will provide options. *\*If you have any known medical conditions or think you have a medical condition, consult your doctor before beginning the fast.* Commit to attending all worship services and bible classes either on-site or virtually. Take notes on your personal reflection throughout this journey.

Remember, this fast is not a diet or ritual; it is a sacred time. It is a time of consecration and prayer.



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## Weekly Fasting:



(VIA Zoom ID: 815 2637 9739 Passcode: 48197)

### **Bible Reading**

+ 15 minutes bible reading each morning or before going to bed.

#### **EXERCISE**

Exercise is an important part of a healthy lifestyle. It offers many health benefits – helps to control weight, lowers blood pressure, combats many health conditions and diseases, improves mood, boosts energy and more!

**HOW OFTEN TO EXERCISE**: Exercise at least 3 times per week, for at least 30 minutes. You don't have to do the full 30 minutes all at once; you can break it up throughout your day. Remember to drink at least five (5) 8 oz. glasses of water every day!

## **Special Services**

#### **HOLY COMMUNION**

Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> @ 10:30am (EST)

Sacraments pickup if viewing online: Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> – 12:00noon – 1:30pm

#### FRIDAY EVENING PRAYER ONSITE (7:00pm- 8:00pm)

Friday, January 19th & 26th