



AWAKENING

PURSuing A NEW LEVEL OF PASSION FOR GOD

AWAKENING HUNGER
MESSAGE 1 OF 5 PART SERIES
PASTOR FRANK DAMAZIO

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Introduction: In this series “Awakening: Pursuing a New Level of Passion for God” the believer can cultivate a deeper longing for God while fasting and praying. Prayer and fasting is defined as voluntarily going without food in order to focus on prayer and fellowship with God. When prayer and fasting are combined, there is a special double-portion power created. This is simply one biblical way to force ourselves to focus and rely on God for His strength, provision and wisdom. This is seen in the lives of those in scripture. Moses fasted 40 days (Exodus 34:28), Jesus fasted 40 days (Matthew 4:2), Anna worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer in the temple (Luke 2:37).

I. AWAKENING DEFINED

A. AWAKENING PRAYER

In Jesus’ name, by the power of the blood shed on the cross, by the authority of the scriptures, I declare this to be a year of amazing fruitfulness and bountiful supply, with an increase of God’s presence and a new level of passion for God, for church, and for people. Awaken me, Lord. Make me thirsty for You and my soul will follow hard after you.

B. AWAKENING DEFINITION

1. Awake is to be shaken into excitement.
2. Awake is to cease from sleeping.
3. Awake is to be aroused to attention.
4. Awaken is to be filled with the fire of God.
5. Awake is to have a fervent desire for God.

C. AWAKENING SCRIPTURES

Romans 13:11 The Message Translation: But make sure that you don’t get so absorbed and exhausted in taking care of all your day-by-day obligations that you lose track of the time and doze off, oblivious to God. The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing! God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work he began when we first believed.

The New Living Translation: This is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up!

Wuest Translation: ...Knowing the strategic season, that it is an hour now for you to awake...

D. THOSE IN NEED OF AWAKENING

1. I'm stuck.
2. I'm frustrated.
3. I'm slipping.
4. I'm empty.
5. I'm bound.
6. I'm afraid.
7. I'm longing.
8. I'm lukewarm.
9. I'm desperate.
10. I'm indifferent.

II. AWAKENED WITH FASTING AND PRAYER

Isaiah 58:6-8 Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; when you see the naked, that you cover him, and not hide yourself from your own flesh? Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

Joel 2:12-13, 15 "Now, therefore," says the Lord, "Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning." So rend your heart, and not your garments; return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness; and He relents from doing harm. Blow the trumpet in Zion, consecrate a fast, call a sacred assembly...

2 Chronicles 20:3-4 And Jehoshaphat feared, and set himself to seek the Lord, and proclaimed a fast throughout all Judah. So Judah gathered together to ask help from the Lord; and from all the cities of Judah they came to seek the Lord.

A. BIBLICAL FAST DEFINITION

1. Prayer and fasting is defined as voluntarily going without food in order to focus and rely on God for strength, provision and wisdom; taking our eyes off the things of this world and focusing our thoughts on God.
2. Prayer and fasting heightens our awareness of God's presence. It will open fresh new spiritual insights. Your faith will increase, you will feel emotionally, physically and spiritually refreshed and you will see answers to prayers.