(Matthew 17:14-16)

“When they came to the crowd, a man approached Jesus and knelt before him. “Lord, have mercy on my son,” he said. “He has seizures and is suffering greatly. He often falls into the fire or into the water. I brought him to your disciples, **but they could not heal him**.”

(Matthew 17:17-18)

“You **unbelieving** and **perverse** generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy here to me.” Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of the boy, and he was healed at that moment.”

**Unbelieving**—not connected to God.

**Perverse**—too connected to the world. *\*\*Build a list\*\**

(Matthew 17:19-21)

“Then the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?” He replied, “Because you have so little faith. Truly I tell you if you have faith as small has a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you. But this kind does not go out except by **prayer** and **fasting**.”

**Prayer**—connects us to God.

**Fasting**—disconnects us from the world

**The Spiritual Transformation Trio**

**Generosity—Prayer—Fasting**

*"Prayer is good when accompanied by fasting, almsgiving, and righteousness."*

**Tobit 12:8**

"*Three actions cancel out a harsh decree. These are prayer, righteousness (almsgiving, charity, generosity), and repentance (i.e. fasting).”*

**-Rabbi Leazar**

(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, and I will forgive their sin and will **heal** their land.”

1. **Prayer**: *“…will humble themselves and pray…”*
2. **Generosity:** *“…and seek my face…”*

(Psalm 17:15)

"As for me, I shall behold you face in **righteousness**."

1. **Prayer**: *“…will humble themselves and pray…”*
2. **Generosity:** *“…and seek my face…”*
3. **Fasting:** *“…turn from their wicked ways.”*

**The Promise**: *“Then I will forgive their sin and heal their land.”*

(Matthew 6:1-4)

“Be careful not to practice your **righteousness** in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. So **when you give** to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But **when you give** to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving my be done in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done is secret, will reward you.”

1. When you **give.**

Righteousness is **generosity**.

(Matthew 6:5-8)

“And **when you pray**, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But **when you pray**, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. And **when you pray**, do not keep on babbling like pagans, for they think they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.”

1. When you **give**.
2. When you **pray**.

**Prayer** shifts us from **self-consciousness** to **self-surrender**.

(Matthew 6: 16-18)

“**When you fast**, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But **when you fast**, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.”

1. When you **give**.
2. When you **pray**.
3. When you **fast**.

Fasting is always connected to **repentance**.

**21 Days of Prayer Objective**:

* Put our dependence on God.
* Ask for forgiveness.
* Refocus on the eternal.
* Invite the presence of God into our lives.
* Believe for answers to specific needs.
* **Through generosity, prayer, fasting**.