



6 Steps Towards FULL LIFE in Christ

Faith-Walker's Guidance **FOR KIDS**



"I have come that they might have life, and have it to the full." -Jesus Christ, John 10:10

Welcome to the 40 Days of Faith!!

Your faith is meant to grow! God gave all living things the ability to grow. It's true of seeds and it's also true of you as God's child. The 40 Days of Faith is an opportunity for you to grow! You might not grow taller, but your trust and faith in God will grow! You matter to God and he wants to be your very best friend.

We are going to try some faith "*experiments*" over the next 40 days. Some of our experiments will be: prayer, fasting, reading the Bible, and giving generously. When we do these things you will see your faith stretch and grow and that gives God room to work in unexpected ways.

Your pastors are looking forward to these 40 days! We believe that this might be the most important 40 days in your life so far. We are expecting to see and hear many answers to prayer in your life and in the lives of your friends, family, and our church.

Here's what we're hoping for over the next 40 days:

For You:

1. You would feel close to God.
2. You would feel excited about the plans that God has for you.
3. You would see God answering your prayers.

For our Church:

1. We would trust God even more.
2. We would be faithful to the plans God has for us.
3. We would see the Holy Spirit working in our lives.
4. We would be known by those around us for having a friendship with God.

What does it look like to participate in the 40 Days of Faith?

1. To spend time with God everyday for 40 days.
2. A willingness to try new things.
3. A willingness to pray with your family and to encourage them in their 40 days of faith.
4. A willingness to let God speak to you and tell you what to do.
5. A willingness to give to others even when you don't feel like it.

"And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who earnestly seek Him." Hebrews 11:6

What is Faith?

The Bible says that *“faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see” Hebrews 11:1*. So when we have “faith” in God we are having complete trust that he is taking care of us and knows what’s best for us even when we don’t see it all the time. Faith is also believing and trusting that God always hears you and will answer your prayers.

Why is Faith Hard Sometimes?

1. Faith is hard because I am afraid I will be disappointed.
2. Faith is hard because I am afraid I won’t get what I want when I ask.
3. Faith is hard because I worry I’m not good enough for God to answer my prayer.

Why I Should Walk in Faith?

1. I have nothing to lose! God is always faithful.
2. I will see God answering my prayers, even if it’s not the way I was wanting.
3. I want to have an exciting relationship with God.
4. I want to see God doing things in my life.

Jesus said to the woman who touched Him and was healed, *“Your faith has healed you.” (Luke 8:48)* The LORD told a leper, *“Rise and go; your faith has made you well.” (Luke 17:19)* These are two example of people who stepped past their fears and risked in faith and were rewarded.

Nothing is impossible for God! This is a journey of discovering what is possible!

“You do not have, because you do not ask God.” James 4:2

40 Days Step 1: Pray for one thing from God

God is not like a vending machine that gives away miracles. You don’t just pray to get what you want. Sometimes what you want isn’t what God wants for you. When we pray we are looking to God to see what he wants for our lives. That’s why God doesn’t promise that our prayers will be answered exactly the way we want them to be. The question is, *“Do you know what God might do in your life if you ask Him to do it?”*

Jesus tells His disciples to ask for what they need. *“Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, and your joy will be complete.” John 16:24*

You can pray for anything as long as you are doing what God wants you to do. When Jesus says, *“Ask for anything in my name”* you should believe him that you can do that! Ask God for what you want and let him tell you what he wants for you. He will answer you according to his plan for

you. Jesus is teaching us to that God wants to be generous. The LORD is generous and good to those who love Him.

How does God answer our prayers?

God can say, “**Yes.**”

Human Example: *A daughter asked her mother to if she could have a new doll for Christmas. Her mother joyfully said, “Yes!”*

God can say, “**Wait.**”

Human Example: *A father was asked by his 10 year old son, “Dad, can I drive the car?” “Not yet, Son,” replied the father. “Because I love you I can’t let you until you’re ready.”*

God can say, “**No.**”

Sometimes we don’t understand why God will say “No” to what we think is good for us. We try hard not to get disappointed. Perhaps He is only saying, “Wait” and we think He is saying, “No”. Regardless, you should still ask. Even when you’re not sure if your mom or dad will say “yes” to something you want, you still ask because you hope that they will. God wants us to do the same with him. If he does say “No” then we have to trust that he knows what is best for us.

Human Example: *A child asks her mother if she can go play in the middle of the street. Her mother replies “No!” because she knows that her daughter could get hit by a car. Even though the daughter doesn’t see any cars coming and doesn’t see what the big deal is, the mother knows that there could be potential danger and wants to protect her daughter.*

How to pray during the 40 Days for an answer to your prayer:

- 1. Pray for exactly what you want.** Think through what you want to ask from God. Maybe ask your mom, dad, or Sunday School teacher to help you think about something to ask. Maybe there’s someone at school that hurts your feelings and you want them to leave you alone? You can ask God to have them leave you alone. Maybe you keep fighting with your brother or sister? Ask God for help in your relationship. Maybe someone in your family is sick? You can ask God to heal them. It’s up to you! **Write it down!**

2. **Pray every day for the 40 days.** Jesus teaches us to keep asking God for the things we need. (*Matthew 7:7-11*) Sometime it takes a long time. Even if you don't see God answering the way you want him to, you will feel closer to him and he will put your heart where it's supposed to be.
3. **Pray with your family or friends. Share your request with your family members or with a close friend.** Jesus told us to pray together. "*For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them*" (*Matthew 18:20*). Ask them to pray for you and what you are requesting from God. You can ask your family or your friends if there is something that you can also pray for them about.
4. **Tell us when God answers your prayers.** Tell your Sunday School teachers when God answers your prayers. Every Sunday you will be able to share what God is doing in your life with the rest of the kids. You can also ask your mom or dad to share it with the rest of the church. **Also, thank God and praise him for answering your prayers.**

"I will thank you, LORD, among all the people. I will sing your praises among the nations."
Psalms 108:3

40 Days Step 2: Pray with Others Every Day

Jesus teaches us that we shouldn't follow him alone. Faith can be a lonely thing to do by yourself.

Pray with members of your family or 1-2 friends for 40 Days:

1. **Ask others to pray for you.** You can set aside a special time in the day to pray with your mom or dad for your requests and ask them to also pray for you. If you have another friend that will pray for you, ask them to do so.
2. **Pray for others.** Ask your friends and family what they are requesting from God and spend time each day to pray for them.
3. **Find ways during the 40 days to show others that you love them as much as possible.**

Here are some ideas:

- a. Make a card letting them know that God loves them.
- b. Bake them a treat.
- c. Make or buy a small gift that you can give to them.
- d. Ask them if you can help them with something.

40 Days Step 3: Read the Bible Every Day

God wants you to know him and to know all about him. He has given us the Bible to help us learn about him. Oftentimes, he uses the Bible to tell us what to do and to answer our questions.

Read the Bible every day during the 40 days. Find a time in your day when you can make time to do this. Sometimes it's hard because there might be other things you would rather do, like watch T.V. or play on the computer. But, remember, God wants you to learn about him and this is a great way to do it. You can read a verse before you get out of bed in the morning or maybe before you go to bed each night. Maybe you can read the daily verse together as a family at a meal time. You can do it! Here's why you should:

- Read the Bible in order to see who God is and what he has done.
- Read the Bible to learn the story of God's people.
- Read the Bible to learn the promises of God for us.

How do I read the Bible?

1. **First ask Jesus to guide you as you read.** Pray a simple prayer like, "*Jesus, please help me learn about you and what you think about me.*"
2. **Read God's Word like no other book.** God's word was written for you! Reading the Bible will help you get closer to God. Be ready to listen to him.
3. **Read one of these verses everyday (or have your mom or dad read it to you):**

Faith & God	Full Healing	Life of Faith	Promises & Blessing
Deuteronomy 32:3-5	Matthew 9:27-29	Romans 1:16-17	Proverbs 1:33
Psalms 33	Mark 2:1-12	Philippians 4:4-9	Proverbs 14
Matthew 6:25-34	Luke 5:17-26	Matthew 5:13-16	Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalms 31	Luke 8:22-25	Galatians 2:20	1 Corinthians 10:12-14
Psalms 111	Jeremiah 33:6	Micah 6:8	Isaiah 40:29-31
Deuteronomy 7:8-10	Matthew 8:5-8	James 1:2-5	Romans 4:16-25
Proverbs 14	Acts 3: 1-16	1 Peter 3:15-16	2 Corinthians 1:18-22
Proverbs 28	John 11:1-44	Matthew 28:16-20	Jeremiah 29:11
Hebrews 11:1-6	Matthew 11:25-30	Romans 12:1-8	Isaiah 40:29-31
Ephesians 2:8-10	John 10:7-18	Romans 10:9	Romans 8:37-39

40 Days Step 4: Pray Every Day for your church

1. **Pray for the different things that your church does to show God's love.** We do lots of things at Vineyard Church Glendora to show others that God loves them and to teach people

about him. We teach the Bible, worship the LORD in song, pray for those that are hurting or sick, help those in need, and teach people how to follow Jesus. Will you pray once a day for 40 days for the things that we do? You can pick one to pray for each day, or just ask God to bless all of the ministries.

~~Here is a list of things we do at VOG:~~

Sunday Morning Service
Vineyard Women's Ministry (upcoming retreat)
Vineyard Men's Ministry (Men's Huddle Groups)
Small Group Study Groups and its Leaders
Intercessory Prayer Team
Prayer Chain Ministry Team
Youth Group 180 (Sr. High)
90 Degrees (Jr. High)
Vineyard Kids
Compassion Ministries Team
Financial Peace Ministry
Worship Ministry Team
Night of Worship and Prayer
Second Sunday Supper
F.A.M.E. (Foster and Adoptive Mother's Encouragement)

2. **Pray for the volunteers, leaders, and pastors of the church.** God's people need God's help. *Hebrews 13:17* says, "Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you." Will you also pray each day for the leaders in our church?

~~Here is a list of pastors, elders, and staff at VOG:~~

Steve Bogan- Elder
Abigail Gaines – Executive Pastor, Elder
Jacob Gaines- Teaching Pastor, Elder
Michael Gibson- Elder
Dee Ann Larsen- Vineyard Kids Director, Elder
Reinier Cruz- Worship Pastor
Adrian Greer- Youth Ministry Director
Amie Miller- Sunday Morning Coordinator
Seth Rouggy- Media Director

40 Days Step 5: Fast from something you love to show God that you trust he will take care of all of your needs.

What is fasting?

Fasting helps us think about God and it gives him more of our attention. We should need God more than anything else. When we fast, we take away something we love or think we need and replace it with trust in God. In the Bible, we are taught to fast from food to show our trust in God. However, you can fast from all sorts of things, particularly things you enjoy, like sweets, television, or video games.

Here's what to do:

1. **Decide on something you love that you want to give up during the 40 Days of Faith. Don't fast from something you won't miss anyway.** You can do this for the full 40 days, or you can choose to do it once a week or a full week. Again, choose to give up something that you spend some time everyday doing. If you are thinking about fasting from a meal, talk to your mom or dad about this first.
2. **Take time to pray, read God's Word, or do something nice for someone else during the time you would normally be doing the activity you have given up.** Be careful not to replace one activity with another. For example, you have decided to fast from watching T.V. so you're going to play on the computer instead. No, instead take the time to be near to God and show others his love.
3. **Ask for Jesus to speak to your heart while you fast.** Oftentimes, when we fast from something, we hear God even more clearly. Take time to listen to him! You can go sit in your room or in your backyard and pray a simple prayer like, "*God, please help me to hear from you.*" Then, take time to sit and think about him.
4. **Don't complain about it or tell everyone else!** You should act normally when you fast from something. It doesn't please God when you complain while you fast. For example, if you give up treats for the day, don't complain to everyone about how badly you miss them! You don't have to let everyone know what you're doing either. It's better to be quiet about it.

"Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Luke 6:38

40 Days Step 6: Give Generously from what God has given to you.

Think about these truths...

1. **Everything you have is a gift from God.** Do you know that EVERYTHING that you have is really a gift from God to you? God told the Israelites, "*You may say to*

yourself, 'My power and the strength of my hands have produced this wealth for me.' But remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you the ability to produce wealth, and so confirms His covenant, which He swore to your forefathers, as it is today. ”

Deuteronomy 8:17-18

2. **Everything you have belongs to God.** We should see everything we have as God's and for him to use the way he desires. The Bible says that it's as if God was going on a journey and allowed us to hold onto his things until he returned (**Matthew 25:14**). God is watching to see how we take care of, use, and invest what He has given to us
3. **Do you want to see God's love and the story of Jesus grow even more where you live?** It's a simple question. Anyone belonging to God will want to see his love and the story of Jesus growing in their communities. It's been said, if you really want to see if a person is devoted to God look at how they spend their time and how they spend their money. Are you spending time sharing the Gospel with others (that God sent his son Jesus to die for our sins and give us eternal life with him) and are you giving away your money and things to show others that God loves them and will take care of them?

If you get an allowance from your mom or dad, think about giving some of it to the church to be used to share God's love. Maybe there's someone at school or in your neighborhood that needs something you could use your money to buy for them? You don't have to, but we think that it will give you joy to give. Do you know that if you give generously, you can literally change the world?!

How to give generously...

1. First, pray and ask God to show you how you can give. You will be able to turn in offering at Sunday School every Sunday.
2. Second, pray and ask God to bless your offering and use it to make a difference in people's lives.
3. Third, consider giving an offering on a regular basis to the church. If everything you are given is ultimately from God, think about how you can give some of it back to help others. This is one way we can show God we trust him to also take care of us.

Here's a list of what you're supposed to do...

Every Day:

- Pray for one prayer request that you would like to have an answer to.
- Pray for the requests of your family and friends.

- Pray for your church.
- Read a verse from the Bible

Week by Week:

- Spend time with family members or 1-2 friends to pray with them.
- Take time to show your family and friends that they are special to you.
- Fast either the full 40 days or once a week from something you love.

For All 40 Days:

- Share the answers to your prayers with your mom or dad and Sunday School teachers.
- Ask God how you can give generously.

First, congratulations! You've made it through the whole roadmap for the 40 Days!

A NOTE FOR PARENTS:

The 40 Days of Faith is a GREAT opportunity for your whole family to grow in faith and trust together! Don't neglect this opportunity that is being given to you at this time! You can encourage your kids in their faith every day by helping them to pray, read Scripture, be generous, and fast from things they love.

Word of Encouragement: This is about your kids discovering the love, grace and faithfulness of Jesus in their lives. Please motivate them to participate by sharing with them your own excitement for God to work in your own life over the next 40 days. This is great opportunity for them to see how God answers your prayers too! Children should not be disciplined or put on a guilt trip for not participating, but rather should be lovingly guided through the structure that you establish in your home that makes it easier for them to follow through on their commitment. And remember, *every kid's spiritual journey looks different*, so please resist any temptation to compare their stories to any other kids. We are praying for grace over you as you guide your child on this journey of faith!

Scripture Memorization

Parents and Kids: Here is a list of 6 verses you will be memorizing each Sunday in Vineyard Kids! Please take time out each day to read over your verse for the week and commit it to memory. You will be given a small prize each week for reciting the verse. If you finish the full 40 Days, you will receive a certificate of completion at the end! Don't miss church! \

40 Days Step 1: Pray for One Thing From God- Week 1 Bible Verse Due February 17th

“Ask using my name and you will receive.” John 16:24

Challenge Version: “You haven't done this before. Ask, using my name, and you will receive, and you will have abundant joy.” John 16:24

40 Days Step 2: Pray Every Day with Others - Week 2 Bible Verse Due February 24th

“So let's not get tired of doing what is good.” Galatians 6:9

Challenge Version: “So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up.” Galatians 6:9

40 Days Step 3: Read the Bible - Week 3 Bible Verse Due March 3rd

“Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes.” Ephesians 4:23

Challenge Version: “Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.” Ephesians 4:23-24

40 Days Step 4: Pray Every Day for Your Church - Week 4 Bible Verse Due March 10th

“So that all the members care for each other.” 1Corinthians 12:25

Challenge Version: “This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other.” 1Corinthians 12:25

40 Days Step 5: Fast from something you love to show God that you trust he will take care of all of your needs.- Week 5 Bible Verse Due March 17th

“And when you fast, don't make it obvious.” Matthew 6:16

Challenge Version: “Then no one will notice that you are fasting, except your Father, who knows what you do in private. And your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.” Matthew 6:18

40 Days Step 6: Give Generously from what God has given to you - Week 6 Bible Verse Due March 24th

“For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.” 2 Corinthians 9:7

Challenge Version: “You must each decide in your heart how much to give. And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. “For God loves a person who gives cheerfully.” 2 Corinthians 9:7