

MATTHEW 6:16-18 (NASB)

TRUTH: After 11 months COVID has just gotten old, really old.

INSIGHT: I have no intention of letting "The Hill" do anything less than celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with our whole heart.

I. WHAT IS LENT?

INSIGHT: Lent is a period in spring set aside for fasting in preparation for Easter.

ENCOURAGEMENT: The pastors and I aren't asking you to do a 40-day fast but a 21-day fast, of primarily one meal per day.

LENT FAST: A fast that's all about turning away or depriving yourself of something to draw closer to God.

TRUTH: Repentance is a huge part of the season of Lent.

INSIGHT: Fasting, biblically, is a form of repentance.

II. WHAT IS FASTING?

TRUTH: Fasting is a biblical directive to abstain, usually from food, for spiritual purposes.

FASTING TRUTHS:

- 1. The length is flexible.
- 2. The reason for the fast is what matters...a fast should have a purpose.
- 3. The length should be long enough that our body and will know we are doing it.
- 4. We fast to remind ourselves of something we are turning from.
- 5. The fast reminds us to pray about something.
- 6. The fast reminds us to think about something regarding our walk with God or lack thereof.

7. Fasting is not a law to be obeyed; it is an opportunity for blessing.

Verses to mull over this first week:

- 1. Proverbs 25:27-28 (NIV)
- 2. Romans 12:1 (NIV)
- 3. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV)
- 4. 1 Corinthians 6:13 (Msg)
- 5. 1 Corinthians 10:31 (CEV)