

2025-03-09 Elder David Webster
Sermon - "Study, Pray, Fast"
Sermon Study Notes

<https://www.youtube.com/live/bFQNW7rNEBs>

<https://www.livinghopebranch.org/sermons/2025-03-09-elder-david-webster-study-pray-fast-song-and-worship-service/>

Clickable Time Stamps

[07:00](#) Sunday Praise - Elder Ivan Bird

[11:00](#) Song Service - Jim and Mary Jo Stayton

[30:20](#) Special Music - "Wonderful Merciful Savior"* - Jeff Stilwell

[34:35](#) Welcome and Call to Worship - Elder Pete Peterson

[45:18](#) Introduction of Elder David Webster - Elder Pete Peterson

[49:40](#) Opening Comments and Scripture Reading - Elder David Webster

[53:31](#) Special Music - "Let Us Pray For One Another" - Jeff Stilwell

[58:51](#) Sermon - "Study, Pray, Fast" - Elder David Webster

[01:38:15](#) Prayer of Spiritual Blessing - Elder Jim Stayton

Summary

In this sermon, Elder David Webster expresses gratitude for the opportunity to gather with a large congregation, reflecting on the importance of spiritual devotion and community. Drawing from scripture, specifically Micah 6:6-9, David emphasizes that true sacrifice to God involves justice, mercy, and humility rather than mere offerings. David discusses the necessity of building God's kingdom within ourselves, highlighting the importance of aligning with God's will and recognizing our spiritual nature over physical existence. The message stresses the importance of prayer, fasting, and seeking God's righteousness, while encouraging the audience to reflect on their sacrifices and choices in life. Ultimately, David calls for a commitment to live righteously in preparation for eternal life, emphasizing that our choices reflect our direction toward God or away from Him.

Highlights

1. **Importance of Spiritual Community:** The speaker emphasizes the joy of gathering with a larger congregation, highlighting the sense of unity and shared purpose in worship.
2. **Scriptural Foundations:** Micah 6:6-9 is presented as a guide for understanding true sacrifice, which involves justice, mercy, and humility.

3. **Building the Kingdom Within:** David asserts that the kingdom of God must first be established within each individual before it can manifest externally.
4. **Divine Love and Choices:** God desires a loving relationship with humanity, allowing individuals the freedom to choose their paths while offering guidance and support.
5. **The Power of Prayer:** The message underscores the importance of prayer as a primary means of connecting with God and seeking His guidance.
6. **The Role of Sacrifice:** Sacrifice is framed not just as giving up material possessions but as a commitment to spiritual growth and righteous living.
7. **Preparation for Eternal Life:** The sermon concludes with a call to prepare for eternal life through righteous living, emphasizing the need to align daily actions with God's will.

Key Insights

1. **Spiritual vs. Physical Existence:** The sermon highlights that human beings are spiritual beings first and foremost, and understanding this can transform how we perceive our lives and choices. This perspective encourages individuals to prioritize spiritual growth over material concerns, fostering a deeper connection with God.
2. **True Sacrifice Defined:** David's definition of sacrifice extends beyond the traditional understanding of offerings. It involves a commitment to justice, mercy, and humility, suggesting that authentic worship is characterized by how we treat others and our willingness to act righteously in our daily lives.
3. **Scriptural Wisdom:** The reference to multiple scriptures throughout the sermon serves as a reminder that spiritual guidance is abundant and accessible, encouraging individuals to seek wisdom from scripture as they navigate life's challenges. The insights from Moroni 7 emphasize the importance of discernment in recognizing good from evil.
4. **The Power of Mindset:** David references Dr. Norman Vincent Peale's concept of maintaining a mental picture of the ideal self, relating it to the vision of Zion. This insight emphasizes the importance of visualization and intention in spiritual growth, encouraging individuals to actively cultivate a mindset aligned with God's kingdom.
5. **Choice and Agency:** A recurring theme in the sermon is the significance of personal choice. David stresses that individuals have the agency to choose their paths, emphasizing that our decisions ultimately reflect our commitment to God and His

principles. This idea reinforces the belief that spiritual growth is a conscious effort that requires dedication and intentionality.

6. **Community and Support:** David 's reflections on the prayers of others during times of difficulty underscore the importance of community support in spiritual journeys. This insight calls for fostering a sense of unity and mutual aid within congregations, encouraging members to pray for and uplift one another as they navigate life's trials.
7. **Living Righteously in a Complex World:** The sermon addresses the challenges of living righteously in a world filled with distractions and temptations. By emphasizing the need to prioritize spiritual practices like prayer and fasting, David encourages individuals to cultivate habits that keep them aligned with God's will, even amidst external pressures. This insight serves as a guide for maintaining spiritual focus and integrity in daily life.

In conclusion, David's message serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of spiritual commitment, community support, and the transformative power of choice in building a life aligned with God's kingdom. It challenges individuals to reflect on their sacrifices, prioritize their spiritual growth, and actively work toward embodying the principles of justice, mercy, and humility in their lives. By doing so, they can cultivate a deeper relationship with God and prepare for the eternal life that awaits those who seek Him earnestly.