



# How to use this devotional booklet

John was living as a prisoner on the island of Patmos when God chose to give him a series of visions revealing to him what the end times would look like. We learn a lot from the first eleven verses regarding how John received this information and unlike any other writing in scripture we are given a very profound promise in verse three.

Due to the nature of the information and method God used to relay the information to us, some find the book of Revelation difficult to understand. Hopefully this study will help to change that thinking. Several statements should be made at the outset to aid our understanding of this book.

One: The Holy Spirit was sent to teach us “all things” including the things contained in the book of Revelation.

Two: John was told to “write on a scroll what you see”. The book of Revelation is the inspired and infallible Word of God, but that does not eliminate the possibility that John had difficulty describing some of the things he was seeing!

Three: It is the only book of the bible that contains the specific promise that there is blessing for those who take it to heart, and the reason given is because the end is near.

Four: Revelation does not contain specifics regarding the day of Christ’s return. Matthew chapter twenty four and Second Thessalonians chapter two are better sources for that information. Revelation concerns itself with the events leading up to that day. A good question to keep asking yourself as you read through the book is, “Where is Jesus?”

Scripture commands us to know the signs of the times so that we are not caught unaware. Revelation gives us insight into the events of the end times and the cause of these events. It provides us with a history of God’s relationship to his creation and gives us a renewed boldness to give praise to the one who was and who is and who is to come, our victorious King, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

The four main components of our forty days will be reading, writing, fasting and praying. Each day we will read a passage from the book of Revelation, think through the questions that follow, and then spend some time in prayer. We will take a closer look at each of these disciplines and then we will be ready to go.

## Reading

It may seem unnecessary to give instructions on how to read, but there are several things to keep in mind: One, this is the Word of God so it is literally the words of God. God is speaking to you. Think of the person you are closest to on this planet. Imagine that you are going to be separated from them for a very long time. The only thing you have is a letter they wrote to you telling you how much they love you and what they want you to do while they are away. That is how we should read God’s Word.

## Writing

There will be several questions to answer in writing each day. The goal is not to get done and get them all right. The goal is to meditate on God’s Word and record what He is speaking to you. The questions are intended more for inspiration than perspiration. You are encouraged to write more than just answers. Maybe you will write more questions, or perhaps put down an inspired thought that has nothing to do with the questions. No one will be grading you, this is between you and God.

Some of the questions are personal in nature and therefore have no right or wrong answer. Some do have a right answer; if you want some help you can e-mail Pastor Joe at [jbradshaw@sarasotachristian.org](mailto:jbradshaw@sarasotachristian.org). His answers are not “the inspired words of God” but are a result of study and prayer and may be helpful. Again the goal is not to get the right answer, but rather to explore God’s Word and your relationship with Him.

## Fasting

Please do not panic! No one is asking you to go without food for forty days! What you are being encouraged to do is to give up something or add something to your day that will serve as a reminder that these forty days have been set apart in a special way for God. Matthew 6:16 says:

*“When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show men they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full.”*

The most important part of this verse is the first word, “when”. Fasting is something that believers do, just like praying, and reading the Bible. The other instruction here is to keep it between you and God. It may be a good idea to have an accountability partner who can help keep you on track, but the fact that you are participating in a fast should not be “advertised”.

Possible fasts may include giving up desserts, or TV or video games. It may mean adding one act of kindness toward a family member each day or buying someone lunch. Again the main point is that it causes you to focus on the Lord these next forty days.

## Praying

God’s Word indicates that there are three different venues for prayer. One is to set aside a specific time to pray by yourself. Another is to be in an attitude of prayer at all times. The third is to participate in corporate prayer with others in the body of Christ. While we need to work on all aspects of our prayer life, the focus of this booklet will be the alone time. Each day’s prayer time should include praise to God for who He is, thanks to God for what He does and requests to God, telling Him the desire of our hearts. It would be a good idea to do some writing as well. Keep track of what you have asked for and what God has done.

We all know that it is easy to form a bad habit but what we seem to forget is that it is also easy to form a good habit. Experts say that it only takes thirty days to form a habit. This booklet will take us on a forty day journey with God. It is my prayer that this journey will continue far beyond these forty days!

Day 1

Read Revelation 1:1-11

Stand firm!

## Write...

Whose revelation is John recording?

Where did the revelation originate?

How did John get it?

What is different about the way this book is written?

What unique promise does it contain?

Who will see Christ when he appears?

How does John describe God?

Where was John when he got the message?

**Fast...** Spend some time in prayer asking God what would be a good item for your fast.

## Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 2

Read... Revelation 1:12-20

Stand firm!

Write...

Who does John see? How do you know that?

What does he look like?

What do you think heavenly beings look like?

What is the reaction?

What is John to do?

Why seven churches?

**Fast...** Is your fast something that is a "real" sacrifice?

**Pray...**

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 3

Read... Revelation 2:1-29

Stand firm!

Write...

For each of the four churches addressed in this chapter answer the following questions:

What have they done that is good?

What have they done that is bad?

Who overcomes?

Fast... Is your fast reminding you to spend time with God?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 4

Read... Revelation 3:1-22

Stand firm!

## Write...

For each of the three churches addressed in this chapter answer the following questions:

What have they done that is good?

What have they done that is bad?

Who overcomes?

**Fast...** Has your fast produced any opportunities to glorify God?

## Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 5

Read... Revelation 4:1-11

Stand firm!

## Write...

What does "after this" mean?

Where is the throne?

What do you think John really saw?

What is the purpose of these creatures?

What does verse eight teach us about God's preference in worship music?

How often do the elders bow?

How is God referred to in these verses?

What part of his power is emphasized? Do you find that interesting?

**Fast...** What is the significance of giving something up for God?

## Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...



Day 6

Read... Revelation 5:1-8

Stand firm!

Write...

Why are we looking for someone to open the scroll?

Where is Jesus?

Who sealed it?

What is the elder pointing out to John?

Why is "he" able to open it?

What is he able to open?

How does this compare to his first vision?

When does the focus of worship shift?

What is the incense?

Fast... Why does God instruct us to fast?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 7

Read... Revelation 5:9-14

Stand firm!

Write...

Who is the only one who can open the scroll? Why?

Why can he open it? Where is Jesus? Where was Jesus?

What has he accomplished?

How many angels did God create?

What happens in verse 13?

When does verse 13 take place? (See Philippians 2 and  
2 Thessalonians 2)

Fast... What has been the hardest part so far?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 8

Read... Revelation 6:1-8

Stand firm!

Write...

Describe the first rider, the second, the third, the fourth.

When does the first seal get opened? 2<sup>nd</sup>? 3<sup>rd</sup>? 4<sup>th</sup>?

What exactly does John see? Where is Jesus?

Fast... How important is fasting to the Christian life?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 9

Read... Revelation 6:9-17

Stand firm!

Write...

Where are the souls of those who have been slain?

What do they want to know?

What does God do? What is his answer?

When does the sixth seal get opened?

Where is Jesus?

Who is described in verse 15? Why them?

Fast... How can fasting help you hold out the Word of Life?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 10

Read... Revelation 7:1-8

Stand firm!

Write...

What is the shape of the earth?

What are these four angels doing? Why?

Why must they wait?

Why these 12 names? (Be careful, what about Dan?)

How many are sealed all together? (See Ephesians 1:13)

What is the seal?

Fast... How can fasting help with obedience?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 11

Read... Revelation 7:9-17

Stand firm!

Write...

Who makes up the multitude?

Who are the ones in white?

What bearing does this have on Matthew 24:14?

How did they get there? (See verses 16-17)

What do these verses tell us about what they may have experienced?

Fast... Is fasting getting easier or harder at this point?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 12

Read Revelation 8:1-13

Stand firm!

Write..

What does each angel have? Why?

What was in the golden censer?

When does this take place?

What portion of each item is destroyed? Why?

What is the wrath of God and who suffers by it?

Fast... What have you learned about fasting?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 13

Read Revelation 9:1-11

Stand firm!

Write...

What did John see coming out of the earth?

Who is wearing a mark?

Where did the mark come from? What does it look like? Where can I get one?

What are these things?

Who is in control of them?

Why are they here?

**Fast...** What does the Bible teach about fasting?

(Isaiah 58 and Matthew 6)

**Pray...**

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...



Day 14

Read Revelation 9:12-21

Stand firm!

Write...

What does God mean when he says woe to you?

Where did the voice come from? Can you read about this altar elsewhere?

What takes place at the sounding of the sixth trumpet?

Who or what are these two million?

What are the three plagues?

What portion of mankind is left on the earth after this?

What is the reaction of those left alive?

Are there any believers left at this point?

What sin is mankind involved in at this time?

Fast... How has fasting helped you?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 15

Read Revelation 10:1- 11

Stand firm!

Write...

What is John being asked to do?

Who is this angel?

What is the mystery of God? Has it been accomplished yet?

Why does he need to eat the scroll?

In what ways has John participated in this vision?

What must John do now? Why?

Fast... How does fasting fit into these verses?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 16

Read Revelation 11:1-10

Stand firm!

Write...

What is John asked to measure?

Who will trample on the city?

What is the job of a witness?

Who are these two? What are these two?

Why are they here?

How many people do they kill?

When will they be destroyed?

How will they be destroyed?

Why do men give gifts to each other?

Fast...What are some reasons given in scripture for fasting?

(Joel chapters 1 & 2)

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 17

Read Revelation 11:11-19

Stand firm!

Write...

Why do the witnesses disappear?

Describe their disappearance?

What are the three woes?

Place the following events in chronological order.

Remember that some events may happen simultaneously.

The opening of each of the seven seals. The sounding of each of the seven trumpets. The rapture, and, or the revelation, depending on your view.

Fast... How does fasting help us fight temptation?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 18

Read Revelation 12:1-9

Stand firm!

Write...

What appeared?

What do these signs represent?

Who are we talking about?

Who is the child?

What happens to him?

What about mom?

What battle is taking place?

When does this happen on our time line?

What does Satan do?

Fast... What are the reason for fasting in Isaiah 58:6-7?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 19

Read Revelation 12:10-17

Stand firm!

Write...

When did our salvation come?

How and when was Satan defeated?

What does Satan know?

What does it mean that Satan pursued the woman?

What is verse 16 all about?

What is the significance of the "rest" of her offspring?

**Fast...** How often did the rich young ruler fast? (Luke 18)

**Pray...**

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 20

Read Revelation 13:1-10

Stand firm!

## Write...

What appeared? What did it really look like?

Where did it come from? What did John actually see?

Why did men follow it?

Is this tribulation? For how long?

Who does he have power over?

Who worships the beast?

What does verse ten mean?

What are we to do?

What is everyone else doing?

**Fast...** How had the Pharisees treated fasting? (Luke 5:33 and Luke 18:11-13)

## Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 21

Read Revelation 13:11-18

Stand firm!

Write...

Why does the second one come?

What does he do?

What is the significance of the wound?

Will saints be protected?

Will they be forced to take the mark?

Explain, "this calls for wisdom".

Fast... Now what have you learned about fasting?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...



Day 22

Read Revelation 14:1-12

Stand firm!

Write...

What appeared? What did John hear?

How are they described?

Who are they?

What is coming?

What does the angel have?

What is Babylon?

When will they be punished?

What does the punishment sound like?

Why does this call for endurance?

Fast... How has fasting reduced temptation in your life?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 23

Read Revelation 14:13-20

Stand firm!

Write...

Why would you want to die?

Who is sitting on the cloud?

What does it mean the earth was harvested?

What does this next angel do?

Who are the grapes?

What is the winepress?

Fast... How has fasting helped your prayer life?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 24

Read Revelation 15:1-8

Stand firm!

Write...

How long does it take God to complete his wrath?

Who were victorious over the beast?

What do you notice about the song?

What was opened?

What were the angels given?

What is happening in heaven right now?

Fast... How does fasting make you more like Christ?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 25

Read Revelation 16:1-6

Stand firm!

Write...

Why do the angels go?

What happens when the first one empties it's bowl?

Who is affected?

What is the blood of a dead man like?

What water has not been turned to blood?

What does this mean for the inhabitants of the earth?

Why does God do this to the water?

Why does the angel say that he is just?

Who has shed the blood of the prophets?

Fast... How does fasting help us shine our light?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 26

Read Revelation 16:7-14

Stand firm!

Write...

What does it mean scorched with fire?

What did they do?

What didn't they do?

What does it mean plunged into darkness?

What did men do?

Who are the kings from the east?

What comes out of their mouth?

What is their purpose?

How do they accomplish their purpose?

Fast... Why is there not corporate fasting in the body of Christ today?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 27

Read Revelation 16:15-21

Stand firm!

Write...

What is verse 15 doing here?

Who is using these frogs?

What is about to take place?

What is done?

What city is still standing?

What do men do?

**Fast**...What other practices of the early church are missing from the church today?

**Pray**...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 28

Read Revelation 17:1-8

Stand firm!

Write...

Why the analogy of the prostitute?

How can you be intoxicated with the wine of adulteries?

Why is Babylon the mother of prostitutes?

What is the life story of the beast?

When are the lost, lost?

How elaborate is the devil's scheme?

Fast...What other Christian disciplines have you omitted?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 29

Read Revelation 17:9-18

Stand firm!

Write...

What calls for a mind of wisdom?

What do you learn about God's word in the first phrase of verse 10?

Who is the eighth king?

Who are the ten kings?

What will they do, and when will they do it?

Who fights against them?

Who controls the beast?

What are the waters that the woman sits on?

What is the woman?

Fast...How can fasting help us to be reconciled?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...



Day 30

Read Revelation 18:1-20

Stand firm!

Write...

What kind of wine does she have?

Explain the first line of verse 4.

What is the end of those who do evil?

Who is the woman?

What does this great city really represent?

Why the one hour?

Fast...10 days to go, how has the experience been?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 31

Read Revelation 18:21-24

Stand firm!

Write...

What will be the end result of "Babylon"?

Why does God single out musicians?

What does he single out the "workman"?

For what sins is she being punished?

Fast... How does fasting help keep us from sin?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 32

Read Revelation 19:1-10

Stand firm!

Write...

What does the "sound like a multitude" declare?

How do they feel about the destruction of "Babylon"?

What is the reaction of the elders?

Whose voice do you think came from the throne?

What are the linens?

What is this meal?

What do we know about angels from verse 10?

Fast... How does fasting help us keep commitments?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 33

Read Revelation 19:11-21

Stand firm!

Write...

Who is this rider?

How does he judge?

Who follows him?

What does he do to the nations?

What does it mean he treads the winepress?

What is the significance of the name?

Why are the birds being gathered?

What battle is this?

How is it being fought?

What happens to the beast?

What happens to those who had been deceived?

What comes next?

Fast... How does fasting help us keep our word?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 34

Read Revelation 20:1-6

Stand firm!

Write...

Who overcomes the Devil?

What is the Devil's fate?

Why does he get released for a short time?

Who were on the thrones?

From what time period do these people come?

Who is raised at the first resurrection?

Fast... How can fasting help us go the extra mile?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 35

Read Revelation 20:7-15

Stand firm!

Write...

Who or what are Gog and Magog?

Where are the believers?

Who is in the lake of burning sulfur?

Describe this throne?

How many books are there?

What is recorded in the books?

Where do the dead come from?

What is hell?

What matters most?

Fast... Does fasting help us love?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 36

Read Revelation 21:1-4

Stand firm!

Write...

What happens to the earth?

What came down out of heaven?

How can a city be a bride?

When does the old order of things pass away?

How is this different from the millennium?

What is God's relationship with man like?

Fast...How does fasting help us give?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 37

Read Revelation 21:5-14

Stand firm!

Write...

What is finished?

Who actually makes it in the end?

Who does not make it?

Who is the wife of the Lamb?

How is she described?

What are the names of the gates and the foundations?

Fast... How does fasting help us in prayer?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...



Day 38

Read Revelation 21:15-27

Stand firm!

Write...

How big is this "city"? How many people would it hold?

Why does John say the Gold is as pure as glass?

How did he know the gates were made of one pearl?

Where is this city located?

Why is there no temple?

Who lives outside the city?

Fast...How does fasting help us in our relationships?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 39

Read Revelation 22:1-10

Stand firm!

Write...

Where have we heard about this tree before?

What does the tree do?

Where is the throne of the Lamb?

Who are "they"?

Where are we as far as John's vision is concerned?

Why is verse 7 here?

How long has this vision been going on?

Why are we not to worship angels?

Why is it not to be sealed up?

**Fast...**How does fasting help us "see"?

**Pray...**

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

Day 40

Read Revelation 22:13-21

Stand firm!

Write...

What is the meaning of verse 11? Doesn't God want people to repent?

What does soon mean?

What reward? How do we earn it?

Who is outside the city? What is outside the city?

How do you get through the gate?

How does Christ describe himself?

Who says "come"?

Who Comes? (See John Chapter 6)

What will be taken away in verse 19?

Fast... How does fasting help store up treasures in heaven?

Pray...

God I praise you that you are...

God I thank you for...

God it is the desire of my heart that you...

# Congratulations!

If you completed this devotional guide by doing one page each day for the last forty days, there is a good chance that you have formed a habit of spending time each day with God reading, writing, and praying. It is my hope that this practice will continue throughout life!

For far too many Christians, fasting is a new concept. Our hope is that it was a good experience and a discipline that will become a regular part of your walk with Christ. Remember that there are many different ways to fast; twenty four hours without food, or skipping lunch every Tuesday. The important thing is that it is something that is a genuine sacrifice and causes you to focus on Christ.

Much of what we read in God's holy Word is about who Jesus is and how we should conduct ourselves as believers. The book of Revelation reveals to us the results! The title of the camp that this book was written for was "Last Man (or Woman) Standing". The book of Revelation makes it clear that God calls us to stand firm to the end. We need to, by the power of the Holy Spirit, be "overcomers"!

We have much to overcome in this life, our own selfish desires, the sinfulness of the world around us, and the evil one himself. One important aspect of being an overcomer is remaining in close communion with the one who has already overcome. The disciplines practiced in this book are not the only components to living lives that are full of and controlled by the Holy Spirit, but they are important practices.

May the Lord bless you as you continue to live in him, being aware of the signs of the times and making the most of every opportunity because soon night will come and we want to be found ready!