

DAY 14

WEDNESDAY,
FEBRUARY 14
2024

"His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire." 2 Peter 1:3-4

N NEW BIRTH

PRAY THAT MANY PEOPLE WOULD BE
BORN AGAIN IN THE COMING SEASON.

TODAY'S DEVOTIONAL:

Today is Ash Wednesday, which begins a 40-day fast called Lent. When Christians fast, we consciously abstain from certain things. But there's a flip side to fasting, and it's worth reflecting on.

2 Peter 1 tells us that God has "called us to His own glory and excellence" (3). We are not merely invited to bear witness to His glory and excellence; we are invited to live up into His glory and excellence, to become "partakers of the divine nature" (4). As participants in the divine life of God, we are called to "make every effort" to cultivate divine qualities — virtue, knowledge, self-control, steadfastness, godliness, brotherly affection, and love (5-7).

This is the flip side to fasting. We don't just give things up; we also put things on. We forego good things to make room for great things, such as glory and excellence and full participation in the shared life of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In short, we fast because we refuse to settle for less than God's grace could make us.

TODAY'S PRAYER:

O Lord our God, grant us grace to desire you with our whole heart: that desiring you, we may seek you; and that seeking you, we may find you; and that finding you, we may love you; and that loving you, we may hate those sins from which you have delivered us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



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