

proVISION 

**12 Days of  
Prayer & Fasting  
for the Vineyard**

**14-25 Feb 2024**



## INVITATION TO JOIN TOGETHER

Friends, we sense God's invitation to draw near as a Vineyard people across our Great South Land.

We invite you to join us in setting aside 12 days in February to pray for the Vineyard. Fast whenever you can. Use this guide to help you on the journey.

We'll begin on 14 February, Ash Wednesday - the start of Lent, and go through to Sunday 25th - the end of our national **Prayer Retreat at QCCC Brookfield in Brisbane.**

Each day we'll pray specifically for churches and leaders across our land, as well as seeking God's kingdom will for us as a national church movement.

Our Prayer Retreat theme this year is proVISION. We believe our Heavenly Father wants to:

- + open eyes to reveal vision
- + open hearts with compassion
- + open hands to receive provision.

You are welcome to sign up for the **Prayer Retreat 23-25 February here at [www.vineyard.org.au/events](http://www.vineyard.org.au/events).**

## EVERYBODY GETS TO PRAY...

While we'd love you all to join us in Brisbane for the Prayer Retreat, our hope is that each and every person can both pray and be prayed for!

Give yourselves as much as you are able to praying and fasting. There is incredible power in praying together like this! Think of the Upper Room!


We've included some thoughts below on fasting and Ash Wednesday (Lent). Maybe these things are new for you? Experiment and have fun, knowing our Father invites us to boldly approach His throne like little children.

With love and expectancy of generous Holy Spirit encounters,

*Jonathan & Helen Gould  
Prayer Coordinators  
Vineyard Churches Australia*







“Whether we like it or not, asking is the rule of the Kingdom.”

*C. H. Spurgeon*

“To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing.”

*Martin Luther*

“There is no bad way to pray and there is no one starting point for prayer. All the great spiritual masters offer only one non-negotiable rule: You have to show up for prayer and you have to show up regularly.”

*Ronald Rolheiser,  
Prayer: Our Deepest Longing*



## LOVE BE MULTIPLIED VISION

“We believe that God has placed a vision in our hearts by the Holy Spirit to see the Vineyard family of churches, together lean into a kingdom adventure, well beyond our capacity and yet within the reach of God’s generosity and authority, empowered by the Holy Spirit. Seeing many people come into a saving relationship with Jesus as Lord. Seeing groups of Jesus People multiply and see local churches and the Vineyard family of churches multiply here and beyond our shores.”

*Kirk & Nichole Delaney  
National Directors  
Vineyard Churches Australia*

## ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a 40-day period of reflection and preparation leading up to Easter. On Ash Wednesday, in some traditions believers receive ashes on their foreheads in the shape of a cross, symbolising repentance and mortality. During Lent, many Christians practice fasting, prayer, and generosity as a way to draw closer to God and reflect on Jesus' sacrifice.

It's a time for spiritual renewal and self-discipline, culminating in the celebration of Easter and the resurrection of Jesus.

### HOW SHOULD I FAST?

The spiritual discipline of fasting is about depending on God as our true source of life and sustenance.

When Jesus was on the 40th day of his fast, Satan tried to tempt Jesus to turn stones into bread.

Matt. 4:4 Jesus answered, *"It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"*

As well as fasting food, we can choose to give up something that may be a distraction from fixing our eyes on Jesus during this time, e.g. TV/Netflix, social media, video games, bad habits, negative thought patterns, etc.

With rising living costs, cut back on things you don't need. Prioritise your schedule to put God first in everything. It will not only help your budget, but will create space for you to spend time with the giver and source of all good gifts.

Fasting is not only about removing temporal things from our life but also adding good spiritual practices. Try being extra-generous and hospitable.



**SET YOURSELF APART**

*Restore to me the joy of your salvation and grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.*

**Psalm 51:12 NIV**

1. Father, grant me the strength to embrace the discipline of fasting, allowing me to become more aware of your presence and hear your voice. As I focus on you and your word, transform me into your likeness throughout this season of prayer.
2. May my prayers this Ash Wednesday, be centred on humility & confession, asking you to reveal my shortcomings and those things that get in the way of a deeper connection with you.
3. Guide me in reflecting on the significance of the 'ashes', a reminder that you alone number my days, calling me to turn away from sin, and embrace the life of the 'age to come'.
4. Inspire me to engage in acts of generosity, hospitality and compassion, extending kindness and support to those in need during this season.
5. Open my heart to a greater understanding of your kingdom will, leading me to discern and follow the path you have set before me as I embark on this journey.

**PRAY FOR YOUR CHURCH**

*I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.*

**Ephesians 3:17-18 NIV**

1. Father God, cultivate the sense of community and connection in our church. Bless our church family and make us one as you are one. [Bless every person you know by name.]
2. Guide our leaders in making decisions and give them wisdom, strength and courage to follow you King Jesus.
3. Come Holy Spirit and fill us with a passion for worship, draw us closer to you and give us extra-ordinary joy.
4. Protect our church from any divisive influences and empower us to be a source of hope and light in our local community. Help us stay focused on our mission and being relevant to the needs of our community.
5. Bless our Vineyard church with all the resources needed for impactful ministry. Let each of us hear your call and offer our gifts, our time and money to serve you and bear much fruit.

**proVISION PRAYER RETREAT**

*Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace.*

**Matthew 11:29 MSG**

1. Father, bless and protect the Gould household as they prepare to host the Prayer Retreat. Give them all they need this year for their family, church and wider ministry.
2. Watch over everyone who is participating the Prayer Retreat. Let every person you'd like to be there, hear you clearly. Bless their plans.
3. Father, bless everyone who has committed themselves to pray and fast through this season. Change them Jesus.
4. Jireh, I ask for breakthrough provision in our churches: jobs, health, finance, etc. Where people are stuck, I ask for hope and renewed faith. Make a way Lord where there's been no way.
5. Jesus, give us compassion for the lost and the marginalised. Move our inner beings to cry out for mercy and justice. Thank you for laying your life down as the slain lamb. Open eyes to see your amazing grace and love.

**VINEYARD BOARD & COLLEGE**

*Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful.*

**Colossians 4:2 NIV**

1. Heavenly Father, bless and protect our National Directors, Kirk and Nichole Delaney. Give them and the VCA Board all they need this year for their family, church and wider ministry.
2. Bless Di Hocking, Stephen Thompson & the Goulds, together with the Delaneys as they seek to follow you Jesus. Grant them wisdom and favour as they serve your church.
3. Holy Spirit, empower the Board to discern and embrace your kingdom will. Make them effective in supporting our movement to multiply your love.
4. Let your kingdom come in our midst as we gather together as a Vineyard for national events. Thank you for every speaker you have prepared to equip us. Bless our worship and service teams.
5. Lord, bless Vineyard College: Peter Downes; our team; and students.
6. Father God, bless Vineyard Board & College with abundant resources and all the support needed to effectively carry out their ministries, allowing our Vineyard Family to thrive and fulfil its mission.

**NEW SOUTH WALES**

Please pray for: Raising Leaders in all areas of ministry | Reaching our community with the love of Jesus | Financial provision | Wisdom for the year ahead | Experiencing the enriching and empowering of the Holy Spirit | plus any specific requests below.

**Cabramatta Vineyard**

Alysha & Glen Davidson

- Meeting new people in our area
- Trial rotation of different Sunday gatherings (homes, venue, park, etc)
- Seeking guidance on outreach to a new local housing development

**Centrepont Vineyard**

Jonathan Ives & Tanya Deane-Ives

**Northridge Vineyard**

Rob & Bonnie Giles

- Continuation of God's presence, love and power to be experienced
- Young adults to flourish in this next year and for more to come to faith
- God's kingdom to break out in our services & into the local community

**Southern Cross Vineyard**

John & Paula Watson

**Viva Vineyard**

Andrew & Sarah Starr

**QUEENSLAND**

Please pray for: Raising Leaders in all areas of ministry | Reaching our community with the love of Jesus | Financial provision | Wisdom for the year ahead | Experiencing the enriching and empowering of the Holy Spirit | plus any specific requests below.

**Pine Rivers Vineyard**

Kirk & Nichole Delaney

- Increased boldness (Acts 4:29-30) for all our people to share Jesus.
- Holy Spirit empowering to boldly 'pray for the sick' (church&beyond)
- Financial breakthrough for more key pastoral staff and ministry

**Tablelands Vineyard**

Louka & Narelle Lazaredes

**Toowoomba Vineyard**

Chris & Jen Gresham-Britt

- Small group ministry
- Continued, sustained growth in 2024
- Right opportunities to serve our community in mission

**Vineyard Brisbane West**

Jonathan & Helen Gould

- Raise up youth leaders
- Continued financial provision
- Empowering presence of God for reaching new believers

**Cairns Church Planting Initiatives**

2 new initiatives starting in 2024



**VICTORIA**

Please pray for: Raising Leaders in all areas of ministry | Reaching our community with the love of Jesus | Financial provision | Wisdom for the year ahead | Experiencing the enriching and empowering of the Holy Spirit | plus any specific requests below.

**Geelong Vineyard**

Sam & Ruth Buscombe

**High Country Vineyard**

Mark & Jay Buscombe

**Westgate Vineyard**

Aaron & Julia Mills

- Fresh vision and wisdom for 2024
- Opportunities to reach 50 parents & children who attend our playgroup
- Church family empowered into greater “connection” with one another, “participation” in the Kingdom, & in extending “invitation” to others to meet Jesus

**Yarra Valley Vineyard**

Di Hocking

- For fresh encounters through the Holy Spirit
- For God to send in the workers for the harvest
- For people to turn to Jesus

**SA + TASMANIA + WA**

Please pray for: Raising Leaders in all areas of ministry | Reaching our community with the love of Jesus | Financial provision | Wisdom for the year ahead | Experiencing the enriching and empowering of the Holy Spirit | plus any specific requests below.

**Bordertown Vineyard**

Grant & Wendy Wiese

**Marion Vineyard**

Toh & Maria Ng

**Wynyard Vineyard**

Glenn & Rosalie Brown

**Bunbury Vineyard**

Tim & Judy Wheeldon

- Identifying, raising up and or attracting leaders
- Leadership transition

**Wagin Vineyard**

Ian & Wendy McDougall

**CHURCH PLANTING / MISSION**

**proVISION: OPEN EYES**

*Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now.*

**Philippians 1:4-5 NLT**

1. Father God, bless the newly planted churches in the Vineyard, nurturing them into vibrant communities that reflect your love, grace, and transformative power.
2. Guide and empower those who are considering church planting in the Vineyard, leading them to communities where your love and grace can be shared in fresh and impactful ways.
3. Holy Spirit, ignite a passion for evangelism within our churches, equipping us to demonstrate and share your gospel with power. Raise up evangelist equippers & church planters.
4. Father, surround our church planting initiatives with a supportive network of prayer warriors, financial supporters and partners, creating a strong foundation for sustained growth and impact.
5. Bless John Watson as he represents us in the global missions sphere. Stir our hearts to multiply beyond our shores.

*The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness.*

**Matthew 6:22-23 NIV**

1. Come Holy Spirit. Open our eyes. Open our hearts. Open our hands. Father, give me generous eyes to see a vision of you (Jn 5:19). Show me what you are doing and the good works you've prepared for me in advance.
2. Show me people and things I'm looking at with stingy eyes. Help me to turn towards them with generosity. Thank you for your forgiveness.
3. Open my eyes and reveal yourself as JIREH - the one who GAVE everything so we could be with you NOW and forever! Always enough! Forever enough!
4. Watch over everyone travelling to the Prayer Retreat and all the practicalities involved. Bless Jonathan and Helen, Kirk and Nic, and the team as they prepare today.
5. Show up in power and intimacy in the worship, prayer and sharing. Bless all participating and everyone praying. Change us Lord to be more like you!



**proVISION: OPEN HEARTS**

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

**John 3:16 NIV**

1. Enlarge our hearts with compassion for the least and the lost. More Lord! Multiply your love through us.
2. Let us receive your compassion Jesus like in Mark 6:34 where you saw the crowds and “they were like sheep without a shepherd.” Even though you were searching for a quiet place, you stopped to serve them.
3. Thank you Jesus that a packed lunch in your hands is enough to feed a multitude. Let me give what I’ve got in expectation and faith that you will multiply it, even if it doesn’t seem enough.
4. Holy Spirit, release and rekindle your gifts across your church. Give us a hunger and thirst for righteousness. Let your fire fall afresh on us.
5. Father, I pray for rest and restoration for all those at the Prayer Retreat. Empower us all for the year ahead and speak to us a fresh word of encouragement and direction.

**proVISION: OPEN HANDS**

*You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.*

**2 Corinthians 9:11 NIV**

1. Thank you Lord that you promise that when I seek the kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, you will give me everything I need (Mt 6:33). Show me how to do that.
2. Enrich us in every way to partner with you in bringing your kingdom, sowing generously what you’ve trusted into our hands.
3. Show me if there is anything in my hands that I need to let go of, so I can pick up what you have for me today.
4. In the current environment of scarcity and people pulling back on finance, help me and all your people release your GENEROSITY as a witness to who you are as JIREH - the one who GAVE everything so we could be with you NOW and forever! Always enough! Forever enough!
5. Watch over everyone travelling back home from the Prayer Retreat. Release the blessings they are carrying into our churches.



We invite you to close our season of praying & fasting together  
by sharing holy communion.

Father, we thank you for the precious blood of the Lamb,  
the One who takes away the sin of the world.

What an amazing provision so that we can be with you forever!  
Bless this bread and wine to our bodies, symbols of your sacrificial love.

You are so so good and you've given everything for us.  
Let us ask with confidence for all that we need to see your kingdom come.



Please email [prayer@vineyard.org.au](mailto:prayer@vineyard.org.au) with short personal testimonies of God's extraordinary provision in your life (prior to the Prayer Retreat). Also, please email any prophetic words / pictures you received during this season of prayer and fasting.