21 Day Prayer Focus

"Grumble Fast - Gratitude Feast" by Ruth Webb

1. Gratitude is a Password

Psalm 100 ² "Worship Yahweh with gladness. Sing your way into his presence ³ ...we have the privilege of worshiping Yahweh our God." (TPT) ⁴ "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, *And* into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His name." (NKJV OR TPT) ⁴ "You can pass through his open gates with the password of praise..."

Isa 60:18 "you shall call your walls Salvation, And your gates Praise".

Gratitude as a seed grows into a tree of praise.

Gratitude-Praise is a firewall.

Gratitude guards the gate of our hearts.

Praise guards the gate into the Presence of God.

Praise is the language and the atmosphere of heaven.

Gratitude—Praise is like a pin number or password to get entry to your bank account or computer. Log into your heavenly account today! Speak heavens language, produce heavens atmosphere—Praise Him!

[P 25-28, 35 - 39 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb for more detail]

2. Grumbling Limits God

Leaving Egypt, Israel's wanderings were accompanied by grumbling. Psalm 78: ⁴⁰ "How many times they rebelled in their desert days! How they grieved Him with their grumblings. ⁴¹ ...they limited God, preventing him from blessing them. Continually they... provoked [grieved] the Holy One of Israel! ⁴² They forgot his great love" (TPT)

Their grumbles:

- Partnered and co-laboured with their rebellion
- Grieved the Holy One of Israel
- Dishonored Yaweh
- Limited God—so His blessings were restricted!

Paul warns us: "All the tests they endured on their way through the wilderness are a symbolic picture, an example that provides us with a warning so that we can learn through what they experienced. For we live in a time when the purpose of all the ages past is now completing its goal within us. ¹² So beware if you think it could never happen to you, lest your pride becomes your downfall." (1 Corinthians 10:11-12 TPT)

[P 29 - 33 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb for more detail]

3. Sacrifice of Praise

"I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving, ¹⁸ I will pay my vows to the LORD ¹⁹ In the courts of the LORD's house (Psalm 116:17-19 NKJV) "Surrender yourselves to God to **be** his sacred, living sacrifice... for this becomes your genuine expression of worship." (Romans 12:1 TPT)

We often think the 'sacrifice of praise' means to give thanks even when life is tough. This is good and true.

However, Biblically, the 'sacrifice of thanksgiving' was part of the sacrificial system in the tabernacle and temple. Sacrifices were offered in the morning and evening. There were five different sacrifices.

Our sacrifices today: "So we no longer offer up a steady stream of blood sacrifices, but through Jesus, we will offer up to God a steady stream of praise sacrifices—these are "the lambs" we offer from our lips that celebrate his name!" (Hebrews 13:15 TPT)

[P 41 - 46 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

4. Rescue from Enemies like Jezebel & the Role of Psalmists

"He rescues me from my enemies...this is why I thank God with highest praises." (Psalm 18;48-49 TPT)

"You shall surround me with songs of deliverance." (Psalm 32:7 NKJV)
"You rescued [Israel] from bondage. ¹² Seeing this, the people believed your words, and they all broke out with songs of praise! ¹³ Yet how quickly they forgot your miracles of power. (Psalm 106;10-13 TPT)

Israel fell into grumbling when they forgot the miracles of God. How could you forget the Red Sea parting? There is a 'spirit of forgetting" called Ziz, and is behind Jezebel, who seduces God's people into Baal worship by 'forgetting God'. In the book I share a powerful dream of praises of God's people vaporizing ISIS as they threatened God's people.

King David appointed Prophet Psalmists whose fulltime job description was to 'record, give thanks and praise'. (1 Chronicles 16:4) The Hebrew word for 'record' is zakar and means to mark, make mention and **remember**.

Gratitude and praise, declaring His Word, celebrating the feasts of the Lord, communion: are all vital ways to remember the goodness and miracles of God. When we remember Him, we do not stray into idolatry! Gratitude and praise is provides both deliverance and victory. If David appointed Psalmists to minister before the Ark, we should never underestimate this important role to assist the Church.

[P 47 - 64 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb for more detail]

5. Our Creator is Good and Formidable

'Adonay Yahweh, you made heaven and earth by your great strength and powerful arm. Nothing is too hard for you. (Jeremiah 32:17 NOG)

"Oh, that *men* would give thanks to the LORD *for* His goodness" (Psalm 107:8 NKJV) "The Lord God Most High is awesome beyond words! He's the formidable and powerful King over all the earth.³ He's the one who conquered the nations... (Psalm 47:2 TPT)

Creation of the universe and humanity—is the most amazing miracle. With increased technology, we continue to learn more, and be in awe. God is good, He is formidable, full of glory, and has made us 'fearfully and wonderfully'—in His image! These facts boosts faith—nothing is beyond the Creator!

Despite God's formidable power, yet since the Garden of Eden, the devil has sought to convince the sons of Adam that God is not good and His Word not trustworthy. As the end-times roll on, the devil's bombardments increase: to tire the saints, and get us into doubt, unbelief, and fear. Let us give thanks to the one who is awesome.

[P 64-67, 75-79, 91-94 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

6. Outwit Leviathan & Dragon

God covenanted with King David, the sweet Psalmist of Israel: "*no* enemy would outwit him". Praise was a key.

(Psalm 50:14-15)"Bring me your true and sincere thanks, and show your gratitude by keeping your promises to me, the Most High. ¹⁵ Honor me by trusting in me in your day of trouble."

Leviathan is the king of pride and wants to get us to dishonour God, ourselves and each other—especially in our day of trouble.

Leviathan is both a sea creature and a metaphor for a crocodile and the dragon—the accuser of the brethren. A saltwater crocodile is $2/3^{rd}$ mouth, and represents—complaining, grumbling, gossip, accusation! The best way to outwit this enemy is to stay out of its habitat!

Levi and Leviathan have the same root word. The tribe of Levi remained faithful during the Golden Calf debacle. Consequently, they were appointed to be stewards of the holy things, and David appointed them as psalmists to lead worship. There is a 'war' between Levitical worshippers and Leviathan. Faithful true worship is key to overcoming the dragon's accusations, false prophets and revenge.

(p 69 - 74 of "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb more detail)

7. End-time Survival

"In the final days the culture of society will become extremely fierce and difficult for the people of God. ² They will be *ungrateful* and ungodly... will become *addicted* to hateful and malicious *slander*. (2 Tim 3:1-2 TPT)

 14 Do everything without grumbling or arguing, 15 ... be blameless and innocent, children of God in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation ... shine as lights in the world" (Phil 2:14-15 TLV)

Paul warned; grumbling would be a signpost of the end-times!

End-time issues will test our resolve to give thanks. Developing a lifestyle of gratitude is necessary to remain faithful to the Lord. Demonic strongholds are entrenched and empowered by grumbling. As darkness increases, grumbling will also increase.

Thanksgiving and worship in the glory realms will be necessary for overcoming victory. A distinguishing difference in the end-times is light and dark. Those bound by darkness will grumble, and those in the light will praise the Lord. Secure the habit of praise.

[P 95 - 98 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

8 He Never Changes — His Love

'For I am the Lord, I do not change...' (Malachi 3:6)

'Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.' (Hebrews 13:8)

"...there is nothing in the universe with the power to separate us from God's love...His love will triumph over death, life's troubles, fallen angels, or dark rulers in the heavens. There is nothing in our present or future circumstances that can weaken his love. ³⁹ There is no power above us or beneath us—no power that could ever be found in the universe that can distance us from God's passionate love, (Romans 8:35-39 TPT)

What a reassuring anchor!

Are you having a good day or bad day? Our happenings do not sway the Lord's character. He remains holy, good, just, merciful and powerful.

Regardless of the era or country we live in, the government we have, or personal circumstance—He is dependable, unchangeable and unflappable! He is consistent between the Old Testament and New Testament. And no matter how the enemy tries to convince us otherwise—He is always reliable and trustworthy. And *nothing* can separate us from His great love.

[P 99- 103, 133 - 135 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

9 Accepted – Father loves you the same as Jesus! [16 & 17]

'And He chose us to be His very own, joining us to himself even before he laid the foundation of the universe! Because of His great love, He ordained us, so that we would be seen as holy in his eyes with an unstained innocence. For it was always in His perfect plan to adopt us as his delightful children,—for the same love He has for his Beloved One, Jesus, He has for us." (Eph 1:4-6 TPT)

'they will see that **You [Father] love each one** of them **with the same passionate love that you have for Me**.' (John 17:23 TPT)

Rejection is one of the most painful and debilitating emotions humans ever experience. We need to feed on these Scriptures, take them into our innermost being. Feed on His astonishing love. Listen to Holy Spirit speak these words into the depth of your being, especially those places where you have been devastated by rejection.

[P 105 - 114 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

10 Shalom

'Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and *the peace of God*...will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.' (Philip 4:6,7)

'With perfect peace [shalom, shalom] You will protect those whose minds cannot be changed, because thy trust You.' (Isaiah 26:3 GW)

'And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.' (Isaiah 9:6 NKJV)

The current world environment is war, spiritual and otherwise. Fear and confusion contend for our minds. Thanksgiving is trust in action; helps us keep on the helmet of salvation, and our hearts in peace! Shalom is a beautiful Hebrew word—and a powerful weapon against the enemy.

The 'peace offering' in the Tabernacle and Temple, was also known as the 'sacrifice of thanksgiving'. These offerings were given as acts of worship. Peace and thanksgiving are eternally linked in God's kingdom. Grumbling quickly destroys peace.

Thanksgiving and gratitude do not deny the trials of life—rather, we bring them to the Lord with thanksgiving—inviting Jesus, the prince of peace into the space. Then **shalom rules** rather than fear.

[P 119 - 122 Also Day 4, 'Sacrifice of Praise': "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

11 The Blood of Jesus is Enough: He Bore our Grief & Sorrow

'Then I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, 'Now salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ have come, for the accuser of our brethren, who accused them before our God day and night, has been cast down. And they overcame him [the accuser] *by the blood of the Lamb* and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.' (Revelation 12:10-11 NKJV)

'To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.' (Revelation 1:5, 6 NKJV)

There is power in the blood of Yeshua! His blood is the all-sufficient sacrifice to:

- Redeem us
- Forgive and cleanse our sin
- Makes us holy—and enabled to enter the Holy of holies!
- · Heal body, soul and spirit
- Destroy all the power of the enemy!

No wonder the songs of heaven are to the "Worthy Lamb of God". The power of His blood is enough to make you praise all day—and through all eternity!

Now read and give thanks: Colossians 2:14-15 Ephesians 2:13-15 Isaiah 53 [P 123 - 126, 153-156 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

12 Bitter or Better?

'Today I offer you life and prosperity or death and destruction. Choose life so that you and your descendants will live.' (Deuteronomy 30:15, 19)

'See to it that no bitter root springs up and causes trouble, and by it many be defiled.' (Hebrews 12:15)

Life frequently throws us some curve balls. When it does; how do we respond? Do we grumble or praise? Our choice affects whether we get bitter or better! Bitterness is like an infectious disease – even worse than the virus.

There is only one letter different between b<u>i</u>tter & b<u>e</u>tter. If we are bitter, the 'i' represents our self-focus—and leads to self-pity and dis-ease. The 'i' is transformed into an 'e' when we shift our focus to <u>E</u>lohiym and on <u>e</u>ternity. 'If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above...' (Colossians 3:1-3)

The bitter waters of Mara became sweet when the prophetic tree was thrown in. Put the cross of Jesus into your bitter waters today, and praise Him.

 $[P\ 127-131\ "Grumble\ Fast"\ by\ Ruth\ Webb]$

13 Nothing Can Separate from His Love

'Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ...For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nothing present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.' (Romans 8:35,38-39 NKJV)

Nothing, absolutely nothing can separate you from the love of God. While in the despair of Ravensbruck concentration camp, Corrie Ten Boom said, 'There is no pit so deep, that God's love is not deeper still.'

It is hard to imagine a pit deeper than the Holocaust and being in one of the concentration camps! Corrie must have had an extraordinary, supernaturally overwhelming, revelation and encounter with Father's amazing love. She also gave thanks for the fleas in their bunks, because the guards wouldn't come near, so she could conduct Bible studies!

Did thanksgiving open the door for her miraculous release?

[P 133-135 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

14 His Word-Eternal and Sets Free

'Forever, O Lord, Your word is settled in heaven.' (Psalm 119:89 NKJV)

This Scripture is reassuring. God's Word is strong, durable and reliable. His Word is a solid anchor, providing us comfort, assurance, and security. Now more than ever, secure this truth into your heart: God is faithful to His Word!

In the beginning was the Word—Jesus, the living Word. By Him, through Him and for Him were all things created. 'the universe was created …by the power of God's words! (Hebrews 11:3 TPT) His Word continues to *sustain* creation! "He holds the universe together and expands it by the mighty power of his spoken word." (Hebrews 1:3 TPT)

His Word is powerful, creative, eternally settled and positioned. His Word is absolute truth, and sets free. Jesus **is** truth! 'The truth will set you free.' (John 8:32) 'Jesus said... 'I am the way, the truth, and the life.' (John 14:6)

In a day where discernment is needed 'hourly', Jesus, the living Word, is our only safe plumb line. Take His Word and drop the plumb line over today's situations: is it truth or lies?

 $[P\ 137\text{-}144\ "Grumble Fast"\ by\ Ruth\ Webb]$

15 Under His Wings: Joy is Strength in Times of Loss

'Therefore with joy you will draw water From the wells of salvation. (Isaiah 12:3) 'Do not sorrow, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.' (Neh 8:10)

'He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, 'He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust.' Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler And from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; His truth shall be your shield and buckler. You shall not be afraid of the terror by night, Nor of the arrow that flies by day, Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness, Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.' (Psalm 91:1-6)

Joy is not only a fruit of the Spirit; joy is also a specific anointing to strengthen us in times of loss and mourning. The Spirit of God gives the 'oil of joy for mourning'. (Isa 61:3)

Loss, grief and sorrow are a painful part of life. Yet we can mourn in a godly or ungodly way. Without the Lord's oil of joy to sustain us and help us through, demonic spirits will impose unhealthy mourning and grief to weakens us.

Joy comes as we gaze upon Yeshua and snuggle in under His wings.

[P 145 - 148, 157 - 159 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

16 Greater is He Within Me

'You... have overcome [spirits of antichrist], because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.' (1 John J'-4 NKJV)

Then David said to the Philistine, "You come to me with a sword, with a spear, and with a javelin. But I come to you in the name of the Lord of hosts, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hand, and I will strike you and take your head from you... that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel." (1 Samuel:45~4 NKJV)

When David, the young worshipper, saw Goliath—he saw the situation in the spirit realm. He was not afraid. He had a revelation of the 'Lord of Hosts'. As we contend for nations, we need a fresh revelation of the Lord of Hosts. The title 'Lord of Hosts' is used 282 times in Scripture while other well known titles—are only used a few times.

Biblical giants are not just metaphors. Goliath and his relatives were offspring of Nephilim. "As in the days of Noah' includes, among other things, the resurgence of giants. As we face today's giants, we need a fresh revelation of the Lord of Hosts! It was David the worshipper who understood 'greater is He" and appropriated it victoriously.

[P 162 - 170 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

17 All things work together for Good

'And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.' (Romans 8:28)

17 But I will give my thanks to you, Yahweh, for you make everything right in the end. I will sing my highest praise to the God of the Highest Place! (Psalm 7:17 TPT)

Thanksgiving and praise are based on our trust in, and our surrender to Him. He has the ability to turn a disaster into a miracle. Expressions of gratitude are an act of faith. They are not based on what we currently see or feel. Rather, praise is based on who He is and our love for Him. Our trust is in His ability to see a much bigger picture than we can. He has our best interests at heart.

Even if things look sad and bad, we can trust Him to give us grace to walk through it, and even to "turn our mourning into dancing". Some circumstances of life are perplexing and we will only understand them in eternity. Even if the situation itself doesn't change, our attitude to it will. Sometimes, that is all that needs to change.

[P 171 - 174 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

18 Seven Spirits of Fire

'the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things' (John 14:18-26)

"...a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the **seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth**." (Rev 5:6 NKJV)

The Holy Spirit was sent to help us through life—that includes helping us stop grumbling! The ministry of the Holy Spirit is powerful and necessary to sanctify us, teach us and help us praise. Meditate on the seven Spirits, or characteristics, of the Lord (Isaiah11:2)

The Church was birthed at Pentecost with a sound from heaven. The sound was the wind of the Spirit descending as tongues of fire.

Sound and praise are always together. The supernatural download of different languages enabled the disciples to praise God in a unique way. Their praise went beyond their own abilities: they supernaturally praised God for His miracles! (Acts 2:11)

When praying and singing in tongues, Paul concludes: 'You indeed give thanks well.' (1 Corinthians 14:17 NKJV) It is a gift from God, enabling us to offer pure and beautiful praise. It is the language of heaven. When we sing in tongues our praise originates in heaven, flows through our spirit man and back to the Lord. Thus, singing in tongues releases the purest and rapturous praise—empowering us to overcome grumbling!

[P 179 - 184 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

19 Wisdom is Your Bodyguard

'Wisdom is a gift from a generous God... For the Lord has a hidden storehouse of wisdom made accessible to his godly lovers. He becomes your personal bodyguard as you follow his ways, protecting and guarding you as you choose what is right. Then you will discover all that is just, proper, and fair, and be empowered to make the right decisions as you walk into your destiny.' (Proverbs 2:6-g TPT)

Meditate on this Scripture and give thanks. Amongst the Lord's bountiful gifts, is wisdom—and He has a storehouse full, ready to give His lovers and worshippers. God's wisdom is more valuable than gold!

Creation and Redemption are both wrapped in wisdom. Wisdom was the master craftsman at Creation (Proverbs 8:22- 30). Paul's first letter to the Corinthian church has sixteen references to wisdom—all about salvation!

In our world, we are faced with many difficult choices. Wrong choices ruin lives; create havoc, heartache and regrets. Wisdom is like a personal bodyguard, protecting us from making foolish decisions. Wise choices enable us to walk into our God-given destiny.

How do we get wisdom? Worship. "The starting point for acquiring wisdom is to be consumed with awe as you worship Jehovah-God.' (Proverbs 9:10 TPT) Often translated the 'fear of the Lord', this phrase means we are in awe of God. Bowing in awe, is one of the definitions of the words for worship. It is on this journey of gratitude, discovering who He is, bowing and worship; we acquire wisdom.

[P 189 - 192 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]

20 Gratitude for people in your life: Gifts & Pearls

'Always give thanks to Father God for every person He brings into your life in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.' (Ephesians 5:20 TPT)

If our modus operandi is gratitude, we see the best in people. We see and appreciate their strengths and gifts. The atmosphere is sweet and healthy. On the other hand, grumbling mode contaminates the lens of how we see people. Grumbles grow, infect the atmosphere, and create a toxic environment. Faults and weaknesses seem to become more irritating.

Consider **all** the people in your life. Can you give thanks for each one? Do you see each of them as created in the image of God, and a person Jesus died for?

Give thanks for each person who is a sweet blessing—for they are a gift from the Lord.

Now think of, and give thanks for the folks who seem to have a special sandpaper ministry! They are akin to sand irritant that helps oysters make pearls. These ones force us to press harder into God for His grace, mercy and forgiveness—even to see things in ourselves we didn't see before. Thank Him for the pearls that are growing!

 $[P\ \ 193 - 200\ \ "Grumble\ Fast"\ by\ Ruth\ Webb]$

21 Spirit Wind and Glory Light-Destroy Lawless one!

'The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light.' (Genesis 1:2—4)

'And the Lord God...breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.' (Genesis 2:7)

'Jesus spoke, saying, 'I AM the light of the world.' (John 8:12 NKJV)

"the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will *consume* with the *breath of His mouth* and *destroy* with the *brightness of His coming*. (2 Thessalonians 2:8)

At creation, God breathed on darkness and chaos. His breath became words, then light. Holy Spirit breath and Yeshua's light are powerful in prayer and praise, and for victory over the enemy. Whatever darkness surrounds you today; invite Holy Spirit to breathe on it and the light of Yeshua to dispel it!

God's breath and light are cyclical akin to the water cycle. His breath gives life. With our breath we praise Him. Praise ascends. The Son, who is light, receives it into heaven. The Spirit breathes on it and it again falls on us, bringing more life, more joy, more blessings, more victories! When everything that has breath praises Him, the cycle of light and breath of God continues!

His Glory is filling the earth: exposing hidden darkness. Frequencies of His glory are faster than sound. His light is armour, protecting from deception and deflecting demonic darkness. His breath and glory consume and destroy even the lawless one!

[P 201 - 206 "Grumble Fast" by Ruth Webb]