

#### REDEEMING LOVE FAMILY CHURCH

#### **FASTING EEFECTIVELY**

#### THE NATURALEFFECTS OF FASTING ONTHE BODY

This is a breakdown of the natural, physical changes that occur in the body over a 21-day fast. This assumes a water-based or limited caloric intake fast. It's important to note that the exact experience may vary for different individuals.

### Days 1-2: Glucose and Glycogen Depletion

- •The body begins to burn through its stored glucose and glycogen, which is the primary energy source. You may feel tired, light-headed, or irritable.
- •Symptoms: Hunger pangs, headaches, fatigue, and low energy.
- •Benefits: The digestive system starts to rest, and the body begins to detox from recent food intake.

### **Day 3: Transition to Ketosis**

- •By the third day, your body begins switching to ketosis, where fat is used as the primary source of energy instead of glucose.
- •Symptoms: Hunger starts to decrease, mental fog might persist as the body adapts, but some people experience more mental clarity.
- •Benefits: Ketones produced during this phase fuel the brain and may provide clearer thinking.

# **Days 4-5: Autophagy Begins**

- •The body begins a process called **autophagy**, where damaged cells are broken down and recycled.
- •Symptoms: Some fatigue, but energy may begin to stabilize. Cravings for food can decrease significantly.
- •Benefits: The body's detoxification process is in full swing, and the immune system begins to focus on repair rather than digestion.

## Days 6-7: Fat Burning & Increased Ketosis

- •The body fully enters ketosis, and fat-burning becomes the primary source of energy.
- •Symptoms: Energy levels can start to improve. Bad breath may occur due to the production of ketones (acetone).
- •Benefits: Continued detox and autophagy. Fat stores begin to break down, and clearer mental clarity emerges.

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## Days 8-10: Improved Mental Clarity & Emotional Calm

- •The body becomes more efficient at using fat for energy. Hunger pangs diminish as the body adapts.
- •Symptoms: Hunger subsides, and there's often an improvement in mood and energy.
- •Benefits: Clearer thinking, heightened mental focus, and emotional balance due to the stabilization of blood sugar and hormones.

### **Days 11-13: Increased Healing and Cellular Repair**

- •The body continues its deep detoxification and healing processes. Cells continue to repair, and the immune system strengthens.
- •Symptoms: Improved energy, reduced inflammation, and an overall sense of well-being.
- •Benefits: Deep internal healing and tissue regeneration. Many experience emotional clarity and inner peace.

# Days 14-15: Maximized Autophagy & Hormone Regulation

- •The body's autophagy process reaches its peak, maximizing cell repair and waste removal.
- •Symptoms: Little to no hunger, a stable mood, and a feeling of increased spiritual awareness.
- •Benefits: The liver and kidneys are functioning optimally, detoxifying the blood. Hormonal levels are stabilizing, including insulin sensitivity.

# Days 16-17: Boosted Immune System

- •The immune system is rejuvenated as old, damaged immune cells are cleared out and replaced by new ones.
- •Symptoms: Energy levels are high, cravings are almost gone, and the body feels lighter and more in balance.
- •Benefits: Strengthened immune defenses, reduced inflammation, and increased resistance to illness.

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### **Days 18-19: Enhanced Cognitive Function**

- •Brain-derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF) increases, which promotes the growth of new neurons and enhances brain function.
- •Symptoms: Enhanced mental clarity, memory, and creativity.
- •Benefits: Improved cognitive function, emotional stability, and the body becomes more efficient at regulating metabolism.

### Days 20-21: Deep Healing & Final Detox

- •The body is now in full repair mode. Cellular regeneration and healing are at their peak.
- •Symptoms: A sense of well-being, mental sharpness, and physical lightness.
- •Benefits: Deep healing of internal organs, boosted brain health, and a purified body. The body is now fully detoxified and functioning optimally.

#### **Additional Notes:**

- •Hydration: Throughout the fast, water plays a crucial role in flushing out toxins and maintaining proper kidney function.
- •Muscle Preservation: With proper water intake, the body primarily burns fat instead of muscle during extended fasting.
- •Spiritual Connection: Many experience heightened spiritual awareness and focus as their body adjusts to fasting, which can be seen as both a physical and spiritual benefit.

By the end of the fast, the body is in a state of deep purification and repair, having used its time without food to focus on internal processes. The final days often bring about a sense of renewal, both physically and mentally.

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