



#### **WEEK 1: WHAT IS CONSECRATION**

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Consecration is a very familiar but often misused terms in Christian circles. We often use it interchangeably with words such as fasting, sabbatical and the like. However, the very definition of consecrate is to "make or declare sacred". In its true form consecration doesn't have an end. It's not a period of time that we set aside to seek God. To consecrate oneself to God is to make a permanent and lasting decision to devote yourself to Him. In the Old Testament once the items to be used in the Temple were consecrated, they were ever to be used in any other form again and to never leave the Temple. That's the proper idea of consecration, it's a lifelong decision to commit to God.

"And you shall be holy to Me, for I the Lord am holy, and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be Mine." Leviticus 20:26

BIBLE READING: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

#### SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR PRAYER

#### Praise

- Lord thank you for calling us to be consecrated
- Thank you for choosing us while we were yet sinners
- Thank you for the Holy Spirit who will help us to live consecrated lives
- Thank you for your unfailing love, patience and kindness

## Confession

Father we repent for taking our lives for granted. Forgive us using our bodies, minds, spirits, talents, and everything else you gave us for selfish gain. We repent for not consecrating our entire lives to you. We acknowledge that we've only given you pieces of ourselves, fragments of our lives but never really consecrated ourselves fully to You.

Father we pray:

- That you would deliver us from our carnal thinking and desires
- That you would move selfishness and ego out of our lives
- That you would help us understand what true consecration is
- That you would destroy any idol in our lives, whatever is taking Your place
- That we will honor you with lives totally dedicated to you, as true disciples of Jesus-Christ
- Father help us to remember that we were created for You!

## **Thanksgiving**

- Father we thank you that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us
- Thank you that the Holy Spirit will teach us how to live a consecrated life
- Thank you for delivering us from all forms of idolatry
- Thank you for giving us the mind of Christ

#### PROMISES TO CLAIM AS YOU PRAY

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross." (Philippians 2:5-8)

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God." (Romans 12:1-2)

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them." (Ephesians 2:10)



#### **WEEK 2: CONSECRATED MEANS SOLD OUT**

Thursday, December 14, 2023

What was the last thing you gave up for the sake of Christ? Or when was the last time you released something (or someone) that God told you to let go, because your relationship with God is the most important one you have? Being consecrated to God means understanding that nothing in your life should be off limit. God should be able to require anything from you, and have you freely give it, down to your very life. Jesus' first century disciples gave up everything to follow him. The requirements to be a follower of Christ are still the same.

"Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, 22 and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him." (Matthew 4:21-22)

**BIBLE READING:** Matthew 19:16-30

#### SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR PRAYER

## <u>Praise</u>

- Lord thank you for reminding us that you want all of us
- Thank you for choosing to partner with us to do your will in the earth
- Thank you for calling us your children

## Confession

Father we acknowledge that there may be some things, habits, people and the like that you instructed us to let go of. We ask you forgiveness for disobeying you and holding on to them anyway. help us to be reminded that you're a jealous God and that we can't have any idols in our lives.

Father we pray:

- That you would point out any area where we yet have to submit to you
- That you would help us identify things or people that we tend to idolize
- That you create in us a clean heart and that you renew in us a right spirit
- That there will be nothing in our lives that we're not willing to sacrifice for you
- That we would truly be sold out, consecrated to You!

## **Thanksgiving**

- Father we thank you that we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us
- Thank you that your Holy Spirit will teach us how to live for you
- Thank you that we don't have to rely on our own strength or understanding
- Thank You for the life you've given us in Christ
- Thank you that as we yield to you our lives will be the best they could ever be

#### PROMISES TO CLAIM AS YOU PRAY

"Then the Angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time out of heaven, and said: "By Myself I have sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing, and have not withheld your son, your only son— blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of the heaven and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies.." (Genesis 22:15-17)

"For the Lord God is a sun and shield: the Lord will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." (Psalm 84:11)

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11)



#### WEEK 3: DOES GOD NEED TO TAKE A NUMBER TO SEE YOU?

Thursday, December 20, 2023

One of the key components of living a consecrated life is being available. In the Old Testament, Levites who were consecrated servants of the Lord, spent most of their lives in or around the Temple. How much of your weekly time do you have available for God? Can God access you at anytime of the day or night? If not, you're yet to make progress toward truly being consecrated. Let's be intentional about giving God back the time He affords us every day. He should be our priority.

"One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple." (Psalm 27:4)

**BIBLE READING:** Psalms 63:1-8

#### SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR PRAYER

## **Praise**

- Lord thank you for creating us and giving us a life to live
- Thank you for every day you've granted us so far
- Thank you for being our protector and for many more years you have for us to live
- Thank you for being patient with us and allowing us each day the opportunity to do better than we did the day before

#### Confession

Father you are the reason we are alive. You created us for Your Glory. We repent for not giving you merely enough of our time. Forgive us for taking each minute you give us for granted and help us live consecrated. We pray that we'll always be available to you day and night; because we call on You day and night so it's only fair if we would allow You to do the same with us. Amid busy lives and obligations, help us never forget that You are our priority.

Father we pray:

- That you will helps us begin, spend and end each day with You
- That we'll have You on our mind continually
- That we won't miss opportunities to spend quality time with you in prayer and worship
- That we would consider each day a gift we must use to please You
- That you will give us a hunger and thirst for You

## **Thanksgiving**

- Father we thank you for always being available for us
- Thank you for always answering when we call, day or night
- Thank you that you are not like man; you do not hold grudges but rather forgive us
- Thank you for giving an opportunity to make it right
- Thank you for clear strategies on how to be better stewards of our time

#### PROMISES TO CLAIM AS YOU PRAY

"So teach us to number our days, That we may present to You a heart of wisdom." (Psalm 90:12)

"Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth, before the evil days come and the years draw near when you will say, "I have no delight in them."" (Ecclesiastes 12:1)

"If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will." (James 1:5)



#### **WEEK 4: FIRST FALL IN LOVE WITH GOD**

Thursday, December 22, 2023

A good synonym to consecration in the biblical context is devotion! And while we try to "work" at being more consecrated, truth is it happens naturally with the things we love. If you love your job, chances are you're dedicated to it and what others find difficult you only consider a challenge. When in love with someone we don't see the hours, money, or anything else spent as a pain. We consider it a joy and a privilege to spend time with that individual, we're willing to do much for them, and we have no issue telling others we are in a relationship with them. Consecrating one's life to God becomes much easier once you first fall in love with who God is. If you're struggling with your consecration, try studying all over again who God truly is, who He is in general and more particularly who He is to you.

"The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught." (Isaiah 29:13)

**BIBLE READING:** Psalms 103

#### SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR PRAYER

## **Praise**

- Lord thank you for creating us out of love
- Thank you for teaching us how to love by loving us first
- Thank you for that you are true love
- Thank you that your love is unfailing

## Confession

Father we recognize that we may not have a clear definition of love because the world taints what love truly means. Forgive us for thinking we truly loved You when our actions and decisions said something different. That you would change our hearts so we can first accept Your love, then reciprocate it to You through our dedication, our consecration.

## Father we pray:

- That you help us not be hypocrites who only honor you with their lips
- That our love for You becomes unselfish, selfless
- That you we make it a goal to Love You the way You desire to be loved
- That we will daily look for ways to please You
- That we would daily ask You how we can serve you
- That our love for You will spill over in every other relationship in our lives

## **Thanksgiving**

- Father we thank you that you are easy to love because You are a Good God and a Good Father
- Thank you for being who You are
- Thank you for You Agape Love poured out on us before we were even born
- Thank you for being the perfect example of what true love is
- Thank you for requiring love/relationship from us and not religion

#### PROMISES TO CLAIM AS YOU PRAY

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. 14 I will be found by you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back from captivity[..]" (Jeremiah 29:13-14)

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. 10 If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love." (John 15:9-10)

Since you are precious and honored in my sight, and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you, nations in exchange for your life." (Isaiah 43:4)



#### WEEK 5: MAKE LVING A CONSECRATED LIFE A GOAL FOR THE COMING YEAR!

Thursday, December 29, 2023

A new year usually presents an opportunity to set up goals, commit to change and take meaningful actions to better our lives. During one of his earlier sermons this year Bishop asked us if we had any spiritual goals? Well, here's one to put on your list: Live a life consecrated to God. you may have always known that God was calling you Deeper, remember that was our theme this year, but have yet to answer that call. It's greater than a call to preach, prophesy, or whatever other call we're used to hear about. It's a call to say yes to however God wants to use you. Whether that means you're preaching today and cleaning the bathrooms tomorrow, as long as God is asking you to do it; you're willing and obedient. If it goes against your carnal judgment and if it requires for you to sacrifice the thing you love most, you're still okay with it because you told God "Here's ALL of me." THAT'S Consecration!

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." (Galatians 2:20)

BIBLE READING: Luke 22:39-53

#### SUGGESTED FORMAT FOR PRAYER

#### **Praise**

- Lord Jesus thank You for being the perfect example of Consecration
- Thank you for praying for us in John 17
- Thank you for being in our corner and wanting us to successfully live consecrated lives
- Thank you for being a high priest who understands everything we could possibly go through

## Confession

Father you called us to go deeper this year but if we're honest some of us are still in shallow waters while others have yet even to get their feet wet. We don't want to be in the same place this time next year. By You Spirit help us to truly commit to you the coming year no make what it takes and by all means necessary. We want to be true disciples. We want to be sold out, consecrated.

Father we pray:

- That you our focus will shift from ourselves to You
- That you will be our priority in words, actions, and decisions this upcoming year
- That we will let nothing prevent us from going all in
- That You will teach us to obey unconditionally
- That you will teach us how to live for You
- That You would truly be pleased with us this year

## Thanksgiving

- Father we thank you that you carried us through another year
- Thank you in advance for allowing us to see a new calendar year
- Thank you for a new wind, a new hunger and a new thirst for You
- Thank you for everything you have in store for us in the coming months
- Thank you for being our all in all

#### PROMISES TO CLAIM AS YOU PRAY

"The Lord says, "I will guide you along the best pathway for your life. I will advise you and watch over you."" (Psalm 32:8)

"That is why the Lord says, "Turn to me now, while there is time. Give me your hearts. Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning. Don't tear your clothing in your grief, but tear your hearts instead." Return to the Lord your God, for he is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. He is eager to relent and not punish."" (Joel 2:12-13)

"So I will restore to you the years that the swarming [k]locust has eaten, The crawling locust, The consuming locust, And the chewing locust, My great army which I sent among you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, And praise the name of the Lord your God, Who has dealt wondrously with you; And My people shall never be put to shame." (Joel 2:25-26)

# FASTING GUIDELINES

## TYPE OF FAST

We will abstain from all solid foods. for an extended part of the day. Drinking only water from 6AM – 12 Noon or 6AM – 6PM based on your fasting level of comfort. You may eat after your time of fasting has ended for the day.

## **CORPORATE PRAYER TIMES**

Each day we will gather virtually for prayer at 6 a.m. YouTube will be utilized to access prayer virtually.

## **TV/SOCIAL MEDIA**

We will abstain from watching TV and/or engaging on social media from 6 a.m. — 6 p.m.

