# UNDERSTANDING PRAYER FOR CONSECRATION AND DEDICATION

*Prayer Is the One Thing Prominent In a Consecrated Life*

There is no phase of our lives as a Christian, which prayer does not affect, as it is related to human salvation. Prayer and consecration are not the same but go hand in hand because you can’t be consecrated without prayer, which governs consecration. ​Popular consecration is sadly at fault because it has little or no prayer in it.​ However, we must remember that no consecration is worth a thought which is not the direct fruit of much praying, and which fails to bring one into a deeper life of prayer. Consecration is much more than a life of so-called service and sporadic praying. It is a life of personal holiness, which brings ​*spiritual power*​​into the heart and invigorates the entire inner man to a life given up to true prayer and dedication. A life of consecration and prayer is the highest type of a Christian life and one key thing that a believer should set out to accomplish. It is the one ​Divine​standard​ ​ of experience of living and of service to God. You want to know what it takes to please God; this is the way to His Kingdom. We should never be ​contented or satisfied ​till we are fully, without hesitation, the Lord's, by our own consent. How do we come to this level and where do we start? We must start with prayer and understanding what it means and takes to be consecrated to elevate to full consecration.

## FULL CONSECRATION

Consecration means to dedicate to or set apart for a higher purpose; it also means to dedicate to a deity by a vow. This vow we must take requires us to dedicate ourselves to God, and a dedication made without any reluctance. ***It is the setting apart of all we are, all we have, and all we expect to*** ​***have or be, to God so that He can use us and direct us to live and teach according to His holy will***​. ​At any cost we have to be devoted to obtaining heavenly knowledge and separate ourselves from worldly things that can interfere with our devotion and commitment to live holy. We live in sin every day and there is sin circling all around us, but we as Christians are called to be different… SET APART. So there must be separation of worldly, secular, and even legitimate things that come in conflict with the holy will of God. We have to separate those things that are questionable when the choice is to interfere with eternal life the things of this life. ​*Consecration has a* ​***sacred*** ​*because it is devoted to a holy end.*​ It is the voluntary putting of one's self in God's hands to be used sacredly and holily, with a vision of a sanctifying end. We should be lead to devotion of all we have to God for His own specific use, separating ourselves from the things of this life to concentrate on heavenly things and the journey to get there through consecration.

Our consecration cannot be partial and He will not accept anything less than full devoutness. If there is any uncertainty we need to fall down and pray for guidance because it gets harder living in the earthly realm trying to stay holy and focus on heavenly things. However, Jesus did it and through Him it can and must be done if we want to make Heaven our home. We must walk in the light and follow the Holy Spirit, there is no other way. Think about the sacrifices made in the Old Covenant, they couldn’t sacrifice part of an animal; they had to sacrifice the entire animal or nothing at all. So we would be insulting God by making a half-hearted, partial attempt for consecration to try and enter the Kingdom of Heaven. The Bible says in ​***Revelation 3:16***​-​***18”***​ ***So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth”,***​ ​which, simply stated, means this is unacceptable. It involves our whole being, all we have and all that we are. Everything is purposely placed in God's hands for His supreme use… no discussion, no exception!

Many make the mistake in thinking that consecration is all there is in holiness. However, while consecration makes us relatively holy, we are holy only in the sense that we are now closely related to God, because consecration is the ​human​​side​ of holiness. We are of the flesh, and the natural born deadly flaw of the flesh is being born of sin ​(​Romans 7:25) ​and​ into a sinful world. However, God made a way for us to live holy even though we all have sinned, (​ Romans 3:23) by way of Jesus, in whom grace abounds.​ God delivered the only way to obtain consecration ie holiness and sanctification despite sinful situations through redemption. Sanctification / Holiness in its truest and highest sense, is Divinity, the act of the Holy Spirit working in the heart for purification and putting therein in a higher degree, the fruits of the Spirit.

In ***Leviticus 20:7-8***​ ​ Moses shows the human and the Divine side of sanctification and holiness:

***"Sanctify yourselves, therefore, and be ye holy, for I am the Lord your God. And ye shall keep my statutes and do them; I am the Lord which sanctify you."***

We are to sanctify ourselves but then in the next word we are taught that it is the Lord which sanctifies us. How is this possible… how can we be called to do something that only God is capable of doing? Well God calls us to be consecrated, He calls us to be holy, and all these things have to come from God, but when He tells us to do these things, there are things He seeks in us before He can make our status official. In Leviticus 20:7-8 it’s written… we must condition ourselves with more than spiritual knowledge, we have to use this knowledge to do those things that we learn.

***-Remember this equation:***​ **PRAYER**​ **+ (DEDICATION X MEDITATION) = PERSONAL SANCTIFICATION**

**PERSONAL SANCTIFICATION + KNOWLEDGE = WISDOM**

**WISDOM + ACTIONs of Obedience = CONSECRATION**

There is a cause and effect to everything. God wants us to exercise spiritually to learn, commit to do, and teach the gospel, but you have to go through the process because everything to get to consecration is voluntarily done which makes you stronger. It would be foolish to prematurely sanctify someone with the hopes they could be obedient instead of letting that person go through the process of change, knowing there is a true dedication within you, shown to Him by the transformation of the process in each of us. We can all change our ways but the difference between change and transformation is THE PROCESS / THE WALK THROUGH. This is important because we have to learn that even though we are living in this world, we are not of this world.

We do not sanctify ourselves in this highest sense. Here is the two-fold meaning of sanctification:

1. Consecration is a voluntary act of the believer as a direct result of praying. How can a man be prayer less and conceive the full consecration? ​ ​ **A life of prayer should naturally lead up to**​  **consecration and entire dedication of one's self to God will follow. There is no partiality when it comes to concertation; it’s all or nothing. Having submitted yourself to this position, your prayers become more spiritually tuned because you have sacrificed and conditioned your flesh to make the adjustment so that you are living a more spiritually guided life. The transformation has to be initiated with our commitment to sanctify ourselves through our consistent actions of obedience. You may be skeptical to do so but we must remember that God is not asking us to do anything here that He hasn’t already done. He has given Himself as a living sacrifice, dying to pay the cost of debt that we had not created just yet. That is the assurance we have now Jesus must be able to count on you to lay down your life for Him just the same because you belong to the Lord.** As Paul wrote to the Corinth who were dealing with​conflicts, reminding them in 1 Corinthians 6:20, ***"Ye are not your own.*** ***For ye are bought with a*** ***price. Therefore, glorify God in your body and spirit, which are God's."***
2. Sanctification is something I look at as **validation for elevation**​ which **is a foundation for**​  **consecration**. There is no one but the Lord that can validate us, neither can they sanctify or​ consecrate. So then we know how we must condition yourself to be set apart and we dedicate ourselves through prayer to be sanctified holy, God will take you to the next level of full sanctification and full consecration. Holiness, sanctification, consecration are synonyms and related to one another because they are based on your actions to apply what you have learned to be sanctified and holy and applying them to your new life for righteousness, All of these things are calling us to be set apart from this world and require a change in character and provide clarity as we walk daily with a clearer mission, being acutely aware of His presence and direction. Those who​work hardest and remain faithful shall receive their just reward for they work closely with God in promoting the purposes of his glory, and the salvation of souls; and He who knows their work, will take care they do not labour in vain.

# WALKING IN CONSECRATION



This means that we are not only to just pray but pray habitually, without ceasing and to pray more effectually. It is the consecrated man who accomplishes most by His praying; God must hear the man wholly given up to Him. Would God deny the requests of him who has holly dedicated himself to Him and His service? This act of the consecrated man puts him "on praying ground and pleading terms" with God. It puts Him in a closer reach to God in prayer. It places him where he can get hold of God, and where God can show His favor towards us because consecration brings favor and more favor from God!​ The consecrated man is whom God can depend upon. God can afford to commit Himself in prayer to those who have fully committed themselves to Him. **He who gives all to God will get all from God. Having** **given all to God, he can claim all that God has for hi**​**m**.​ ​

It’s clear that prayer is the condition bound to full consecration, therefore prayer has to be a habitual rule followed with action, of him who has dedicated himself wholly to God and His will. They go hand in hand and elevate one another; prayer enhances a consecrated life and a consecrated life enhances a life of prayer.

There appears to be a tremendous amount of those who busy themselves after the holiest look of consecration and claim to be such but their definition is a misrepresentation of God's call to be consecrated. The Bible lets us know in 2 Timothy 3 that there will be those having the form of godliness, but denying the power and we as Christians are called to withdraw ourselves from the presence of such people; those that are ever knowing and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth and therefore are found to be hypocrites and pleasers of man instead of God. Satan can and will deceive those of a weak mind and those that are unstable (as James stated in 1:8) and we must counter those misrepresentations with truth, power, and living as a steadfast example. It is not our Father’s will to profess Christian faith among men and not live a godly life. We are called to walk in the Light as He is in the Light so that we can shine the Light on things that are dimming the light in this world with false living and hypocritical teaching in the name of Christ. There has to be more of a commitment to prayer and the direct result of praying. People can do many excellent and commendable things in the Church and be complete strangers to a life of consecration and diligent prayer. The true test of consecration is a life of prayer, and unless prayer is pre-eminent, front and center, the consecration is faulty, deceptive, & falsely named. No consecration is worth a thought if it be devoid of prayer. ​ God wants to use true consecrated men knowing that they can and will pray because they will seek His guidance and obey His command understanding it’s God’s will and not their own that needs to be done. Lacking a prayer life causes you to be more vulnerable and will hinder in because you are not consulting and depending on the Creator. Likewise, unconsecrated men become less valuable to Him in the executing purposes by redemption.. ***Prayer is the tool with which the consecrated man works and you cannot work efficiently without tools on any job or assignment.*** ​ Prayer helps the in maintaining focus and aids in doing the work to which one is called by God to execute. It helps to achieve a sincere effectual and consistent prayer life which will lead to Kingdom minded thoughts and actions that are pleasing to God. This will also bring order to your life and without a doubt keep you in tune with the presence of The Lord because seeking and pleasing Him becomes the only priority.

We must insist upon it that the prime purpose of consecration is not service in the ordinary sense of that word. Consecration has a much higher and nobler end than merely to expend itself in basic​ external things when we should focus on advanced eternal things. Those things related to higher Scriptural service, which seeks to serve the Lord in an entirely different atmosphere. We must be mindful of a truth strangely overlooked and that is not what our church activities are or the show we display sometimes, but rather our personal life. Learn to do a self-check and ask yourself these things; is my conduct righteous; am I living holy; are my conversations godly.

The first great end of consecration is holiness of heart and of life. It is to glorify God, and this can be done in no more effectual way than by a holy life flowing from a heart cleansed from all sin. The great burden of heart pressed on every one who becomes a Christian lies here. This he is to ever keep in mind, and to further this kind of life and this kind of heart, he is to watch, to pray, and to bend all his diligence in using all the means of grace. He who is truly and fully consecrated, lives a holy life. He seeks after holiness of heart and is not satisfied without it. For this very purpose he consecrates himself to God. He gives himself entirely over to God in order to be holy in heart and in life. As holiness of heart and of life is thoroughly impregnated with prayer, so consecration and prayer are closely allied in personal religion. It takes prayer to bring one into such a consecrated life of holiness to the Lord, and it takes prayer to maintain such a life. Without much prayer, such a life of holiness will break down. Holy people are praying people. Holiness of heart and life puts people to praying; ***Consecration puts people to praying in earnest.*** The spirit of consecration is the spirit of prayer. The law of consecration is the law of prayer. Both laws work in perfect harmony. People who are consecrated are known by their praying habits. He who is not interested in prayer has no interest in consecration. Prayer brings one into a state of heart where consecration is a subject of delight, bringing joy of heart, satisfaction of soul, contentment of spirit.