

Lesson on Consecrating Yourself to God

1.) Pray for Wisdom & Insight

2.) **To the Christian** - Do you understand what "Consecration" means and the importance to God? Do you "Dedicate" things to the Lord? The importance of Intercessory Prayer and Consecration?

The following will highlight these Biblical concepts:

Joshua 3:5 (NLT) **Then Joshua told the people, "Purify (Consecrate) yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do great wonders among you."**

We are to separate ourselves from sinful hindrances and Dedicate / Consecrate ourselves to Jesus' calling as a Servant and a Child of the Living God. **Our Prayer position is one of honor before God and we are to be One with Him - as Jesus demonstrated.**

****Read 2 Chronicles Chapters 5, 6, & 7.** This is a biblical example of how this process was administered by King Solomon.

3.) The following points highlight what we need to understand about this ceremony:

(5:13) The 1st service at the temple began by honoring God and acknowledging His presence and goodness. **In the same way, we should start praying by acknowledging God's great love for us. First honored God, by recalling His faithful mercy and love which He has shown to you in the past.**

(6:3) As the people stood to receive Solomon's blessing and God's Anointing. Solomon knelt. (note 6:13) Standing, kneeling, removing shoes, shawls, or bowing can be acts of reverence during prayer. **These acts are showing honor / respect / reverence to the Lord. This outward Ritual should result from an inward holy fear of who God is. How do you present yourself to God in private or public, before you start to pray?**

(6:12-13) It was unusual for the King to kneel before someone else in front of his own people because kneeling meant submitting to a higher authority. This showed Solomon's great love and respect for God. He was encouraging his people to have the same respect towards God. **Remember, we are standing on Holy ground before God, just as Moses did when speaking to God at the Burning Brush. Praying is a meeting with Jesus.**

(6:18) Solomon marveled at God's willingness to live among sinful people. We likewise should marvel at God's plan for Jesus' redeeming eternal plan for mankind. God is reaching out to you because of His great love for you. Many unsaved or hurting people depend upon our prayers. **This time can be a wonderful opportunity to know God better, to be a better Servant, and to see His mighty miracles. But, don't simply marvel at His power, take time to draw close to Him each time. This will be a precious time - be excited and have great anticipation of what will happen when you Intercede for others.**

(6:19-42) Solomon led the people in prayer concerning numerous issues: crime, enemy attacks, drought, famine, influx of foreigners, war, and sin. **You can be interceding on behalf**

of others for many of the same issues by binding / breaking the strongman of darkness holding your family / church / community in bondage. Remember when you pray, that God hears you, He loves you, your concerns are important to Him. You have His attention.

(6:26) Why did Solomon assume drought would come as a result of sin? God made a covenant with Israel in Deut. 28:20-28.

You should remember that we are where we are today because of how we all live out our lives. We all have sinned and fallen short of God's glory. We all are connected and are affected by community / national sins or blessings.

Sin and blessings have a ripple effect in everyone's life. Everyone contributes positively or negatively to our church and community to some degree. Intercession Prayer is best when we see our Community, Church, and Country from God's point of view. Don't be just an indifferent Outsider. Allow yourself to experience remorse for all sin. Think about it.

(6:30) Have you ever felt far from God, separated by failure and personal problems? Solomon understood how willing God is to hear people, to forgive their sins, and is always ready to restore people to Himself. The problem is that people with hardened hearts, habitual sins, and rebellion cannot change; unless God intervenes.

We are the Intercessors for these people and offering up prayers for God to intervene in the life of others. This is His will. Also pray that God will bind up the powers of darkness and give people a new hunger for things of God. This can only happen through the grace and mercy of God. We are pleading for each and every Soul for God's Kingdom.

(6:36) "Who has never sinned?" The Bible makes it clear that no one is exempt from sin. Sin is a condition we all share and we should all acknowledge it. **But thinking, you haven't sinned nor haven't affected your church, community, or country in a negative way - is wrong! All sin tints us, our lifestyle, and the people around us.**

(7:1-2) God sent a fire from heaven that was to burn on the altar continuously. This act was God's real dedication of the Temple. Only God's purifying power can make something holy. **Prayer is asking God for His Holy Spirit to help us (Intercede) in pray for His will and power to transform people into righteous followers of Jesus Christ.**

(7:4-5) What does "dedicated" mean? It is setting apart, which can mean a place, an object, or a person for God's exclusive purpose. The purpose of Solomon's dedication was to set apart the Temple as a place to worship God.

Today, our body is God's temple. We can function as an Intercessory Christians dedicating ourselves to carrying out God's special purpose or calling to "pray for those who cannot or will not ask God for help".

Also, we can ask God to accept our church Congregation to be His personal Servants for ministering the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We can request God's will to be done by saving the unsaved and transforming that rebellious person into a child of God. We can also ask God to promote righteous leaders into high positions throughout all levels of society; so His character will rule within America.

Also, dedicate all of your Material Possessions; such as, cars, houses, church, business & etc. back to God for his Glory and safe keeping.

(7:12) This is important to understand. Many months and maybe many years had passed (note v11) since Solomon's prayer of dedication was given in chapter 6. Several other buildings were completed after the Temple. Then after all that, God told Solomon that He had heard his prayer.

How often do you pray looking for immediate answers and nothing happens; then wondering if God heard you?

God will hear us and He will respond, at some point. I know because He laid it on my heart a year ago to sell our cabin in Michigan. I felt we were entering a new season in our life. I immediately wanted to serve on the Hospital Visitation Team but didn't anticipate starting an Intercessory Prayer Team until about a month ago.

(7:14) Solomon asked God in Chapter 6 to make provisions for the people's sins. God replied there were 4 conditions for forgiveness from Him: humble yourself and admit your sins, pray and ask for forgiveness, seek God continually, listen, and change your behavior.

Whether we sin Individually, as a Group, as a Community, or as a Nation, following these steps will lead to forgiveness from God. Make no mistake, as you pray it will play a huge role in getting lives changed. Don't be hesitant to pray for the Holy Spirit to guide people into your church. God will answer earnest prayers.

(7:17-22) Solomon and the people knew God's conditions for their covenant were binding upon them or they would be destroyed. Deut. 27 & 28 outlined these conditions. Sin is deceptively attractive and Solomon eventually turned away from God. His son and heir, lost most of the kingdom as Israel was split into 2 Kingdoms.

Today, God's conditions are just as clear / binding as they were in Solomon's day. By choosing to follow and obey God no matter what happens, we can know that God will eventually bless our efforts as Intercessors. Our lifestyle needs to be righteous. Our prayer life must be aggressive, persistent, and according to God's will; as well as, from the heart. Keep up with your daily devotions and soak / listen often before the Lord.

Ask God to give you his Battle Plan for change. Protect yourself and your family with the Blood of Jesus Christ, praying Psalm 91, and binding the strongman daily. "Greater is He who is in you, than he who is in the world!"

4.) The Key Scriptures for Binding God & You Together!

Job 22:24-30 (NLT) 24 If you give up your lust for money and throw your precious gold into the river, 25 the Almighty himself will be your treasure. He will be your precious silver! 26 "Then you will take delight in the Almighty and look up to God.

(His Promise to You)

27 You will pray to him, and he will hear you, and you will fulfill your vows to him. 28 You will succeed in whatever you choose to do, and light will shine on the road ahead of you. 29 If people are in trouble and you say, 'Help them,' God will save them. 30 Even sinners will be rescued; they will be rescued because your hands are pure."

Personal Consecration to God is very important to God. May God Bless You and Embed this Understanding within Your Heart!