

"All too often the church holds up a mirror reflecting back the society around it, rather than a window revealing a different way." – Philip Yancey

consecrated = qadash (kaw-dash') = to be set apart as sacred, to be wholeheartedly devoted to the things of God

Titus 2:11-14

11 For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. 12 It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, 13 while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, 14 who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.

➤ **Consecrated to a person** – "to purify for himself..."

The call to consecration is relational at its core—it's about the union of God with people.

Revelation 19:6-8

6 ... "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns.

7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory!

For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

8 Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear."

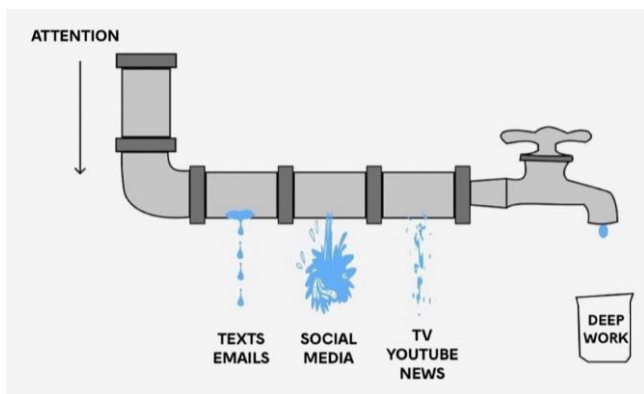
"Consecration is saying one giant yes of devotion to God and a thousand no's to things that don't matter because you're not relating to them anymore." – Jon Tyson

➤ **Consecrated for a purpose** – "eager to do what is good"

Who does God use to get His work done in the world? The consecrated.

2 Timothy 2:20-21

20 In a large house there are articles not only of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay; some are for special purposes and some for common use. 21 Those who cleanse themselves from the latter will be instruments for special purposes, made holy, useful to the Master and prepared to do any good work.



"God won't love you any less if you don't consecrate your heart but He'll use you less."

– Jon Tyson

Maybe it's time we shift the question from, "*Can I?*" ...to... "*Should I?*".

We can pour our time, resources and energy into a thousand different things but the real question is... "If the heart is consecrated to the Lord, what *should* those things be?"

➤ **Consecrated with a power**

Ephesians 3:16

I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being

Ephesians 6:10-11

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes.

Secularism lives in denial of the spiritual, it frames everything in the "flesh and blood", in the "physical", in the "here and now." But reality has a way of leaking-out and rising to the surface. When you deny the spiritual battle, you take that energy and turn it relational and cultural—you villainize people and shout them down.

We need the power of God resting on our lives if we're going to see the purposes of God move forward in this cultural moment.

1 John 4:4

"...greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world."

"Voluntarily give up legitimate pleasures for the sake of the power of heaven resting on your life." – Jon Tyson

D.L. Moody, 1837-1899



Moody was a young pastor who went to Ireland where he met an older pastor who looked at him and said,

"D.L. Moody, when I see you I see a gifted man, but God has more."

Then this older Irish pastor said to Moody...
"The world has yet to see what God can do with a man fully consecrated to him."

To which Moody replied, *"With God's help, I aim to be that man."*

"God is ready to assume full responsibility for the life wholly yielded to Him." – Andrew Murray