

Consecration – Study Questions

1) How can we show our gratitude to God for saving us?

- A) The Bible says that the proper way to show our gratitude is to _____ ourselves to God: “Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to present your _____ as a _____ –living, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service” (Romans 12:1).¹

2) What does it mean to present our bodies as a sacrifice?

- A) Around four thousand years ago, God chose a man named _____ to be the father of a group of people that would belong uniquely to Him. These people are known as the _____. God made a _____ with them and gave them a system of _____.²
- B) A sacrifice was made when an individual _____ up something on an altar to God. God intended the sacrifices to be object lessons that would help His people understand _____ realities.
- C) The sacrificial system is the context for the command in Romans 12:1. When we present our bodies to God as a sacrifice, we _____ every part of ourselves to God. This sacrifice is described as “living, holy and acceptable to God.” It is “living” because we are spiritually _____ in Christ; it is “holy” because we are _____ from sin unto God; it is “acceptable” because God is pleased with the offering of what He has _____.
- D) Presenting our bodies to God as a sacrifice is an act of _____ and consecration. The motivation for this offering is the _____ of God, for He graciously gave His only Son to die in our place. The proper response (“reasonable service”) for us as new disciples is to willingly _____ ourselves to Him.

3) What does a consecrated life look like? How do we put this into practice?

- A) When something is consecrated, it is _____ from everything else to a special, specific _____. For example, an athlete who competes in the Olympics dedicates (consecrates) his life to the _____ required to achieve that goal. When we consecrate ourselves to God, it affects _____ we do.
- B) The Bible gives us two practical directives for how to live a consecrated life. The first is to “consider yourselves _____ to sin and _____ to God in Christ Jesus” (Romans 6:11) and the second is to “be _____ with the Spirit” (Ephesians 5:18).

¹ This translation is a combination of the ESV, NIV and YLT.

² This worship system is described in detail in the Old Testament books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.

4) What does it mean to consider ourselves dead to sin and alive to God?

- A) Romans 6 begins with a question: Should a Christian continue _____ after they are saved? The answer is emphatic: “By _____ means!” (Romans 6:1-2). Paul then goes on to explain why. As Christians, we died to sin and are now alive to God in Jesus (Romans 6:3-10).
- B) When Paul says that we are “dead to sin,” he means that our _____ to sin has been severed—sin no longer has _____ over us. As disciples, the only control sin has in our lives is the control we _____ it to have.
- C) When Paul says that we are “alive to God in Christ Jesus,” he means that we now have a _____ with God through our _____ with Christ. As disciples, we are now united with Christ in His _____ .
- D) If we, as disciples, are dead to sin and alive to God, then why are we told to “_____ yourself dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus”? The answer is that God wants us to live out in _____ what is true of us in _____. We are to demonstrate this truth (our new state) by how we _____ .
- E) There are two parts to obeying this command. First, we are not to allow sin to have control over our _____ , _____ or _____ (Romans 6:12). Second, we must _____ to the control of the Holy Spirit (Romans 6:13). This means obeying God’s word and following the leadership of the Spirit.

5) What does it mean to be filled with the Spirit?

- A) The key to understanding what Paul means when he tells us to be “filled with the Spirit” is found in the _____ between the two parts of Ephesians 5:18. The full verse reads, “And do not get _____ with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit.”
- B) Notice the contrast between being “drunk with wine” and being “filled with the Spirit.” When a person is drunk, we say that they are “under the _____.” God does not want us to be under the influence of alcohol—instead, He wants us to be “filled with the _____.”
- C) Being “filled with the Spirit” means that we are to be “under the influence” of the Holy Spirit. We are to be _____ to the Spirit and _____ Him to control our attitudes, actions and words.

6) Is consecration something that we do just once?

- A) No, consecration is a part of our _____ walk with God. However, just as a long journey begins with the first step, so the consecrated life begins with the _____ dedication of ourselves to God.
- B) Here is a suggested prayer for the first step of the journey of the consecrated life: “Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for saving me and giving me new life. I now give my life back to You and consecrate myself to You as a living, holy and acceptable

sacrifice. I resolve to resist temptation and say 'Yes' to the Holy Spirit. I also purpose to yield every area of my life to the control of the Spirit, and I will endeavor, through Your grace, to walk each day according to His guidance. In Jesus' name, Amen."

- C) Here is a suggested daily prayer: "Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for your grace which gives me the desire and power to do your will. Today I choose to consecrate myself to you. Help me to resist temptation and say 'Yes' to the Holy Spirit. Help me to live each moment under His influence. In Jesus' name, Amen."