# Word of Fa CHURCH Н ONSECRATION Day 22: Aug. 28 - Day 24: Aug. 30, 2023

# THE CONSECRATED FAST

# When does the Consecration begin?

We will begin Monday August 7, 2023 at 12:00 a.m.

## What about medications?

Please continue to take all medications as prescribed. It is vitally important that you do not stop taking your medications.

## May I take vitamins and sports drinks (protein drinks)?

Yes, you may take a good multivitamin and a meal substitute drink. We discourage sports drinks due to the high sugar and sodium contents.

### What is the key to a successful consecration or fast?

Prayer and study of the Scriptures. Please spend time in private devotion (Prayer and Bible reading). **See the attached scripture readings**. You may also want to share in a time of corporate prayer with your spouse, family members or other believers.

### What are the dietary restrictions being observed?

One meal a day. Water, juices, teas can be consumed at any time. Fruits, nuts, and raw veggies can be consumed throughout the day. Chicken, turkey and fish are acceptable for one meal a day. Please pay close attention to the chicken now being sold as "authentic". Jewish and Arab meat shops sell organic meats and fish, in line with

### their beliefs!!!

**PLEASE DRINK PLENTY OF WATER** (flavored with lemon or lime) – This serves as an excellent cleanser.

### What about Unmarried or Pre-Marital Physical Intimacy?

If this question is being considered, stop the activity, and schedule an appointment with the Pastor.

### What are the Corporate Prayer Days and Times?

- <u>Morning Prayer</u>: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 5:00 a.m. and Sundays at 8:30 a.m., in person and also through the conference line: Dial-in: +1 717-832-8330 or +1 502-509-0282. Access code: 343 9463
- <u>Noon Prayer:</u> Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m.
- Evening Prayer: Fridays at 7:30 p.m.
- In case of emergencies, please call the office any time during office hours.
- Please ask God to give you a Prayer Partner or someone to be accountable to.

### WORSHIP I

From the third chapter of Genesis to the end of the Book of Revelations, God is trying to get His people back into their Presence. Praise and Worship has always been the avenue to the Presence of God. The relationship between God and man is of paramount importance to God. The first thing God gave man was His image and likeness and the second thing was to place man in His Presence which was Eden. Summary, God wanted man to act like Him and live with Him.

The word "image" means resemble or exact likeness. Therefore, we resemble Him and we have His Spiritual and moral character. Sadly, what God intended for us and the present situation is quite different. Man chose disobedience and that separated us from God's ideal environment. That constituted the fall of man and separation from God. Why would God, who loves man so much, separate Himself from man? Because God is Holy. Ps 99:5. The primary reason, people cannot Worship is because, they are not Holy. Is 8:13; Is 5:16; 54:5. Not only is God Holy, He is Most Holy. Ex 3:5.

God wants His Family back. He died to prove that. The only way we can stay connected with God is through His Son Jesus and by His Holy Spirit, Who attempts to assist us in living Holy. If allowed, He will keep us in the Presence of God, where we will find fulness of Joy, forever more. Ps 16:11b.

Praise and Worship is God's solution to get us back into His Presence. Praise and Worship does not put us back into God's Presence, they bring God's Presence to us. They are the tools that set the stage for God's arrival. They are God's Gift to restore His Presence to man. God's goal throughout history was to find a dwelling place, to put His Presence. He desires a place on earth. Praise and Worship creates a dwelling place in us for God to dwell.

Altars prepare a place for the Presence of God to come. Examples are Abel, Noah, Genesis 8:21-9:1. Abraham, Genesis 22; David built an Altar, 2 Sam 24:14b. David knew repentance, confession of sin was the way back to God and humbly went before God. 2 Sam 12:13b He did not argue, complain or make excuses. He knew pride would keep him from God's Presence. He quickly repented. 2 Sam 12:13b-14; Ps 51 Moses was God's Friend and He understood how important the Presence of God was and told God, he would not go unless God went with Him.

WOW!! What a Revelation!!! Worshippers are God's Friends and they cannot go without their God.

Shall we petition God to open our eyes to that revelation!! To reveal to us the completeness that comes with the Presence of God. God desires and desperately wants a place to live among His people. He desires to be in the midst of His people (Zep 3:17 Midst of Thee). God's Presence is the only essential ingredient in Worship. Our praise and the other elements of our meeting must lead us into the Presence of God. If they don't, it is no reason

to do them. Anything in the midst that is not contributing to Worship should be discarded. It is simply unnecessary clutter. God's Presence in our Worship is the only worthwhile end to our Services. The purpose of the Tabernacle was to allow God to dwell with His people. That is the purpose of the Infilling of the Holy Spirit.

The blueprint for Worship Service is between God and man to ensure that man cannot just stumble or wander into the Presence of God, lest he be consumed by God, because of His sin. The Outer Court, Inner Court and Holy of Holies was designed for that purpose. The design and Worship of the Tabernacle looked forward to Jesus and the return of the Holy Spirit. That is why God sent Jesus, we in ourselves could never approach the Holy Place of God, without Him. God's deepest desire is for us to live in His Presence.

What is the meaning of Worship? It means "to kiss the hand". In Hebrew, the word means to kneel, to bow self, prostrate, fall down, humbly beseech, to stoop, to make obeisance; and Worship!!! In Greek, it means to go forward and kiss God's Hand; to give God all!!! Rev 4:10,11; Ps 95:6.

Worship is simply recognizing that God is God, and that we are human and He can do anything, anytime, anywhere and that He is in charge of everything, all the time!!! And when He shows Himself to us, we are done!! We can only fall down and Worship Him!!! Ex 34:14; Ps 29:2.

Our entire Worship experience with God, depends on us seeing Who God is (revelation) and knowing Who God is (experiencing)!! If you don't know Him, you cannot Worship Him. No relationship, no Worship!! This is true for all genuine Worshippers. He will only show up if there has been an authentic devotion and Passion for Him!! When we seek Him, with all of our heart, we will find Him!! Jeremiah 29:13, 14!!

The first prerequisite for entrance into His Majesty's Presence is, our hearts must cry, "Where is He, when should I come to Thee." Ps 42:1-2!! When we Worship and seek God, He will find us!! All flesh is commanded to Worship Him. Is 66:23. 1 Chron 28:9-10. The second requirement is a genuine repentant spirit, Matt 3:2; 4:17.

In our previous sessions, we learned the message of Judah:

- The Hand of Praise will be on the neck of your enemies. Gen 49:8
- Praise shall go first Judges 20:18.
- Praise is God's authority and Power Ps 108:8
- In Praise, God is Known Ps 76:1
- Praise is God's dwelling place Ps 76:2; 114:2
- Praise is your access, your key into the Presence of God
- When you Praise God, you don't have to look for Him He finds you. Praise brings God in, so he can fix whatever is broken in your life.

The relationship of Praise and Worship is Praise is seeking God, Worship is finding Him. The goal of praise is to create an atmosphere for the Presence of God. That is why Abraham, Moses, and David were such close friends with God. They made room for Him and gave Him

first priority. Their deep hunger to know and obey Him was the basis for their relationship with Him. This, WOFC is true for all genuine Worshippers. They love to be with God and He loves to be with them. He shows up because they have authentic devotion to Him and a passion for Him.

Thus, Praise and Worship are related, but very different activities and experiences. Praise is initiated by us. Worship is God's response. Praise is something we do. Worship is something God releases. Praise is our building a House for God. Worship is God moving in. Worship cannot be generated by us. It is completely dependent on God. We may seek to enter Worship through Praise, however, it is up to God whether He will response to our initiative.

In truth, we cannot Worship God unless we have first praised Him, and this Praise must be genuine, otherwise, Jesus' indictment against the Pharisees may also be leveled against us, "These people honor me with their lips but their hearts are far from Me. They Worship me in vain Matt 15:8-9.

True Praise and Worship is tough, but the results are awesome, because everything we need is in God's Presence. Joy, Rest, Peace, Mercy, Power, Victory, Wisdom. All these and more are available to us in the Presence of God. Ps 16:11; 21:6; Ps 31:20