

Corporate Consecration 2018

Daily Confessions

OUT

The center of our life and world as a Christian is our relationship with Christ. If we lead millions to Him and don't have a real relationship with him than it is for nothing. God is not just some holy deity waiting in the sky to punish you whenever you fail or mess up. Instead HE is a loving Father. He already knew everything there would ever be to know about you and still chose you. He still gave his only Son that you could become sons and daughters with HIM. Being a son or a daughter requires a relationship. The basis of every real and valuable relationship is three things, **communication, quality time,** and **intimacy.**

Prayer is communication. Jesus taught us in the Lord's prayer that when we pray we don't just go to God with a laundry list of things we want or need. He is not a genie granting wishes, or a wishing well to cast our loose change into in exchange for granted wishes. He is a living God and he has a heart just as we do. He wants to speak with us and hear from us not just hear needs and wants. When you pray take the time to reflect on how God is good to you. What makes him so awesome. How has he shown himself to be real in your life. Acknowledge to him his place in your life. Then speak genuinely to him about the things you thought about when you thought of his goodness. Remind him how you felt when HE did that thing HE did for you. Next verbally and mentally make room for God's will. This must be more than lip service, but really from the heart. Sometimes the thing we are pursuing in prayer is not his will or is only a part his will and HE wants to reveal more to us. By deciding from the beginning that we will accept his will whatever that may be we make it easier to follow that will even when we don't like it. Now we are ready to ask God to supply the thing we stand in need of. We don't ask him for everything we are ever going to need. We are asking for today's portion of our needs fully realizing that we will need to return tomorrow and do it all over again. Often the idea of coming back again and again sounds tedious and unwanted. But we must take our understanding a step further. We ask for today's portion only because we know that God is not going to leave us. He will be available again tomorrow or even today should we need him. When we relax and allow this to take root we find ourselves not dreading an obligation of prayer, but looking forward to a genuine time of fellowship with a loving Father.

Everything I say will be good and helpful, so that I will encourage others and I look for ways to motivate others to acts of love and good works. I am kind to others, tenderhearted, and forgiving not just to those I like but even to my enemies. I actively forgive those who sin against me and will no longer hold grudges towards them. I will be humble, patient, and make allowances for the faults of others because God's love fills me.

By the power of God I do control my tongue and do not gossip, backbite, slander, or destroy with my words. I cast out all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior in me. I am not jealous, boastful, proud, or rude. I do not demand my own way or provoke others. I am not irritable, and I keep no record of being wronged. I do not rejoice about injustice but rejoice when the truth wins out. I will never give up or lose faith. I am always hopeful and endure through every circumstance. I will learn God's will for me because I don't behave like the ungodly and don't think I am better than I really am I will honestly evaluate myself and measure myself by the faith God has given me. God tests and knows my heart and anxious thoughts. He will show me what offends Him in me. I will repent, and He will hear me and heal me and my land, and lead me along the path of everlasting life. God alone has blotted out my sins and will never think of them again.

I have nailed the passions and desires of my sinful nature to Jesus' cross and crucified them there. I do not have haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, give false witness, or stir up conflict in the community because God hates these things. I don't sin by letting anger control me. I will not remain angry for extended periods of time allowing the enemy a foothold into my life. I do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers.

Letter From Pastor

Daily Confessions

IN

I am no longer a slave but a friend. God delights in me and rejoices over me with singing. God has made plans for my good not disaster. He has given me a future and a hope. I have been called by God and because He has identified me as his own I will live in a way that brings Him glory, honor and is worthy of that calling. I spend my time thinking about true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, and admirable things. My life is a living sacrifice made holy and acceptable by Him. When I look for him wholeheartedly, I will find Him. When I am weary and burdened, He will give me rest. I am patient in trouble. I Trust in the Lord with all my heart and don't depend on what I know or understand. I seek His will in all that I do, and He WILL show me which path to take.

I delight in the law of the Lord, meditating on it day and night. Because He chose me I remain in Him and write His words on my heart. I will produce the fruit of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. When I pray He will listen and I will be given anything I ask for and believe I will receive. I declare I am fertile soil, and my life will produce a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as what has been planted in me! I am like a tree planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. My leaves never wither, and I prosper in all I do.

I wear the full armor of God so that I will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. I wear truth as a belt, walk in peace, I am shielded by my faith in Him, His salvation transforms my mind, and I am armed with the sword, which is the very word of God. I use these weapons, not worldly weapons, to knock down the strongholds of human reasoning and to destroy false arguments. I don't fight against people, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places. I destroy every proud obstacle that keeps people from knowing God. I capture every rebellious thought and teach others to obey Christ by my example.

Quality Time is not just reading Gods Word or memorizing it. It too goes far deeper than that. God commands us to write his commandment on our hearts. While we can't pull out a pen and out heart and literally write on it, we can allow the Holy spirit to open the text and reveal it to us. We then take that revelation to the next step and apply it to our lives. It is the process of application that writes or etches the revealed word of God on our hearts as it becomes a very real and permanent part of us.

Intimacy is often an overlooked or misunderstood part of relationship. It is when you put all your chips on the table and give your whole self over to another. We do this in worship. Corporate worship must only exist as an extension or mirror of true private worship. If the only time you get in God's presence is at church, you don't have real intimacy. You can know HIM, but the real depth and breathe of a relationship is only discovered with complete intimacy. Until you develop a lifestyle of worship your relationship will remain stale and stagnant. You will never walk in the true power, love, or character of God, because you cannot develop the heart of someone you are not intimate with.

With these things in mind it is my sincere hope and prayer that as you embark on this time of consecration you pursue God with a new vigor. That you will seek him out in Prayer, worship, and study and allow HIM to take you to a new place in HIM. I wish I could say you will understand all things or that it will be easy, but that is not true. Fasting no matter what the method is always difficult. It may start easy enough, but in time becomes more and more difficult. This is because fasting our flesh to die. No life or death struggle will ever be easy, but this one will always be worth it.

Daily Confessions In

Why You Should Fast

Daily Confessions

UP

Fasting was an expected discipline in both the Old and New Testament eras. For example, Moses fasted at least two recorded forty-day periods. Jesus fasted 40 days and reminded His followers to fast, "when you fast" not if you fast. Fasting and prayer can restore the loss of the "first love" for your Lord and result in a more intimate relationship with Christ. Fasting is a biblical way to truly humble yourself in the sight of God (Psalm 35:13; Ezra 8:21). King David said, "I humble myself through fasting." Fasting enables the Holy Spirit to reveal your true spiritual condition, resulting in brokenness, repentance, and a transformed life. The Holy Spirit will quicken the Word of God in your heart and His truth will become more meaningful to you! Fasting can transform your prayer life into a richer and more personal experience. Fasting can result in a dynamic personal revival in your own life—and make you a channel of revival to others. Fasting and prayer are the only disciplines that fulfill the requirements of II Chronicles 7:14: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." If you fast, you will find yourself being humbled. You will discover more time to pray and seek God's face. And as He leads you to recognize and repent of unconfessed sin, you will experience special blessings from God.

Because of God I have a spirit of power, love, and selfdiscipline and I use it daily. God lives in me and his love is brought to full expression in me because I really love others and prove my love by my actions. I don't pretend to love others, but genuinely love them, holding tight to what is good, and I delight in honoring others. I do not wrong others because I love them as I love my neighbor and I love my neighbor as myself. I am patient, tenderhearted, forgiving, judge fairly, and show mercy and kindness to others. I do all I can to live in harmony with others. Because He has forgiven me, if I witness the sin of another I will go to them honestly in love with the word of God and not my opinion, judgment, or condemnation. I will be quick to forgive them even if they continue to sin. I Bless those who persecute me. I will not curse them, but pray that God will bless them. I will never repay evil for evil. The Lord will take revenge for me, so I will focus on loving them and providing their need in love.

I follow the Holy Spirit's leading in every part of my life. I am patient in trouble, and will pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. I Stay alert and am persistent in my prayers for all believers everywhere and will help others when they are in need.

I am not lazy, but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically and continually. I am determined to be submitted to God in all things. I Do not stifle the Holy Spirit or scoff at prophecies, but test everything that is said regardless of the vessel. I Hold on to what is good and stay away from every kind of evil.

Why You Should Fast

Step Four — Memorize a Key Verse from Your Study

So that you can continue to meditate on the passage you are applying, and to help remind you of your project, memorize a verse that is a key to the application you have written.

Sometimes God will work on one area of your life for several weeks or even months. It takes time to change ingrained character traits, habits, and attitudes. New habits and ways of thinking are not set in one day. We must be aware of this and be willing to let God continue to reinforce a new truth in our lives. We should not fool ourselves by thinking that writing out one application will be a magic formula which will produce instant change. Rather, it must be thought of as part of the process of growth

Place memory verses on index cards. Carry 3-5 memory verse cards with you and study them several times throughout your day. As your stack of verses grows change them out every few days. Once you reach the end of your stack mix them up and start over.

If technology is your thing try using the following apps:

- > Selfcontrol- silences all social media alerts for a set period of time.
- ➤ <u>GoConqr</u>= study, index cards, quizzes
- > quizlet
- > Flashcards*/ Flashcardlet
- > Flashcards+

Tools

- Prayer/Study Journal (this may be a notebook or actual bound journal)
- ❖ **Bible** (translation of your choosing, but it is advised that you use a translation you understand such as amplified(amp) English Standard Version (ESV), New Living Translation (NLT). If you have a parallel bible or the Youversion Bible App read the texts in multiple versions.)
- ❖ Worship Music (this can be on your phone, youtube, cd, or any means you must access. You may start with praise, but you must reach for the deep things in God and thus need to have worship music as well. If you have questions, please ask.)
- ❖ Index card or App (write out your selected memory verse)
- **Place to keep your index cards**
- **❖ Rubber band** (to carry a small collection of cards around with you)
- **❖** Dictionary/Thesaurus

Objectives

- 1. **Consecration** setting ourselves apart for the purpose and use of God. (personal and ministry guidance)
- 2. **Church Unity** sincerely love one another, resolve problems and issues within the church, and healing.

How To Study Cont.

General Guidelines

We will set aside three times a day for prayer, assigned scripture reading, confession of faith. They will be morning midday and evening or night. It is best if this set aside time is alone with little to no distractions allowed. This means turning off the phone or relocating to a private room or area. (if any of these times occur at work pray and do your confessions while walking. Read your scriptures in as quiet a location as possible and reread them at your next set aside time.) Because some of us may have less time at any of these set aside times then we will have available at other times you will need to omit or shorten something during that shorter time. If for example you have a shorter time available midday you will need to pray and do your confession. The assigned scripture text can be moved to your longer available time.

Prayer: We are each to pray through the prayer list in its entirety at least twice per day. It is preferred that at each prayer time the entire list (and anything else you desire to add) be covered, however in cases where a shorter prayer time is required pray over the bold items.

General Guidelines

Worship: We will also add daily worship as many times per day as you desire, but a min of 30 min each day must be spent in Worship.

TV: Watching tv will be at your discretion for the first week. Week two you may have 1hr daily of tv time. This includes the news so plan accordingly. Week three there will be no tv at all. If you do watch tv you must refrain from watching programs with the following things:

Anything we are fasting from, cursing, violence, sexual themes or activities,

Because of the different health issues in the church and medication times it would be unwise to expect that everyone can safely adhere to a time based or meal skipping fast. Because the primary purpose of this fast is CHURCH UNITY we will adhere to a single fast model and will each fast according to the same set of guidelines. This means everyone will still eat the same number of meals they normally eat and the types of food they normally eat unless they are restricted or eliminated according to the fast.

If you emphasized each word this way, you will get 10 different meanings from this verse as you go through and emphasize a different word each time.

- 1. Paraphrase the passage under study. Take the verse or passage you are studying and rephrase it in your own words. As you think on it, use contemporary words and phrases to express timeless biblical truths
- 2. Personalize the passage you are studying. This can be done by putting your name in place of the pronouns or nouns used by Scripture. For example, John 3:16 would read: "For God so loved *Chris Cole* that He gave His one and only Son that if *Chris* believes in Him

he shall not perish but have eternal life."

3.	<i>Use the S-P-A-C-E P-E-T-S acrostic.</i>	This acrostic asks: Is
	there any	

☐ Sin to confess? Do I need to make any restitution?
☐ P romise to claim? Is it a universal promise? Have I met the
condition(s)?
☐ Attitude to change? Am I willing to work on a negative attitude and
begin building toward a positive one?
☐ Command to obey? Am I willing to do it no matter how I feel?
\Box E xample to follow? Is it a positive example for me to copy or a
negative one to avoid?
☐ P rayer to pray? Is there anything I need to pray back to God?
☐ Error to avoid? Is there any problem that I should be alert to, or
beware of?
☐ Truth to believe? What new things can I learn about God the Father,
Jesus Christ, the Holy
Spirit, or other biblical teachings?
☐ Something to praise God for? Is there something here I can be

Pray the verse or passage back to God. Put the passage under study into the first person singular, turn it into a prayer, and pray it back to God.

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thankful for?

Food Guidelines

Which one of these methods should you use in your meditation? The one which best fits what you are studying, or a combination of them. If you are studying the Book of Proverbs, for example, it may be difficult to visualize a scene in your mind, but you can emphasize the words and pray some of the teachings back to God.

Step Three — Write Out an Application
Write an application of the insights you've discovered through your

Write an application of the insights you've discovered through your meditation. Writing your application out on paper helps you be specific. If you don't write something down, you will soon forget it. This is particularly necessary when you are dealing with spiritual truths. If you can't put it down on paper, you haven't really thought it through. It's been proven that if you write something down, you'll remember it longer and be able to express to others what you have learned.

You need to remember four factors in writing out a good application:

- 1. Your application should be *personal* use the personal pronouns "I," "me," "my," and "mine" throughout.
- 2. Your application should be *practical* it ought to be something you can *do*. Plan a definite course of action which you intend to take. Design a personal project which will encourage you to be a "doer of the Word." Make your applications as specific as possible. Broad generalities can make you feel helpless and produce little action.
- 3. Your application should be *possible*—it should be something you know you can accomplish.
- 4. Your application should be *provable-you* must set up some sort of follow-up to check up on your success in doing it. It must be measurable, so you will know that you have done it. This means you will have to set a time limit on your application.

To help you carry out that kind of application, tell a friend or someone in the family about it who will occasionally check up on your progress in an encouraging way

What if you find an application that does not apply to you at that time? You are studying a passage that has to do with death and how you can overcome grief and sorrow, but this is not your problem now.

Write them down anyway because it might be needed in the future when another situation comes into your life or it might help you minister to someone else who is in that situation

Because all foods need to be cooked meal prep will take longer please plan accordingly. This is a good time to add prayer, worship, or listen to an audio bible as we still want God to have that time even if we are preparing food.

Skipping extra meals to make your fast extra special detracts from the intended purpose which is unity.

Food Guidelines:

We will **eliminate ALL** the following items:

Coffee, sweets, deserts, snack foods, fried foods, fast food, soda, Junk food, processed food, alcohol, nonmedicinal drugs, no smoking.

(PLEASE TAKE ALL PRESCRIBED MEDICATIONS!!!!),

You may consume sparingly the following items (limit according to the step-down instructions)

Tea, juice, flavored and sparkling waters,

<u>Limit per your discretion salt and sugar where allowed.</u>

Step down instructions:

(All sparingly marked items only)

Week 1- Two per day

Week 2 – One per day

Week 3 -none

Other restrictions

We will eliminate and refuse to hear **ALL** gossip, back biting, false prayer requests, lying, spreading rumors, complaining, gripping, Negative thoughts and speech, hypocrisy, laziness, procrastination.

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How To Study Cont.

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<u>Sunday</u>	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
U- Zeph 3:17 I- Jer 29:11-13 O-1John 4:11	U- Eph 6:10-20 I- Phil 4:8-9 O- Heb 10:24	U- Joel 2:12-13 I- Matt 6:25-33 O- John 15:12-	U- John 15:4-17 I- 2 Cor 10:3-6 O- Romans 12:9-	U- Ps 119:105 I- Rom 12:1-2 O- James 5:13- 16	U- Is 41:10 I- Ps 119:14-15, Ps 1:1-6 O- I john 3:16 –
U- Acts 3:19-20 I- Mark 11:20- 25 O-1 pet 4:7-12 Prov 10:12	U- Joel 2:12-13 I- Prov 3:5-6 O- James 3:1-12	U- Col 3:15 I- 2 Chr7:14-16 Zech 1:2-6 O- Gal 5:26	U- Matt 11:20- 30 I- Matt 13:3- 9;18-23 O- Rom 14:13	U- Ps 55:22, I- 2Tim 1:6-7 O- Rom 13:8-10	U- Ps 139:1-24 key vrs 23-24 I- Matt 18:21-35 O- Eph 4:31-32
U- Gal 5:22-25 I-James 5:13-16 O- Thes 5:12-	U- Is 43:25-26 I- Luke 6:42 Matt 7:5 O- Luke 17:3-4	U- Matt 7:12-14 I- 1 Cor 13:4-8 O- Rom 12:10	U- Luke 5:36-38 I- Luke 18:9-14 O- Zech 7:4-9	U- 1 Pet 5:5-10 I- 1 Cor 13:1-3 O-1 Eph 4:1-6	U- Matt 6:24 I- Matt 6:14-15 O- John 13:34

The ultimate goal of all Bible study is *application*, not interpretation. Since God wants to change our lives through His Word, it is important to learn how to apply Scripture to our lives.

The Devotional Method of Bible Study involves taking a passage of the Bible, large or small, and prayerfully meditating on it until the Holy Spirit shows you a way to apply its truth to your own life in a way that is personal, practical, possible, and measurable. The goal is for you to take seriously the Word of God and "do what it says" (James 1:22).

Four Steps to Practical Application

Step One — Pray for Insight on How to Apply the Passage

Ask God to help you apply the Scripture you are studying and show you specifically what He wants you to do. You already know that God wants you to do two things: obey His Word and share it with others. In your prayer tell God that you are ready to obey what He will show you and that you are willing to share that application with others.

Step Two — Meditate on the Verse(s) You've Chosen to Study Scriptural meditation is reading a passage in the Bible, then concentrating on it in different ways. Here are several practical ways you can meditate on a passage of Scripture:

1. Visualize the scene of the narrative in your mind. Put yourself into the biblical situation and try to picture yourself as an active participant.

If you are studying John 4, for example, visualize yourself as being right there with Jesus, the woman at the well, the disciples, and the inhabitants of Samaria. How would you feel if *you* were the one whom Jesus asked for a drink of water at the well near Samaria? What would *your* emotions be if you were one of the disciples who witnessed this incident?

2. Emphasize words in the passage under study. Read through a verse aloud several times, each time emphasizing a different word, and watch new meanings develop. For instance, if you are meditating on Philippians 4:13, you would emphasize the words as follows:

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."

[&]quot;I CAN do everything through Him who gives me strength."

[&]quot;I can DO everything through Him who gives me strength."

[&]quot;I can do EVERYTHING through Him who gives me strength."