

“Consecration” Prayer Group – Guide Sheet for Facilitating

What it is: Bringing things under the rule of Christ. Consecration has a sacred nature. It is devoted to holy ends.

Thoughts about this kind of prayer: Consecration is much more than a life of service. It is a life of personal holiness. It is that which brings spiritual power into the heart and enlivens the entire inner man. It is a life which ever recognises God, and a life given up to true prayer. This is also a way to repair and re-wire connections to God and help to re-envision those who are tired. It is the consecrated man who accomplishes most by His praying. It puts Him in reach of God in prayer, where he can get hold of God and influence God to do things which He would not otherwise do. Consecration brings answers to prayer. God can depend upon consecrated men. He who gives all to God will get all from God.

Some Scriptural References/Examples:

John 15: 4-5, 7 Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself unless it abides in the vine, so neither *can* you unless you abide in Me. ⁵ I am the vine, you are the branches; he who abides in Me and I in him, he bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing.....⁷ If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

Psa 68:35 God, *You are* awesome from Your sanctuary. The God of Israel Himself gives strength and power to the people. Blessed be God!

Psa 4:3 But know that the LORD has set apart the godly man for Himself; The LORD hears when I call to Him.

Psa 145: 5-6 On the glorious splendour of Your majesty and on Your wonderful works, I will meditate. Men shall speak of the power of Your awesome acts, and I will tell of Your greatness.

Luke 1:71-75 Salvation from our enemies, and from the hand of all who hate us, to show mercy toward our fathers, and to remember His holy covenant, the oath which He swore to Abraham our father, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hand of our enemies, might serve Him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before Him all our days.

Helps: We *can* be people trained in the ways of the Kingdom. It might be helpful to share by paraphrasing these with your group.

- We know who we are in the Kingdom of God – not orphans, but sons & daughters, friends and allies
- Believe that prayer is more than simply asking God to do something; it means partnering with Him in what He’s doing on the earth.
- Understand authority we’ve been given and bold enough to use it

Facilitating it today: There will likely be 12-15 people in this group. You’ll have about 35-40 minutes of actual time praying together, after the few minutes it takes to hear some instruction from the front, get into breakout groups, and before the final 15 minutes during which there will be group worship as prayer items are taken to the cross on the stage.

You'll have the Hub, Regions (Facilitators & Local Coordinators & thus their groups) on sections of poster-board. Although you can't pray for "personal consecration" for them (that's their own responsibility, of course) you can pray that each will also be set apart to the Lord for the good works He has ahead for them in unity, and all whom they'll influence.

Values: Unique kind of prayer, listening/working together, making it visual (especially helpful for hands-on/creative people – including younger people), leaving a visual reminder of that time. The "feet" cut-outs represent how we walk out the Kingdom in our spheres of influence and ministry. Not everyone likes this kind of hands-on "work" while praying, but many really do and would like more of it. Those people in the group for whom this is unfamiliar and not easily entered into will get a chance to grow!

First 5 minutes:

1. Give people time to move tables/chairs over to your designated corner and get settled
2. Read or paraphrase the ideas above: What it Is; Thoughts about this Kind of Prayer; Scriptural Examples; Helps; brief description of what to do.
3. Put out the sections of post-board of all the Regions (including Scotland), the cut-out shapes of feet, the random bits of headlines & straplines I've put in the pack, and the markers/pens you've been given.

Next 5-10 minutes:

4. Ask people to consider each Region, take in the names before them, and begin to consider things to pray for them. Much will be similar but God will give specifics regarding each.
5. Use the "feet" cut-outs to capture specific things God says and things to pray for them. Use these to formulate what God your prayer time. having you pray into.

Next 20-25 minutes:

6. Use this time to pray into those issues
7. As people are considering and then praying, they (or a designated few) should affix the headlines and photos chosen to the Regional sections (double-sided tape, glue sticks). Someone can also affix some of the "feet" to those or leave them loose. In the final 15 minutes, they can be taken separately, along with the poster-board sections, to the cross, placing the feet around the poster-board sections at the foot of the cross.
8. This will create a visual reminder and a sort of collage of what's been prayed and will be this group's "gift" laid at the foot of the cross in the Large Group Time (last 15 minutes of this hour).

Last 15 minutes: Group Worship and laying prayer group "gifts" around the cross.

9. All groups will bring their separate times to a close and begin to make their way to their seats or remain standing as we worship together.
10. Those who are taking things to the cross begin to form queues to walk up the steps.
11. The Facilitator and maybe someone else from the group together take the collage and feet cut-outs to the cross on the stage and lay these at the foot of the cross.