

## Deep Dive into Consecration: A Study Guide Based on Bishop Wellington Boone's *Seven Reasons for Consecration*

### Short Answer Quiz

**Instructions:** Answer the following questions in 2-3 sentences each.

1. How does Bishop Boone define consecration?
2. What biblical story does Boone use to illustrate how consecration prepares us for an unknown future?
3. According to Boone, what is the "lifeblood" of consecration and why is it essential?
4. Explain Boone's concept of "purifying the heart" in relation to consecration.
5. How does consecration avert God's judgment and bring about his presence, according to Boone?
6. What does Boone mean when he says that consecration makes the spiritually weak strong?
7. Who does Boone identify as our mediator and advocate in our relationship with God?
8. How does the story of Jeremiah support Boone's argument for the impact of individual consecration?
9. Explain the analogy of a house with vessels of gold, silver, wood, and clay, as it relates to consecration.
10. What is the ultimate role model for a consecrated life, according to Boone?

### Short Answer Key

1. Bishop Boone defines consecration as **wholehearted devotion to God**, encompassing thoughts, actions, and motivations aligned with a higher purpose. It's about an internal transformation rather than solely outward actions.
2. Boone uses the story of **Joshua leading the Israelites into the Promised Land** to illustrate how consecration prepares us for an unknown future. They faced unfamiliar territory, requiring trust and confidence, much like we face uncertainties in our lives.
3. The "lifeblood" of consecration is **prayer**, the direct line of communication with God. It's essential because it provides guidance, strength, and clarity, particularly when facing obstacles or doubts.
4. Boone emphasizes that **consecration purifies our motivations** as much as our actions. It's about examining our "why" behind our

deeds and ensuring they stem from genuine love and devotion, not selfish desires or ulterior motives.

5. Consecration **averts God's judgment not as a punishment, but as a wake-up call**. It prompts self-reflection, identification of misalignment with God's will, and seeking forgiveness and restoration. This realignment ultimately brings about God's presence.
6. Boone explains that consecration **connects us to a source of strength beyond our limitations**. Just as Jesus intercedes for us, consecration allows us to tap into divine strength, particularly during moments of weakness or doubt.
7. Boone identifies **Jesus as our mediator and advocate in our relationship with God**, highlighting his holiness and constant intercession on our behalf.
8. The story of **Jeremiah demonstrates the impactful ripple effect of individual consecration**. His devotion to God literally held back God's judgment on Israel, showing that one person's dedication can positively impact others.
9. The analogy of a house with various vessels represents how **our unique gifts and talents have different purposes in God's plan**. Consecration determines how effectively we use those gifts, whether for grand displays or humble tasks, aligning with our unique calling.
10. **Jesus is the ultimate role model for a consecrated life** according to Boone. While we may not replicate his miracles, his unwavering devotion to God's will, even amidst suffering, serves as an example for aligning our will with a higher purpose.

### **Essay Questions**

1. Discuss the significance of surrender in the context of consecration. How does surrendering to God empower us rather than diminish us?
2. Analyze the impact of consecration on our relationships. How does it enable us to love more deeply and authentically, even in challenging relationships?
3. Explain how consecration can empower us to be agents of change in the world. What small, consistent actions can we take to make a positive difference?
4. Explore the connection between consecration and the development of inner strength. How does relying on divine strength help us overcome obstacles and challenges in our lives?

5. Reflect on the challenges and rewards of living a consecrated life in a secular world. How can we maintain our commitment to God's will amidst distractions and competing priorities?

### **Glossary of Key Terms**

- **Consecration:** Wholehearted devotion to God, aligning thoughts, actions, and motivations with a higher purpose. It involves an internal transformation focused on purity of heart and surrender to God's will.
- **Surrender:** Relinquishing control of situations beyond our influence and trusting in God's plan. It's an act of humility and faith, allowing us to navigate challenges with grace and strength.
- **Divine Strength:** A source of power and resilience beyond our human limitations, accessed through consecration and surrender to God. It empowers us to overcome obstacles and persevere through difficulties.
- **Purification of Heart:** A process of examining and refining our motivations, ensuring that our actions stem from genuine love and devotion rather than selfish desires or ulterior motives.
- **Intercession:** The act of praying on behalf of others, advocating for their needs before God. Jesus, as our High Priest, continually intercedes for us, demonstrating the power of this practice.
- **Agents of Change:** Individuals empowered by consecration to actively work towards positive change in their communities and the world. It involves identifying injustices, working towards solutions, and using our gifts to make a difference.
- **Ripple Effect:** The expanding impact of our actions and choices. Consecration leads to positive ripple effects, influencing not only our lives but also the lives of those around us.
- **Journey of Consecration:** A continuous process of growth, refinement, and deepening our relationship with God. It's not about achieving perfection but rather embracing continual progress and surrendering to divine guidance.