



February 8th, 2026
Pastor Josh McPherson
"THE CONSECRATED LIFE"

"LEARN"

"There is a word that has marked **every life wholly devoted to God**...that word is not "**arrived**". The word is "**learn**."

"You cannot **learn** unless your heart is in a **posture of humility**."

"My prayer for us is that we would be a church **marked** by an **insatiable hunger to learn**..."

The Consecrated Life is Marked By:

An **ever-increasing holy-hunger** of **sustained, lifelong, rigorous** pursuit of **righteous learning**.

6 Truths & 1 Warning About Learning:

1) The FOUNDATION of learning is the fear of God.

"The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge..." (Proverbs 1:7)

2) The SOURCE of all learning is God Himself.

"For the LORD gives wisdom; from His mouth comes knowledge and understanding." (Proverbs 2:6)

3) The PURSUIT of learning is on YOU.

"If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given to him."

(James 1:5)

"Get Wisdom; get insight; do not forget, and do not turn away from the words of my mouth...the beginning of wisdom is this:

Get wisdom, and whatever you do, get insight. (Proverbs 4:5-7)

"Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding." (Proverbs 4:1)



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4) The METHOD of learning is **HEARING God, OBEYING God.**

"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correcting, and for training in righteousness..."

(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

"Blessed are those whose ways are blameless, who walk according to the law of the Lord. Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart- they do no wrong but follow his ways. You have laid down precepts that are to be fully obeyed. Oh, that my ways were steadfast in obeying your decrees! Then I would not be put to shame when I consider all your commands I will praise you with an upright heart as I LEARN your righteous laws. I will OBEY your decrees; do not utterly forsake me..." (Psalm 119:1-8)

"Teach me, Lord, the way of your decrees, that I may follow it to the end. Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart. Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight. Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain. Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word."

(Psalm 119:33-37)

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

(Matthew 28:18-20)

5) The GOAL of all learning is **BECOMING MORE LIKE CHRIST.**

"Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me..." (Matthew 11:29)

"A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher." (Luke 6:40)

6) Learning Should be LIFELONG and DILIGENT.

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth." (2 Timothy 2:15)

"Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance..." (Proverbs 1:5)

"But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ..." (2 Peter 3:8)

7) There is a kind of Learning that is DEADLY and DANGEROUS.

1. Learning without God.

"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight." (Proverbs 9:10)

2. Learning without Love.

"Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up...And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died." (1 Corinthians 8:1-11)

3. Learning the Wrong Things.

"Everyone has heard about your obedience, so I rejoice because of you; but I want you to be wise about what is good, and innocent about what is evil. (Romans 16:19)

4. Learning that replaces God.

"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die."

(Genesis 2:17)



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Exodus 33:7-10:

"7 Now Moses used to take a tent and pitch it outside the camp some distance away, calling it the "tent of meeting." Anyone inquiring of the Lord would go to the tent of meeting outside the camp. 8 And whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people rose and stood at the entrances to their tents, watching Moses until he entered the tent. 9 As Moses went into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and stay at the entrance, while the Lord spoke with Moses. 10 Whenever the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance to the tent, they all stood and worshiped, each at the entrance to their tent. 11 The Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend. Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young aide Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent."

OUR BIG LESSON:

We stay in the tent.

My Big Lesson:

I need the presence of God more than I need anything else.

My Prayer for Us:

*"9 For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to **fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives,** 10 so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, 11 being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, 12 and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light.*

(Colossians 1:9-12)



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Discussion Questions:

Getting to Know Me

1. After digging in for the last 5 weeks, what does living a "consecrated life" mean?
2. What do you enjoy learning about? What sparks your interest and imagination?

Into the Bible/Sermon

1. Read aloud Proverbs 1:7. What is this verse's significance when it comes to learning? Why is this verse a necessary starting place for the one who truly wants to learn?
2. What does 2 Timothy 3:16-17 say about God's word? How does this connect with being a lifelong learner?
3. Why is learning without God deadly and dangerous? (See Point #7). How can we be on guard against this sort of empty learning?
4. Pastor Josh referenced Exodus 33:7-11. Why do you think that Joshua "stayed" in the tent? What events in your life are compelling you to stay in the tent and receive from the Lord?
5. Review the "6 truths" from the sermon. Which one grabbed your attention? Why did that truth stick out to you?

Application

1. Do you consider yourself a learner? Why or why not?
2. What could it look like for you to grow in becoming a "lifelong learner?" How are you currently practicing being a "lifelong learner"?
3. Pastor Josh said, "you can't learn unless your heart is in the right posture". What does it look like for you to posture your heart to truly learn? Would you say that comes easily for you? Or is it more difficult? Why do you think that is?
4. Take a moment to consider what steps of obedience God might be calling you into. Do you feel the need to be empowered by Him? How can you respond to this calling? What does it look like for you to "hear God, obey God" in this season of your life?