



# Discipleship Guide

*Sermon: Becoming Bold*

*Speaker: Pastor John Zayas*

Date: October 05, 2025

A large orange circle is positioned on the left side of a light beige rectangular background. Overlapping the right side of the circle, the words 'becoming' and 'bold' are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, stacked vertically.

**becoming  
bold**

## Key Takeaways

- Consecration brings about the presence and power of God in our lives.
  - Our access to God gives us entry, but consecration gives us authority.
  - Sin can block God's presence and lead to defeat in our spiritual battles.
  - God's presence leads to victory, while His absence results in failure.
  - Dealing with hidden sin and unforgiveness is crucial for spiritual growth.
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## Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to be consecrated to God? How can we practically apply this in our daily lives?
  2. The sermon mentioned that "access gives us entry, but consecration gives us authority." How do you understand this statement? Can you share an experience where you felt God's authority in your life?
  3. In the story of Joshua and Jericho, God's presence went before the Israelites. How can we ensure that we're following God's lead rather than trying to go ahead of Him?
  4. The sermon talked about hidden sin blocking God's presence. Why do you think it's so tempting to hide our sins, even from God? How can we cultivate a habit of openness and honesty with God?
  5. Pastor John shared a personal story about lacking faith and trusting in other things besides God. Can you relate to this? Share a time when you realized you weren't fully trusting God.
  6. The sermon emphasized the importance of dealing with unforgiveness and past sins. Why is this so crucial for our spiritual health? What steps can we take to address these issues in our lives?
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## Practical Applications

1. Self-examination: Take time this week to prayerfully examine your life for any hidden sins or areas of unforgiveness. Write them down and commit to addressing them.
2. Consecration prayer: Write a personal prayer of consecration, dedicating every area of your life to God. Pray this daily for the next week.
3. Trust-building exercise: Identify an area in your life where you struggle to trust God fully. Create a plan to incrementally increase your trust in that area over the next month.
4. Community accountability: Share with a trusted friend or group member one area where you need to grow in faith or obedience. Ask them to pray for you and check in on your progress.
5. Presence-seeking: Set aside 10-15 minutes each day this week to simply sit in God's presence, focusing on Him rather than asking for anything.

Closing Prayer: End the session by praying for each other, specifically in the areas of consecration, dealing with hidden sin, and seeking God's presence and power in your lives.

## 5-Day Devotionals

Day 1: God's Presence and Power

Reading: Joshua 6:1-20

Devotional: The story of Jericho reminds us that God's presence and power are essential for victory in our lives. Just as the Israelites carried the Ark of the Covenant - representing God's presence - before them, we too must prioritize God's presence in our daily lives. When we put God first and follow His instructions, even seemingly insurmountable obstacles can fall before us. Today, reflect on areas in your life where you need breakthrough. Are you fully inviting God's presence into those situations? Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and trust in His power to overcome your "Jericho walls."

Day 2: Consecration and Obedience

Reading: Joshua 7:1-26

Devotional: The defeat at Ai teaches us the importance of consecration and obedience. Hidden sin in our lives can hinder God's work and lead to spiritual defeat. Just as Achan's disobedience affected the entire Israelite community, our personal sins can have far-reaching consequences. Today, take time for honest self-examination. Are there any "hidden treasures" in your life that you're holding onto, areas of disobedience or unforgiveness? Bring these before God in prayer, asking for His forgiveness and the strength to fully surrender these areas to Him.

Day 3: God's Faithfulness in Our Battles

Reading: Exodus 14:10-31

Devotional: The parting of the Red Sea demonstrates God's faithfulness in our most desperate moments. Like the Israelites facing the Egyptian army, we often encounter

situations that seem hopeless. Yet God promises to make a way where there seems to be no way. His faithfulness is not dependent on our strength, but on His character and promises. Today, identify a challenging situation in your life. Write down specific ways God has been faithful to you in the past. Let these memories bolster your faith and trust that the same God who parted the Red Sea is working on your behalf today.

#### Day 4: Boldness in Faith

Reading: Esther 4:1-17

Devotional: Esther's story challenges us to step out in bold faith, even when facing great personal risk. In a world that often opposes God's ways, we are called to be courageous representatives of His kingdom. Esther's famous words, "If I perish, I perish," remind us that true faith often requires sacrifice. Today, consider where God might be calling you to take a bold stand for Him. It might be at work, in your family, or in your community. Pray for the courage of Esther and trust that God has placed you in your current position "for such a time as this."

#### Day 5: God's Presence in Suffering

Reading: Job 1:13-22, Job 42:10-17

Devotional: Job's story reminds us that even in our deepest suffering, God is present and ultimately working for our good. When we face trials, it's easy to question God's love or presence. Yet Job's faithfulness in the midst of unimaginable loss teaches us to trust God's character even when we don't understand His ways. Today, if you're going through a difficult season, allow yourself to honestly express your pain to God. Then, like Job, choose to trust in God's goodness despite your circumstances. If you're not currently in a season of suffering, pray for those who are, asking God to make His presence known to them in tangible ways.