



Discipleship Guide

Sermon: Becoming Bold

Speaker: Pastor JohnEric Zayas

Date: September 28, 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 is the act of taking something common and making it holy and set apart for God.
 - As Christians, we are called to be different from the world, not normal or common.
 - God wants to use His people to execute His will on earth and bring transformation.
 - We must be vigilant against allowing idols or false worship in our lives.
 - Remembering what God has done for us produces momentum in our faith journey.
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Discussion Questions

1. What does it mean to be "consecrated" in today's world? How can we live this out practically?
 2. The pastor said, "The opposite of holy is not unholy. The opposite of holy is common." How does this change your perspective on holiness?
 3. In what areas of your life do you find yourself trying to be "normal" instead of set apart for God? Why do you think this happens?
 4. The sermon mentioned several "false idols" that can creep into our lives (e.g., anger, unforgiveness, addictions). What are some idols you struggle with, and how can you work to remove them?
 5. How has remembering what God has done for you in the past helped you move forward in your faith? Share a specific example if possible.
 6. The pastor emphasized the importance of both deliverance and discipleship. How do you see these two elements working together in your own spiritual growth?
 7. What does it mean to you to "rob hell and populate heaven"? How can we live this out in our daily lives?
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Practical Applications:

1. Take some time this week to reflect on areas of your life that may not be fully consecrated to God. Write these down and pray over them, asking God for help in surrendering these areas.
2. Choose one "idol" or area of struggle in your life. Develop a specific plan to address it this week (e.g., memorizing a relevant Scripture, accountability with a friend, replacing a negative habit with a positive one).
3. Start a "remembrance journal" where you record ways God has worked in your life. Make it a habit to review and add to this regularly.
4. Identify one person in your life who doesn't know Christ. Commit to praying for them daily and look for opportunities to share your faith with them.
5. As a group, brainstorm ways you can be "set apart" in your community. Choose one action step to implement together in the coming month.

Closing Prayer: Lord, we thank you for your word and the call to be set apart for you. Help us to consecrate ourselves fully to you, laying down our idols and remembering all you've done for us. Give us boldness to live differently in this world and to share your love with others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

5-Day Devotionals

Day 1: Consecration - Setting Ourselves Apart

Reading: Joshua 3:1-5

Devotional: Just as Joshua called the Israelites to consecrate themselves before crossing the Jordan, God calls us to set ourselves apart for His purposes. Consecration isn't about perfection, but about dedication. It's a willingness to let go of what is common or worldly in our lives and embrace God's holiness. Today, reflect on areas of your life that need to be consecrated to God. Are there habits, thoughts, or relationships that are hindering your spiritual growth? Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal these areas and give you the strength to surrender them. Remember, consecration is not just about what we give up, but about what we gain - a deeper, more intimate relationship with our Creator.

Day 2: Remembering God's Faithfulness

Reading: Joshua 4:1-7

Devotional: The stones taken from the Jordan served as a lasting memorial of God's faithfulness. In our own lives, it's crucial to have tangible reminders of God's work. These reminders serve not just us, but future generations. Today, take time to recall specific instances of God's faithfulness in your life. Perhaps write them down or share them with a friend or family member. Creating these "memorial stones" in our hearts and minds strengthens our faith for future challenges. When doubts creep in, we can look back at these moments and be reassured of God's unchanging nature and His commitment to His promises.

Day 3: Crossing Over to New Life

Reading: Romans 6:1-14

Devotional: The Israelites' crossing of the Jordan symbolizes our transition from old life to new life in Christ. Paul reminds us in Romans that we have died to sin and been raised to new life. This isn't just a one-time event at salvation, but a daily reality we must embrace. Today, consider what it means to "count yourself dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus" (v.11). Are there areas where you're still living as if your old self is in charge? Ask God to help you fully embrace your new identity in Christ, leaving behind old patterns and stepping into the freedom and power of resurrection life.

Day 4: Facing Our Jerichos

Reading: Joshua 6:1-5, 20

Devotional: Jericho represented the first major obstacle the Israelites faced in the Promised Land. We all have "Jerichos" in our lives - seemingly insurmountable challenges that stand between us and God's promises. The key to victory wasn't in Israel's military might, but in their obedience to God's unusual battle plan. What Jerichos are you facing today? It might be an addiction, a broken relationship, or a persistent fear. God's methods for overcoming these obstacles might not always make sense to us, but our role is to trust and obey. Today, commit your Jericho to God and ask Him for the faith to follow His instructions, even when they don't seem logical.

Day 5: Bold Witnesses in a Hostile World

Reading: Acts 4:23-31

Devotional: The early church faced intense opposition, yet they prayed not for safety, but for boldness to continue proclaiming the gospel. In our increasingly secular world, we too need this kind of courage. Reflect on the prayer of the apostles and how it applies to your life. Are you more concerned with comfort and safety or with boldly sharing God's truth? Ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit and grant you supernatural boldness to be His witness, regardless of the consequences. Remember, our ultimate allegiance is not to any earthly power, but to the King of Kings. Let this truth empower you to stand firm in your faith and be a light in the darkness.