

November 21, 2022

The Lord wants you to experience real and abundant life:

1 Tim. 4:8 *For physical training is of some value, but godliness has value for all things, holding promise for both the present life and the life to come. (NIV)*

There is a picture here of a passage in **Lev. 11:44** *I Am the Lord your God; consecrate yourselves and be holy, because I Am holy. Do not make yourselves unclean by any creature that moves along the ground.* The Hebrew word for *consecrate* is **vehitkaddisitem** which means *to be set apart for holy work, to be dedicated, sanctified or approved.* Because God is completely holy in every way, He demands that His children, who are made in His likeness, also be holy. For that to happen, we must consecrate ourselves to His Lordship. **2 Cor. 7:1** *Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God.*

This is a personal decision that every Christian must make on a daily basis. It can't just be a 'once-a-week' decision at church or every so often when we hear a message that stirs our souls. In fact, Jesus told His disciples in **Lk. 9:23** *Then He said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow Me.* God desires and demands our full-time devotion and dedication to Him and His purposes. He doesn't force us to follow, but He desires us to obey and follow His leadership every day, all day long. This is in fact the difference between knowing that He is LORD and making Him LORD of your life. Many people know that He is LORD, but very few of them follow Him as LORD.

Dear LORD, we submit ourselves completely to You and Your kingdom's work. Help us not to look to the left or the right, but to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith. In Jesus Name, Amen