

COMMIT TO A LIFESTYLE OF WORSHIP AND HOLY ACTIONS SWAGG – (Saved With A God Given Gift)

1) Become a living sacrifice.

Romans 12:1

(Romans 12:1 NLT) And so, dear brothers and sisters, I plead with you to give your bodies to God because of all he has done for you. Let them be a living and holy sacrifice—the kind he will find acceptable. This is truly the way to worship him.

When you think of what he has done for you, is this too much to ask?

Paul encourages and commands us to present our bodies as *living sacrifices* so that we will be available to do what God's wants us to do. We are *HIS*, and every aspect of our lives should reflect that.

What is a sacrifice? To sacrifice something means to give it completely away. It's no longer yours. You need to present *yourself* as a sacrifice completely to God. Then He will be able to use you.

Romans 6:13

(Romans 6:13 NLT) Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin. Instead, give yourselves completely to God, for you were dead, but now you have new life. So use your whole body as an instrument to do what is right for the glory of God.

Worldly habits.

"Lord, use my life while I'm still here to show this world what You really look like!"

What are some ways you can present yourself as a "living sacrifice?"

2) For the glory of God.

Colossians 3:17

(Colossians 3:17 NIV) And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Everything we do... **everything**... needs to reflect God.

- talk
- act
- TV we watch
- music we listen to

1 Corinthians 10:31

(1 Corinthians 10:31 NLT) Whatever you eat or drink or whatever you do, you must do all for the glory of God.

God is watching you. Not just when you're at church or when you're on a church activity... but **all the time**.

God wants you to be a mirror. The world should see Him in you. Once you decide this is something you want, you need to spend time with Him and in His presence.

Psalm 22:3 says that God inhabits our praise, so if you want God to hang out with you all day long, praise Him all day long. Live a life of worship.

And when you're praising and worshiping God all day, whenever something comes along that isn't right that you should flee from, you know right away because God's right there with you... He can't hang out where sin is, and likewise, demons aren't too likely to hang around you if God Almighty is there with you.

The most awesome thing about the Christian life is that as you stay holy and pure, God opens more and more of Himself up to you. Things start to happen that benefit you.

3) No vile thing.

Psalm 101:3

(Psalms 101:3 NIV) I will not look with approval on anything that is vile. I hate what faithless people do; I will have no part in it.

David is saying here, "I'm not going to put anything in front of me that's not of God." **Period.**

This includes drugs, alcohol, immorality, perversion, cruddy TV, movies, music, magazines... anything that leads to a sinful lifestyle or a sinful way of thinking.

4) Make a commitment.

1 Corinthians 10:23

(1 Corinthians 10:23 NIV) "I have the right to do anything," you say—but not everything is beneficial. "I have the right to do anything"—but not everything is constructive.

By grace, we have freedom... *technically* we are no longer under the law, and therefore not bound by it. But grace doesn't mean we can do whatever we want because "everything is permissible." We have *free will*, but that does not give us **LICENSE**.

Galatians 5:13

(Galatians 5:13 NIV) You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh^a; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

If you use your freedom as a Christian to sin, you will find yourself a slave to the very sin that Christ set you free from to begin with.

How do I know which way to go?

Show me the path where I should walk, O Lord; point out the right road for me to follow.
Lead me by your truth and teach me, for you are the God who saves me. All day long I put my hope in you.

Psalm 25:4-5 NLT

Pay attention and grow wise, for I am giving you good guidance. Don't turn away from my teaching.

Proverbs 4:1-2 NLT

I will teach you wisdom's ways and lead you in straight paths. If you live a life guided by wisdom, you won't limp or stumble as you run.

Proverbs 4:11-12 NLT

Facing options

Sometimes we're faced with several options, and we don't know which way to go. In Psalm 25, David asked God for guidance. Perhaps he remembered when, as a shepherd boy, he had to show the right path to his sheep who were wandering away. Just as he knew which path would lead to safety for his sheep, God knew the path that would lead to everlasting life. Just as those sheep that looked to him for direction were in the least danger, so David knew he needed to look to God for direction.

Today, God still leads us by his truth — his written Word and his Spirit, which helps us to understand it. Are you not sure which path to take? Pray as David did and read what God has already said in his written Word. He will show the right road to follow.