

## **WIRED: Ordained**

**May 22, 2022**

**Week 1**

### Day 1- Priestly Sacrifice of My Body

**READ:** [Romans 11:34-12:2](#); [1 Corinthians 6:12-20](#)

**REFLECT:** What does it mean for your body to be a living sacrifice? Why does Paul say that Christians should make their body a living sacrifice? (see 11:34-36) The Corinthians were living in a culture that felt every physical craving should be satisfied. How does this compare to our culture today? Why does Paul say we need to control those appetites? How will focusing on making your body a sacrifice to God change the way you approach your health and your personal purity?

**PRAY/ PRACTICE:** For half a minute take time to consciously offer your body to God with this simple breath prayer. As you breathe in say “my body” and as you exhale say “is Yours.” Repeat this throughout the week whenever you need to make choices about how to use your body.

### Day 2- Priestly Sacrifice of My Praise

**READ:** [Hebrews 13:15-16](#); [Psalm 50:7-15](#)

**REFLECT:** In Psalm 50 the psalmist says God doesn't need anything from us but He does want and deserve the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving. How can praise be a sacrifice? Can you remember a time when it was really hard to praise God? Maybe it's a time when God didn't seem to be answering your prayers in the way you wanted or maybe it seemed he wasn't answering at all. Those are times when our praise becomes a special sacrifice as we show our trust in God's goodness by praising Him.

**PRAY/ PRACTICE:** Think of some area in your life where you are still waiting for an answer from God and take time to praise him that he hears your prayers and will answer in the best way and the best time.

### **TAKE IT FURTHER!**

**LISTEN:** to “[Gratitude](#)” by Brandon Lake or choose another worship song and sing along.

**REFLECT:** Why do you think our praise is so pleasing to God?

**PRACTICE:** Think about ways you can make these sacrifices of praise a part of your everyday life. Begin to consciously praise God for the amazing ways your body works or the beauty of nature around you.

### Day 3- Priestly Sacrifice of My Service

**READ:** [Mark 10:35-46](#)

**REFLECT:** What did James and John and the other ten disciples think would be the sign of greatness? In vs. 43-44 what did Jesus say is the sign of greatness? How does the sacrifice of my service model the sacrifice of Jesus? How can serving others be both a privilege and a sacrifice?

**PRAY/ PRACTICE:** Serving others doesn't come naturally. Ask God to help you see opportunities to serve others today, then watch for those chances to come and ask God to help you jump in to serve.

### Day 4- Priestly Sacrifice of My Generous Giving

**READ:** [2 Corinthians 9:6-15](#)

**REFLECT:** God owns everything and has no need of our money but Paul tells the Corinthians, "God loves a cheerful giver." Why? How does the sacrifice of my generous giving bring glory to God? How does it reflect God's 'inexpressible gift'? Paul says I should give intentionally— "as he has decided in his heart"; I should give generously and joyfully ("not reluctantly"); I should not give "under compulsion" or because of pressure. Exercising giving, like the other priestly sacrifices, can be like physical exercise—It becomes easier over time. Start systematically giving and ask God to grow you in this area.

**PRAY/ PRACTICE:** Go back and read the promise in 2 Corinthians 9:10-11, then pray that promise back to God and tell him you are trusting him to supply all you need to be generous in every way. Consider memorizing these verses so you can claim this promise on a regular basis.

### Day 5- Priestly Sacrifice of My Prayers

**READ:** [Hebrews 4:14-16](#); [Revelation 8:3-4](#)

**REFLECT:** We as priests have an advantage the priests of the Old Testament did not have. They could only go into the Holy of Holies to come near to God in very specific ways and times. But because Jesus died to pay for our sins we have full access to draw near to God in prayer any time. God not only permits us but he commands us to pray always about everything. And our prayers become a sacrifice as we put ourselves aside to bring the needs of others to God. Why can we have confidence when we come to God in prayer? How does that confidence make us bold as we pray? The verses in Revelation 8 give a picture of how meaningful our prayers are to God. Just as smoke from the incense on the altar rose as a sacrifice to God so our prayers rise as a sacrifice, too.

**PRAY/ PRACTICE:** Take a minute to think of the amazing fact that God values your prayers as a sacrifice to him, then pray and thank him for this wonderful privilege of being able to draw near to him in prayer.

### **TAKE IT FURTHER!**

**LISTEN:** [Your Prayers Please God](#)- a short YouTube video by John Piper

**REFLECT:** Knowing that our prayers are meaningful to God, how is my attitude toward the value of prayer changed? How can I draw near to God in prayer and pause in the midst of the busyness of my life?

**PRACTICE:** Make a plan to add more time to be in conversation with God. Maybe that means setting an alarm on your phone or posting a reminder note. Ask God to help you learn to enjoy spending time with him.

**WIRED: Sent Out**  
**May 29, 2022**  
**Week 2**

Day 1- God is a Sending God

**READ:** [Genesis 3:14-15](#); [Genesis 12:1-3](#); [Isaiah 66:18-22](#)

**REFLECT:** Very early in the Bible, in Genesis chapter 3, God reveals His rescue mission to defeat Satan and death. Though Jesus isn't mentioned by name yet, God tells the serpent (Satan) that He will send Someone to crush his head. And over and over throughout Scripture God adds to those prophecies. Just a bit later, in Genesis 12, God tells Abraham he is blessed to be a blessing to all the nations of the earth. John Stott says, "The living God is a missionary God." He sends us to help others come to know Him so they can worship Him and He will get the glory. It's not just about people being saved from their sin; it's all about giving glory to God. In fact, John Piper says, "Missions exists because worship doesn't." In the last chapter of Isaiah we see the culmination of God's rescue mission as some from every people group come to worship God. How is God sending you to help people from your neighborhood, your work place, or maybe from somewhere on the other side of the world to worship Him?

**PRAY/ PRACTICE:** Make a list of some of the people you interact with during the week—could be casual contacts like store clerks or deeper ones like family or work colleagues. Choose three of those and pray for God to give you opportunities to help them know God and worship Him. Consider praying the 3-3-3 method: Pray for those 3 people every day for 3 minutes at 3pm.

Day 2- God Sends Because He Loves Us

**READ:** [John 3:14-17](#); [1 John 3:16-18](#)

**REFLECT:** John 3:16 is such a familiar verse that we often read or recite it quickly and without much thought. Read it slowly and insert your name in place of "the world" and "whoever". Now do the same with the names of the three people you thought of yesterday. God SO LOVED \_\_\_\_\_ that He gave His only son—the most precious thing He could give. How should knowing God loves like that change the way you see the people around you? 1 John 3:16 is our response to John 3:16. Because He laid down His life for us, we should lay down our lives for others. What would it look like in your daily life to die to yourself and to live for others?

**PRAY/ PRACTICE:** Take a moment to remember the events of the cross and then thank God for loving you enough to die for you. Ask him to grow that kind of love in you so you can live for others.

### Day 3- Jesus' Model of Appointing and Abiding

**READ:** [Luke 6:12-19](#); [John 15:4-11](#)

**REFLECT:** In Luke 6 we read how after praying all night Jesus chose 12 men to be His apostles from the larger group of his disciples. I'm not sure what qualifications He was looking for, but it seems that instead of choosing the most learned and experienced men He chose ones who were teachable. They then entered an intense training program where Jesus modeled ministry for them and taught them day by day while they lived and served together. And that's exactly the training Jesus wants to give each of us who follow Him. In John 15 he calls it 'abiding'—staying so close to Him that we can learn from Him and experience His power. What does it look like for you to abide in Jesus? What are some practical ways to do that?

**PRAY:** Jesus, thank you for appointing me to help the people you put in my life to know You. I want to learn to abide in You as You abide in me. Will You show me how to get closer to You and learn to love others like You do?. I'm available and eager to abide in You. [Philippians 2:13](#) says it's You, God, who *works in me both to will and to work for Your good pleasure* so I'm counting on You to do that work in me. Amen.

### Day 4- Jesus' Model of Releasing and Authorizing

**READ:** [Luke 9:1-6](#); [Matthew 28:16-20](#)

**REFLECT:** Jesus was the perfect preacher—ininitely better than His followers. Still, He knew He was only one person in His earthly body and could only preach in one place at a time. So He multiplied His influence by giving His disciples both the power and the authority to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. And they did. And more were blessed and gave glory to God through this multiplication. Then after the resurrection the last assignment He gave His disciples before He went back to heaven was to make disciples of all people groups, baptizing them, and teaching them to obey Jesus' teachings. He gave them not only authority to do this but He promised them His presence with them always. And He promised that to "the end of the age." That means His command and His promise was given to all of us who are His followers today. Jesus is with me! Jesus is with you! You can take on His mission with confidence. How can you lose?

**PRAY/ PRACTICE:** If you have given Jesus your life then He commands you to be on mission for Him. That mission won't look the same for any two of us. Take some time to pray and thank God for calling you to help people know Him. Ask Him to show you where He is working in the people you know and ask Him to show you how to come alongside Him as He works.

## Day 5- My Role as Servant and Steward

**READ:** [1 Corinthians 3:21-4:2](#); [Romans 8:35-39](#)

**REFLECT:** In these verses from Corinthians what 6 things does Paul name that are ours? Now, name the things in Romans that Paul says cannot separate us from God's love in Jesus. Paul says we have victory over death because death leads us directly to Jesus. In Christ we have everything we need to do what He's appointed us to do. In Him we are equipped and capable. [1 Corinthians 4:1-2](#) reminds us that we are servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. How is a servant different from a steward? How does God call you to do each of these jobs? What are these mysteries of God that we are responsible to pass on to others? How can you be both a servant of Christ and a steward in your home or your job or your school?

**PRAY/ PRACTICE:** Take some time to think about what mission God is calling you to in the season of life you are in right now. This doesn't have to be something huge like starting a new ministry, though it could be that. Maybe it's encouraging a young mother you know or spending time with an elderly neighbor. Tell God you are willing to take on your mission and ask Him to show you what that looks like today. Day by day you will get better at seeing what God is doing around you so that you can be on mission with Him.