

Sept 19, 2021
La Jolla Christian Fellowship
The Sacrifice: Ep. 2 Elements Of Sacred Community
Pastor Adam Stadtmiller

2 Chronicles 29:1-5

*Then King David said to the whole assembly: "My son Solomon, the one whom God has chosen, is young and inexperienced. **The task is great, because this palatial structure is not for man but for the LORD God.** With all my resources I have provided for the temple of my God—gold for the gold work, silver for the silver, bronze for the bronze, iron for the iron and wood for the wood, as well as onyx for the settings, turquoise, stones of various colors, and all kinds of fine stone and marble—all of these in large quantities. **Besides, in my devotion to the temple of my God I now give my personal treasures of gold and silver for the temple of my God, over and above everything I have provided for this holy temple:** three thousand talents of gold (gold of Ophir) and seven thousand talents of refined silver, for the overlaying of the walls of the buildings, for the gold work and the silver work, and for all the work to be done by the craftsmen. Now, who is willing to consecrate themselves to the LORD today?"*

Context: In this passage, King David is leading a community of people in singular devotion around the formation of existential and **tangible** sacred space in order to promote the greater work of God's kingdom on earth.

1. **Sacred Space**— A sacred place is first of all a defined space distinguished from other spaces. The rituals that a people either practice at a place or direct toward it mark its sacredness and differentiate it from other defined spaces.
2. **Devotion**— To devote means to give.
3. **Consecration**— To set apart what was given as holy.

- 1) **Sacred Space:** We live in a world that is increasingly less sacred and where sacred space is nearing extinction.

Sacred space provides margin to experience the sacred moment.

- 2) **Vs. 1b** The task is great, because this palatial structure is **not for man** but for the LORD God.
a) **Psalm 115:1** *Not unto us, O LORD, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy, and for thy truth's sake.*
- 3) **Holy Devotion:** To devote means to give.
a) The purpose of Holy Devotion is freedom, freedom from bondage to our own narcissistic wants and desires and the giving of yourself to a cause greater ourselves.
b) **Vs. 3** *Besides, in my devotion to the temple of my God I now give my personal treasures of gold and silver for the temple of my God, over and above everything I have provided for this holy temple*
i) Devotion furnishes provision.
- 4) **Consecration:** To set apart what was given as holy.
a) **Vs. 5b** *"Now, who is willing to consecrate themselves to the LORD today?"*
b) **Proverbs 16:3** *Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.*

True success in this life comes in consecrating our lives—that is, our time and choices—to God's purposes.
In so doing, we permit Him to raise us to our highest destiny. - D. Todd Christofferson

Questions for small groups:

1. Where are the sacred physical spaces in your life?
2. What time have you set apart as sacred time?
3. To devote means to give. Are there areas of your life that remain un-devoted to God?
4. How would you go about consecrating a gift to the Lord or in other words, making it holy? Is there a process?
5. Is the lack of devotion possibly keeping you from God's desired destiny for your life?