

FirstFruits Gathering At Harvest Christian Church

The Power of Dedication March 16, 2021 Suzi Armstrong

Dedicate:

Set apart for a specific purpose.

- Dedication announces your intent and purpose.
- We dedicate time to family or study or pleasure.
- Jesus was dedicated at the temple by Mary and Joseph.
- Dedication is speaking what is not as though it were – it is intent put in place by the power of declaring what is to be. Dedication taps into the prophetic.
- Dedication is setting your face like flint toward something.
 - Unwavering determination.
 - Will not shrink back despite opposition.

Isaiah 50.7 NIV

⁷ Because the Sovereign Lord helps me,
I will not be disgraced.
Therefore have I set my face like flint,
and I know I will not be put to shame.

A picture of dynamics of dedication – dedicating positions:

Isaiah 50.4-10 NIV

⁴ The Sovereign Lord has given me a well-instructed tongue, [knowing when and how to dedicate]
to know the word that sustains the weary.

He wakens me morning by morning, [with fresh insight and fresh faith waiting for me]
wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.

⁵ The Sovereign Lord has opened my ears;
I have not been rebellious, [I have not rejected the voice of the Lord]
I have not turned away.

⁵ I offered my back to those who beat me,
my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard;
I did not hide my face
from mocking and spitting. [Opposition will not stop me]

⁷ Because the Sovereign Lord helps me,
I will not be disgraced.

Therefore have I set my face like flint,
and I know I will not be put to shame.

⁸ He who vindicates me is near.
Who then will bring charges against me?
Let us face each other!

Who is my accuser?
Let him confront me!

⁹ It is the Sovereign Lord who helps me.
Who will condemn me?
They will all wear out like a garment;
the moths will eat them up.

¹⁰ Who among you fears the Lord
and obeys the word of his servant?
Let the one who walks in the dark,
who has no light,
trust in the name of the Lord
and rely on their God.

Proverbs 22.6 KJV

⁶ Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.

- This IS THE POWER OF DEDICATION.
- God hears our dedication – it doesn't have to be public. All of heaven hears it.
- Power in the confession of our heart.

This nation was set apart for the purposes of God. It was declared, decreed, prophesied over the land. The Spaniards, the Huguenots and the Pilgrims all dedicated this land to the Lord when they arrived.

- The dedication of our land led to godly men being in leadership when it was time to form the structure and government of a new nation. Men who honored the Lord and sought His wisdom and insight as this nation was birthed.
- The Lord is part of the heritage of this nation. Founding fathers earnestly sought the wisdom of God as they structured our nation and they incorporated God's wisdom and council into the structure.

Prayer and declaration:

The power of praise and worship of Almighty God builds an altar.

We worship You Lord God, creator of the heavens and the earth.

This nation belongs to You.

Our Father who is in heaven – we worship Your name and exalt You over our nation agreeing with Your word that says the nations are Yours. Let Your kingdom come and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

***'For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.'* (Eph 8.12-13)**

Declaring Psalm 33:

⁶ By the word of the Lord the heavens were made,
their starry host by the breath of his mouth.

⁷ He gathers the waters of the sea into jars;
he puts the deep into storehouses.

⁸ Let all the earth fear the Lord;
let all the people of the world revere him.

⁹ For he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.

¹⁰ The Lord foils the plans of the nations;
he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.

¹¹ But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever,
the purposes of his heart through all generations.

¹² Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,
the people he chose for his inheritance.