

## Example of a Prayer of Consecration

### Hannah Smith

I feel that perhaps it will help me to write out a definite consecration of myself to God so that I may distinctly grasp the reality and irrevocableness of it.

Lord, I am yours, yours wholly, and yours forever! I am yours by the purchase of your blood, and I present myself to you now as a living sacrifice, body, soul, and spirit to be as clay in your hands.

I give you my heart, Lord, to love only what you love; to hate what you hate; to endure all things, to suffer long and be kind, to be not easily provoked; to think no evil, not to seek my own. Help me, oh my God!

I give you my intellect to be wholly devoted to your service, and perfectly under your control to think only those thoughts that will please you, to devise only such plans as you suggest, to yield the management of all its affairs to you! I give it to you that you may fulfill the purposes of your grace by casting down in me imaginations, and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." Help me, oh my God.

I give you my body to be used by you. My eyes to see only what you would have them see, my ears to hear only what you would have them hear; my feet to go only where you lead, my hands to do only what can be done in fellowship with you, my tongue to speak only words that please you. I give you any appetite to be under thy control and regulation. I give my time to you, Lord, to be all employed for you.

I leave my reputation in your hands. I give you my children, my husband, and everyone whom I love to be disposed of according to your will. I leave to you the ordering of my whole life, and with your help will follow you wherever you lead. I will give you the control of my feelings and of my prejudices.

I submit, in short, my whole being and life all that I am and have and will be to your complete control and only ask that your will may be perfectly done in me, through me and by me! Take me and keep me oh my God!

Hannah Whitehall Smith's Journal, May 31, 1869

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<sup>1</sup>Smith, H. W. (1997). *The Christian's secret of a holy life : The unpublished personal writings of Hannah Whitall Smith* (May 13). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.