

NEW CONSECRATION SUNDAY

By Herb Miller

AN OVERVIEW



*This presentation has been prepared by
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PURPOSE

The purpose of this presentation is to help the local Church determine whether they should embark on the spiritual growth program of the “New Consecration Sunday”. We do not offer sufficient information here to conduct “New Consecration Sunday” without first purchasing the Program.

The purchased Program will include:

*“Stewardship Program Book”
Audio Cassette – Overview for Stewardship & Finance Committees
“Guest Leader Guide”*

*Published by Abingdon Press, Nashville.
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Available from:

*Cokesbury
1-800-672-1789
717-564-2212 (Harrisburg, PA)
www.cokesbury.com*

COST: About \$38

PHILOSOPHY

“New Consecration Sunday” is a stewardship education program based on our Christian acceptance of God’s unconditional love and our need as stewards of God’s Word to make a faith commitment by giving a percentage of our income to God’s household, the Church. This is a spiritual growth program teaching giving as a response to God’s love and part of the worship act. The “New Consecration Sunday” encourages joyful giving rather than fund raising to meet a budget.

GOAL

There is a direct correlation between how Christian stewardship is defined and taught and the congregation's giving response. The Church as the household of Christ is peopled by those who are called to know God through their stewardship walk with Jesus. The Church desires to contribute to God's work by increasing individual giving proportionately.

BENEFITS

Teaches percentage giving as the path to growing cheerful givers. Asks, "What percentage of your income is God calling you to give?"

Refuels church members' education about the faith connection between money and living in response to God's love.

Results in 20 – 60% higher attendance on Consecration Sunday than usual.

Increases a Church's financial contributions generally by 10 – 25% the first year with anticipated increases in future years.

GUEST LEADER

It is essential to have a Guest Leader conduct the "New Consecration Sunday" Program. The Guest Leader will follow the timeline, speak effectively and in an interesting manner and visit the Local Church on three separate occasions:

- #1. To meet with the members of the Consecration Sunday Team
Orientation
Six weeks before Consecration Sunday
- #2. To meet with all the leaders and their spouses
Dinner or dessert social
One week before Consecration Sunday
- #3. To speak at the Consecration Sunday Worship Service and
join the congregation for the catered Victory Luncheon (also called the
Celebration Luncheon)

A Guest Leader will have experience with the Program and be able to guide your Church through the process with a fresh approach, resulting in more attention and consideration to the subject.

Since the presence of a Guest Leader makes a 10 to 20 % difference in total results, it is well worth the small honorarium and travel expense.

THE TEAM

1. Team Chairperson
2. Leaders' Dinner or Dessert Social Coordinator
3. Victory Luncheon Chairperson
4. Announcer #1
5. Announcer #2
6. Announcer #3
7. Church Financial Secretary
8. Pastor

Team members may be, but are not required to be members of your Finance and/or Stewardship Committee(s). You may want to include someone to assist with mailings; your Youth Group might help with posters.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

Eight copies of "New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program Book"

Two copies of "New Consecration Sunday Guest Leader Guide"
(for the Guest Leader and the Pastor)

One "New Consecration Sunday" audiotape

Estimate of Giving Cards for each member of your Church.

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