

HOW DO I REDEDICATE MY LIFE TO GOD?

The previous section noted how to be saved, and that our salvation in Christ is sure. In Christ, we are born again (John 3:3; 2 Cor. 5:17) and 'sealed' in God's overwhelming and eternal love (Ephesians 1:13-14). Romans 8 affirms that beautiful promise:

"Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?... No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (Romans 8:33-39)

However, there are times when Christians slip back into sin and allow their faith in Christ to grow cold. When this happens, there are two things to remember: 1) God's love is sure. Yes, a lack of faith saddens Him, but our God is a God of mercy, and reconciliation and 2) do NOT delay in asking for forgiveness. God wants you to return to Him—He is waiting for you to return to Him. A few stories and verses that support this truth are noted below:

The story of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11-32) affirms God's love for sinners and desire for restoration

The restoration of Peter in John 21 notes Jesus' desire and ability to forgive and restore.

The wayward Hebrews in the days of Nehemiah were able to rededicate themselves to the Lord in Nehemiah 9

The wayward Hebrews in the days of Joshua were able to rededicate (consecrate) themselves to the Lord in Joshua 3.

The story of Hosea and the redemption of his unfaithful wife illustrates God's desire to redeem and restore those whom He loves.

1 John 1:9 notes that our sins can be forgiven.

Romans 8:1 notes that there is "no condemnation" for those who are in relationship with Christ Jesus.

A wise pastor once said, "God is always only a prayer away." Tell Him you're sorry. Confess your sins. Receive His forgiveness. Rejoice in His grace and love.

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." (Jer. 29:13)