

SEEK THE LORD TOGETHER

14 December 2025

SUMMARY:

This message calls the IMPACTERS community to a season of consecration and focused prayer as God prepares to do something significant. Bruce Downes emphasizes that before mission comes prayer, before expansion comes consecration, and before action comes spiritual alignment. Drawing from Scripture and church history, he explains that genuine renewal is always born in prayer. The message announces major initiatives including establishing a discipleship training school, expanding communities globally, investing in youth ministry, and caring for the poor. However, the central call is for all members worldwide to participate in 21 days of prayer beginning January 1st, preparing their hearts for what God wants to do rather than rushing into activity. The message stresses that IMPACTERS is not a centralized ministry but a global community united by prayer, formation, and mission, with members in multiple countries from France to New Jersey to Australia.

KEY POINTS

- God is doing something significant and calling the IMPACTERS community to seek Him before moving forward
- Consecration means dedicating yourself to God and desiring His will to be at work within you
- Prayer is not optional but essential for leadership, unity, and spiritual alignment
- Throughout Scripture and church history, every genuine renewal has been born in prayer
- IMPACTERS is a global community, not a single location - it exists wherever people are formed by God
- Before mission, expansion, or building comes prayer and formation
- The most important response to sensing God's call is to seek Him, not to organize or plan quickly
- Prayer gathers people into one body before God regardless of geography or physical capacity
- Major initiatives planned include: discipleship training school, global community expansion, youth movement, care ministry, and partnership with medical ships
- Significant financial investment and faith will be required, calling people to sacrificial giving
- A 21-day prayer initiative beginning January 1st will unite the global community in seeking God's direction

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

- Luke 22:42 - Garden of Gethsemane: "Not my will but yours"
- Acts 2 - Pentecost and the early church's devotion to prayer
- Various references to Joshua and Israel's consecration before entering the Promised Land
- References to Jehoshaphat calling people to prayer and fasting when facing opposition
- General references to Jesus withdrawing to pray before major decisions and ministry

QUOTES

- IMPACTERS is not a ministry here where people watch from elsewhere what's happening here. IMPACTERS is a global community of people who are being formed by God.
- If God is calling us into something new, we cannot carry it with yesterday's spiritual life. We need a fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit. We need fresh grace. We need fresh clarity.
- Prayer is not the absence of action. It's the place where action is purified. It's not where responsibility is avoided. It's where responsibility is rightly received.
- Consecration means to dedicate yourself to God and to desire His will to be at work within you. The most important thing we can do right now is to seek God in this season.
- Before mission, there's prayer. Before sending, there's formation. And before expansion, there's always consecration.
- Unity in the church is not first organisational. Unity in the church is first spiritual. It comes from shared surrender and prayer creates capacity.
- We are going to establish our own IMPACTERS discipleship training school where people will come from around the world for four to five to six months to spend here, rooted in Catholic life, prayer, scripture, community and mission.
- If you own a second home, can I ask you to sell it and to give your money to the ministry? If you have investments, can I ask you to materialise them and give your money to the ministry?

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SMALL GROUP GUIDE

This guide is designed to help your small group dive deeper into the message.

OPENING PRAYER

Begin by asking someone to pray, inviting God's presence into your time together. Ask the Holy Spirit to open hearts and minds to hear what God wants to say to each person. Pray the IMPACTERS Community Prayer.

ICE BREAKER

Question: Share one moment this year when you felt God calling you to something bigger than yourself. How did you respond?

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. God is Doing Something New

Bruce shared a strong sense that God is preparing to do something significant through the IMPACTERS community globally, not just in one location, but everywhere people are gathering.

2. Before Action Comes Prayer

"Before mission, there's prayer. Before sending, there's formation. And before expansion, there's always consecration."

3. We Are One Body, Many Places

IMPACTERS is not about watching from elsewhere. It is a global community united by Jesus Christ, sharing the same center regardless of geography.

4. The Call to 21 Days of Prayer

Beginning January 1st, the entire IMPACTERS community worldwide is called to 21 days of focused, intentional prayer - not as a program to complete, but as a shared act of consecration.

5. The Vision Ahead

- Establishing an IMPACTERS Discipleship Training School
- Expanding IMPACTERS communities globally
- Investing in youth and young adults
- Caring for the poor and hurting (IMPACTERS Care)
- Building capacity for formation and mission

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Understanding the Message

1. Bruce said, "If God is calling us into something new, we cannot carry it with yesterday's spiritual life." What does this statement mean to you personally?
2. How does the concept of being "gathered and dispersed" change your understanding of church and community?
3. What stood out most to you about Bruce's vision for the coming year? What excited you? What challenged you?

PERSONAL REFLECTION

1. Bruce asked us to notice: "Where is your heart right now? What has been filling your inner life? Where might God be inviting you to make space?" Take a moment to share your honest answers.
2. Have you ever experienced a season where God asked you to pray before acting? What happened? What did you learn?
3. Bruce mentioned that consecration means "to dedicate yourself to God and to desire His will to be at work within you." On a scale of 1-10, how consecrated do you feel right now? What's holding you back from a higher number?

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

1. Bruce stated, "Prayer is how the people of God learn to recognize the difference between what is possible and what is faithful." What decisions are you facing where you need to discern between what's possible and what's faithful?
2. How can you prepare your heart for the 21 days of prayer beginning January 1st? What practical changes might you need to make?
3. Bruce challenged those with resources: "If you own a second home, can I ask you to sell it and give your money to the ministry?" While this may not apply to everyone, what is God asking you to sacrifice or surrender for His kingdom?

ACTION STEPS

This Week:

- **Prepare Your Heart:** Spend time this week noticing where your heart is. Journal about what's been filling your inner life and where God might be inviting you to make space.
- **Commit to Prayer:** Mark January 1st on your calendar and commit to the 21 days of prayer. Share this commitment with someone in your group for accountability.

- **Clear the Clutter:** Identify one thing that's taking up space in your life that needs to be surrendered to make room for what God wants to do.

This Month:

- **Financial Obedience:** Pray specifically about what God is asking you to give or surrender financially. This isn't about guilt. It is about listening.
- **Stay Connected:** Reach out to at least two people in your group during the 21 days to encourage them and share what God is showing you.
- **Vision Alignment:** Spend time praying about how you personally fit into the vision Bruce shared. Ask God, "What role do You want me to play?"

This Season:

- **Form a Prayer Partnership:** Find one or two others who will commit to praying with you regularly throughout 2026.
- **Examine Your Life:** Bruce mentioned that consecration involves dedicating yourself to God. Do a "life audit." Are there areas where you've been making decisions without seeking God first?
- **Share the Vision:** Tell someone outside your group about what God is doing through IMPACTERS. Invite them to join the 21 days of prayer.

CLOSING CHALLENGE

Bruce said: "In 12 months from now, around the world, in all the people who call themselves an IMPACTER, where will we be? What will God have done in you?"

Final Question: Where do you want to be spiritually 12 months from now? Share one specific way you want to grow or change through this season of seeking God.

PRAYER FOCUS

Pray Together For:

1. **Consecration:** That each person in your group would experience a fresh dedication to God and His purposes.
2. **The 21 Days:** That God would meet every person participating around the world in powerful ways during this season of prayer.
3. **The Vision:** For the discipleship training school, community expansion, youth movement, care ministries, and capacity building.
4. **Resources:** That God would provide supernaturally—financial resources, people, properties, and partnerships.
5. **Unity:** For the global IMPACTERS community—that despite different locations, languages, and circumstances, we would be truly one body.
6. **Personal Surrender:** Take time for each person to pray their own prayer of surrender, asking God what He wants from them specifically.

FOR NEXT WEEK

- Come prepared to share what God has been showing you as you prepare for the 21 days of prayer
- Bring your calendar and commit together to specific prayer times
- Consider: What might God be asking you to do that seems "ridiculous" but is actually faith-filled?