



“ALIGNMENT FOR THE ASSIGNMENT”

Day 1: Hunger, Hearing, and Alignment · Pastor Maurice Winley A Night of Consecration, Listening Prayer, and Obedience

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.”

— Matthew 5:6

“Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.”

— 1 Samuel 3:10

“Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.”

— Matthew 6:33

THE PURPOSE OF THIS TEACHING

Tonight's focus is Hunger, Hearing, and Alignment.

This is not a night of noise or urgency.

It is a night of consecration and listening.

- We start inside (hunger)
- We move upward (hearing God)
- We move forward (alignment for assignment)

Spiritual Progression:

1. Hunger — What do I truly want?
2. Hearing — Am I listening or just talking?
3. Alignment — Am I ready to obey?

OVERARCHING FRAME: ALIGNMENT FOR THE ASSIGNMENT

God does not merely give assignments —He aligns people for assignments.

Calling without alignment often leads to:

- confusion
- burnout
- striving
- prayer without clarity

Alignment protects:

- obedience
- sustainability
- discernment
- fruitfulness

FASTING — REORDERING HUNGER

Definition

Fasting is the intentional abstinence from legitimate needs (food, comfort, activity, pleasure) in order to heighten spiritual sensitivity, humble the soul, and re-center dependence on God.

“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

— Matthew 4:4

Key Insight

Fasting does not change God’s will.

It changes our posture.

Fasting:

- lowers the volume of the flesh
- exposes misplaced appetites

- creates space for listening
- restores spiritual hunger

Fasting does not make God speak louder — it makes us quiet enough to hear.

Prayer for Hunger

Prayer Point:

Lord, restore in me a true hunger for You above comfort, outcomes, and success.

Prayer:

Father, reorder my appetites. Let my deepest desire be for Your presence, Your will, and Your glory.

CONSECRATION — SET APART FOR GOD

Definition

Consecration is the intentional setting apart of the whole self (spirit, soul, body, desires, motives, plans, and direction) unto God.

“Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God...”

— Romans 12:1

Consecration is not withdrawal from life —

it is alignment within life.

“Sanctify yourselves today, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you.”

— Joshua 3:5

Wonders follow consecration — not the other way around.

Prayer for Consecration

Prayer Point:

Lord, I present my whole self to You — nothing withheld, nothing reserved.

Prayer:

Search me, O God. I surrender my plans, preferences, timing, and methods. Align me fully to Your will.

PRAYER IS NOT A MONOLOGUE

We would consider someone rude if, during a conversation, they constantly talked over us.

Many of our prayer lives look exactly like this:

- nonstop requests
- rushed urgency
- rehearsed language

We talk at God, say “Amen,” and never pause to hear if God has something to say.

“Be still, and know that I am God.”

— Psalm 46:10

Prayer matures when:

- talking gives way to listening
- urgency gives way to trust
- monologue gives way to dialogue

SILENCE — THE LANGUAGE OF ATTENTIVENESS

Silence in Scripture is not empty.

It is active attentiveness.

“Let your words be few.”

— Ecclesiastes 5:2

Silence:

- surrenders control
- softens the heart
- trains discernment
- makes room for God’s voice

Silence says:

“God, I trust You enough to listen.”

Prayer for Listening

Prayer:

Still my striving. Silence every competing voice. Teach me to listen, not just speak.

HARKEN — LISTENING THAT OBEYS

To harken (Hebrew: shama) means:

- to hear attentively
- to listen with understanding
- to respond in obedience

“Hear, O Israel...”

— Deuteronomy 6:4

Hearing without obedience is incomplete listening.

“Speak, Lord, for Your servant hears.”

— 1 Samuel 3:10

Alignment begins when obedience is pre-decided.

ASKING AMISS — MISALIGNED PRAYER

“You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss...”

— James 4:3

To ask amiss means:

- wrongly
- improperly
- from selfish or unchecked motives
- from the wrong center

It is not always the wrong request — it is the wrong orientation.

Self-centered prayer uses God as a means.

God-centered prayer seeks God as the end.

FOCUS AS SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Focus is not neutral — it is contested territory.

“Set your minds on things above...” — Colossians 3:2

“Take every thought captive to obey Christ.” — 2 Corinthians 10:5

The enemy does not need to stop prayer — only to fragment attention. Focus is obedience at the level of attention.

DISCIPLINE IN THE PRAYER WALK

“Train yourself for godliness.”

— 1 Timothy 4:7

Emotion initiates prayer.

Discipline sustains it.

“Daniel... prayed three times a day, just as he had done before.”

— Daniel 6:10

Discipline protects alignment when feelings fade.

PRAYING THE SCRIPTURES

One of the greatest protections against praying amiss is praying God’s Word back to God.

“If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you...”

— John 15:7

Praying Scripture:

- shapes desire
- corrects motive
- aligns us with God’s will
- keeps self from the center

Instead of:

“Lord, bless what I want...”

We pray:

“Your will be done.” (Matthew 6:10)

ALIGNMENT FOR THE ASSIGNMENT — THE SYNTHESIS

You cannot carry divine assignment with:

- self-centered appetite
- undisciplined focus
- prayer without listening
- hearing without obedience

“My sheep hear My voice... and they follow Me.”

— John 10:27

Hearing → Knowing → Following

This is the order of alignment.

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. What appetites have been governing me more than God's voice?
2. Where might I be asking amiss without realizing it?
3. Do I leave space in prayer to listen?
4. What distractions require discipline in this season?
5. Am I hungry for God — or for outcomes?

CLOSING DECLARATION

Lord, align our hunger.

Quiet our souls.

Discipline our focus.

Deliver us from asking amiss.

Teach us to harken — not just hear.

We fast not to be seen, but to see.

We consecrate not to earn, but to align.

Prepare us for the assignment You have prepared for us.

In Jesus' Name, Amen.