

ENCOUNTER WITH GOD — PART 5

Devo 10.11.26

The Importance of Staying on Fire for God

A Message from Pastor Jeremy Richardson | Power Chapel

Key Scriptures: Matthew 25:1–13 | Romans 12:11

“Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord.” —
Romans 12:11 (KJV)

Are You Ready to Meet Jesus?

In Matthew 25:1–13, Jesus tells the parable of the ten virgins, reminding us of the importance of remaining spiritually awake, alert, and prepared for His return.

As believers, we are not called to live lukewarm lives. We are called to remain on fire for God!

Revelation 3 warns us of the danger of becoming lukewarm. The fire of God is not something we experience once and then allow to fade. It is something we must continually fuel, stir up, and protect.

The fire of God keeps us ready for the coming of the Lord, focused on eternity, and moving forward in His calling. It protects us from distractions, deception, fear, compromise, and the weights of life. It keeps our hearts pure, our faith strong, and our attention on what matters to Jesus—including reaching the lost.

So, how do we stay on fire for God?

1. Keep Adding the Fuel of the Word

Luke 24:32 (KJV)

“Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?”

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When Jesus opened the Scriptures to the disciples, their hearts burned within them.

The Word of God feeds the fire!

Romans 10:17 tells us that faith comes by hearing the Word of God, while Acts 20:32 reminds us that His Word builds us up spiritually.

You cannot continually feed on unbelief, doubt, and fear and expect your faith to remain strong.

Read the Word. Meditate on it. Speak it. Obey it.

A heart full of God's Word becomes a heart that burns for Him!

2. Keep Praying — Stay in the Presence of God

1 Thessalonians 5:17 (KJV)

“Pray without ceasing.”

In Acts 4:31, the believers gathered together in prayer, the place was shaken, and they were filled with the Holy Ghost.

Their encounter in Acts 2 wasn't their last encounter. They kept praying, and they kept being filled!

Yesterday's fire is not a substitute for today's fellowship with God.

Prayer is not merely an event or something we turn to in emergencies. It is a lifestyle of fellowship and communion with God.

James 4:8 reminds us that as we draw near to God, He draws near to us.

Through prayer, thanksgiving, and praise, we enter His presence and allow Him to refresh, strengthen, and fill us again.

A strong prayer life produces a strong spiritual life!

3. Keep Yourself Full of the Holy Spirit

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Ephesians 5:18 (KJV)

“And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit.”

God never intended for us to experience one encounter with the Holy Spirit and then live spiritually empty.

We are called to live continually filled with His Spirit!

Stay full through prayer, worship, the Word, and fellowship with the Holy Ghost.

You cannot continually pour out if you never receive.

Stay full so that you can continue to pour out!

4. Stir Up the Fire — Don't Neglect What God Put in You

2 Timothy 1:6 (KJV)

“Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee...”

Timothy faced real pressure to quit, compromise, and draw back. Yet Paul's instruction was not to surrender to that pressure—it was to stir up the gift of God!

Romans 12:11 calls us to be *fervent in spirit, serving the Lord*.

The Greek word for fervent, *zeō*, describes something boiling with heat. It paints a picture of spiritual passion and intensity.

But notice that Paul connects fervency with service.

THE FIRE OF GOD IS NOT JUST SOMETHING YOU FEEL—IT'S SOMETHING THAT MOVES YOU TO SERVE!

We are called to burn for God AND work for God!

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Don't neglect the gifts He's placed inside you. Keep serving, keep obeying, and keep responding to the Holy Spirit.

What you continually stir grows stronger. What you continually neglect grows dormant.

5. Stay Connected to the Body of Christ

Hebrews 10:24–25 (KJV)

“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together...”

Fire burns stronger when believers gather together!

The early Church didn't receive the fire of God in Acts 2 and then separate from one another. They continued together in teaching, fellowship, prayer, and worship.

There is something God does corporately that we cannot experience while living an isolated Christian life.

We must be careful not to allow schedules, activities, work, or even God's blessings to replace our commitment to His house.

Matthew 6:33 reminds us to seek FIRST the Kingdom of God.

Our lives and priorities should revolve around the Kingdom—not simply fit God into whatever time remains.

Stay connected. Stay committed. Stay around people who are burning for God!

6. Stay Away from Fire Quenchers

1 Thessalonians 5:19 (KJV)

“Quench not the Spirit.”

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Not everyone who professes to know God allows His Word and power to govern their lives.

Second Timothy 3:5 warns about those who have a form of godliness but deny its power.

The people we continually surround ourselves with influence our attitudes, priorities, convictions, and spiritual hunger.

We are called to love people, reach people, and minister to people—but we must also be discerning about whom we allow to influence our lives.

Don't allow someone else's spiritual indifference to become your spiritual condition!

Jesus must remain FIRST—above family, work, hobbies, schedules, and the approval of others.

Our faith should produce genuine transformation, obedience, and spiritual fruit. James 1:22 reminds us to be doers of the Word and not hearers only.

Don't apologize for being on fire for God!

Don't compromise your consecration to accommodate someone else's lack of consecration.

Don't allow the coldness of others to cool your spiritual temperature.

Surround yourself with people who encourage your faith, stir your gifts, strengthen your convictions, and inspire you to pursue God.

You are responsible for protecting the fire God has placed in your life!

7. Keep Pouring Out — Use the Fire to Reach People

Acts 1:8 (KJV)

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me...”

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The fire of God was never given merely to make us feel something.

THE FIRE WAS GIVEN FOR AN ASSIGNMENT!

We are called to witness, preach the Gospel, serve, lay hands on the sick, make disciples, and reach our cities and the nations.

The fire of God should move us beyond ourselves and compel us to fulfill the Great Commission.

God has placed His power within us so that we can accomplish His purposes!

Final Encouragement: Keep the Fire Burning!

The fire of God keeps us ready for Jesus, strengthens our faith, guards our hearts, and moves us into everything He has called us to do.

But we have a responsibility to protect that fire.

Keep feeding on the Word. Keep praying. Stay filled with the Holy Spirit. Stir up your gifts. Remain connected to the Body of Christ. Guard your influences. And continue reaching people with the Gospel.

Don't settle for yesterday's encounter when God desires continual fellowship with you today!

GET ON FIRE. STAY ON FIRE. AND DON'T ALLOW ANYONE OR ANYTHING TO PUT YOUR FIRE OUT!