

“Like a Burning Fire”

There is an intensity with which we can serve God that will ensure our devotion. God’s word encourages us to develop that yearning for Him and to take hold of it in such a way that we become too convicted toward Him to let it go. It is often described as a burning fire. (*Psalm 39:3, Jer. 20:9*)

The fire is going out when I am _____ (*Matt. 5:6, 1 Pet.2:1-3*) or when I am not _____ and _____ for God. (*Ps. 42:1-2; 63:1-2; 84:2; 107:9*)

When I no longer am _____ for God, it’s time to check the fire. (*Psalm 122:1*)

Sometimes the fire is _____ out. (*Matt.13:7,22; Heb.13:5-6; 1 Tim. 6:9-11*)

The fire is fading when I find it difficult to _____. (*Saul, 1 Sam.13:8-12; 15:10-11, 13-14*)

It’s hard to have the fire burn when I am dampened by _____. (*John 12:42-43*)

I need to keep the fire burning!

- A. For my own sake (*2 Cor. 5:10*), for endurance and renewal. (*2 Cor.4:16; Rom.12:2*)
- B. For the Lord’s church (*Eph. 4:16; Rom. 14:19*) for my part in building the fire. (*1 Cor.12:12-14*)
- C. For my family’s salvation, my children and beyond. (*Eph.6:4, Deut. 6:6-9*)

How do I do it?

- A. Fires need fuel to burn; more fuel makes a hotter fire! (*Phil. 4:8; Jer. 15:16; Heb.4:12*)
- B. Create the best environment. (*Phil.3:17; Psalm 37:37*)
- C. Keep a close watch on the fire. (*2 Cor.13:5; Phil. 3:13-14*)