

“This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you.”

(2 Timothy 1:6, NLT)

You and I are called to constantly “*stir up*” (NKJV) the embers and fuel the fire so we will remain a blazing inferno for Jesus

The fact is that when the fuel of any sort is depleted, fire will eventually go out

The biblical pattern of the book of Acts also reveals that we are going to see the results the early Church in the book of Acts experienced we must be...

People of the Word

Steadfast in Prayer

Embrace the Movement of the Holy Spirit

The Nine Gifts of the Holy Spirit

“There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.” (1 Corinthians 12:4–7, NKJV)

- Always toward one end – “*the profit of all*”

Word of Wisdom, Word of Knowledge, Gift of Faith, Gifts of Healing, Working of Miracles, Prophecy, (*edification, encouragement, comfort*), Discerning of Spirits, Different Kinds of Tongues / Interpretation of Tongues

We Must Burn for Souls

When we as believers do our part to take the Gospel to those who are lost, the Spirit's flame is ignited continually releasing the power of God

- The power of God goes hand in hand with the proclamation of the Gospel
- This supernatural presence is God's witness that the message is heaven sent

Before Jesus' ascension, He tells His disciples

“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.”

(Matthew 28:18–20, NKJV)

- Go – “to go and to keep on going”
- This call is to “The Church” not just early believers
- It is His directive for all time
- God expects us to take this Gospel to the lost as a manner of lifestyle
- He promises that when we do we will experience supernatural power to fulfill our task

*“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.” **(Romans 1:16, NKJV)***

We should regularly be sharing the Gospel with family, friends, and neighbors, as well as strangers we meet in daily life or mission trips

- It is also important to help others go where we cannot go
- Funding mission efforts and organizations
- 15 Missionaries and organizations – more than \$200,000 (over nine years) – Reaching tens of thousands
- Mike Benson – Pakistan
- We have a responsibility to reach both our neighbors and around the globe

“Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus.” (Colossians 1:28, NKJV)

Our hearts must burn to see the unsaved brought into the Kingdom of God both near and afar

Matthew 28:18-20

- “*lo*” – this is a promise to those that “*go*”
- Jesus promises to always be with us, until the end of the age
- All we need to do is “*go*”!
- Jesus promises that we will experience His amazing presence

We must have the power of the Holy Spirit to reach the lost!

*“But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

(Acts 1:8, NKJV)

“And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.” (Mark 16:15–20, NKJV)

- The Gospel message is for every human being on the planet
- That’s what the early Church believed and that is what we must believe
- Here we see that Jesus promised supernatural signs to any believer that would take this message to the lost
- The early Christians had been transformed and they were not ashamed to share their testimony with others

When we obey the “*Great Commission*” a holy, spiritual fire will rage on the inside of us just like in the book of Acts

- When we share the Gospel we receive *dunamis* power – **Romans 1:16**
- The Gospel is the *dynamite of God*
- This ancient word would also be used to depict the full force and might of an advancing army
- When we present the Gospel we release a mighty army that drives back the power of darkness
- The light of God will deliver those who are bound and lost

“How beautiful upon the mountains Are the feet of him who brings good news, Who proclaims peace, Who brings glad tidings of good things, Who proclaims salvation, Who says to Zion, “Your God reigns!”” (Isaiah 52:7, NKJV) (Romans 10:15)

- Most of what is preached in today's churches are self-help, success, and prosperity messages
- These are certainly among God’s benefits that are good and necessary
- God wants us to be healthy, enjoy life, be partakers in success, and be financially blessed

The truth is, wherever the Gospel message is preached the power of that life-giving message will always produce fruit in each of these categories

- It is true that when anyone follows the principles in God’s word they will enjoy a better life, even lost people
- When we preach the benefits of the Gospel without preaching the full Gospel we make a grave error

“For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?” (Matthew 16:26, NKJV)

Helping people become healthy, successful, and prosperous only to end up in hell is pointless

While it is certainly good to be carriers of healing, prosperity, and deliverance, our main responsibility is to deliver the message that Jesus died to save them from an eternity of separation from God

Hell is Real

“There is no doctrine which I would more willingly remove from Christianity than the doctrine of hell, if it lay in my power. But it has the full support of Scripture and, especially, of our Lord’s own words; it has always been held by the Christian Church, and it has the support of reason.” – C.S. Lewis

It is difficult to think that someone we know or love would end up in hell, however, the scriptures are clear that those who die outside of Christ go there

- Approximately 150,000 people die every day
- Approximately 6,400 every day
- 2 people every second
- The truth is we all face death
- After death, we either go to heaven or hell
- This is not based on our good works but whether or not we are *in* or *outside* of Christ – **Romans 3:23**

We must burn with passion to take the saving message of the Gospel to as many souls as possible

- Jesus died for this – so we must live for it!

When a person comes to Christ they are not merely modifying their lifestyle or embracing a new philosophy, they are snatched from a lost eternity and immediately infused with a new God-given nature that makes them a member of God’s family

In a split second, eternal life is imparted and that person is assured of an eternity in heaven

One very real problem today is that many Christians don't really believe in hell

- They may say they do if you asked them

However, if you examine their lifestyle and actions you would see that many of us don't believe that friends, family members, and acquaintances will end up in hell

- If we really believed in hell it would motivate us

A revelation of hell puts fire in our hearts to pray for the salvation of unbelievers as well as share the Gospel with those we come in contact with

People would rather talk more about heaven than hell because the thoughts are much more pleasant

Jesus talked about hell *three times more* than He did about heaven

As a result, the doctrine of hell was one of the central tenants of the earliest creed of the Church

When we get a revelation of hell as the place of torment the Bible says it is, it will change us forever

- It will ignite the blazing power of God within us to reach out to as many souls as possible

“but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.” (Jude 23, NKJV)

Jesus taught that hell was a place of outer darkness, a place of weeping and gnashing of teeth, a place of endless torment, and a place where people are burned forever with fire and brimstone

- A place where the worm never dies – **Mark 9:44**
- A place where the fire is never quenched – **Mark 9:44**
- A place of regretful memories – **Luke 16:25**
- A place where you can never depart once you are there – **Luke 16:26**

The book of Revelation teaches that hell is a great furnace
– **Revelation 9:2**

- Inhabitants can never find rest – **Revelation 14:11**
- Endless torment and burning forever – **Revelation 21:8**

Psalms and Proverbs explicitly tell us that hell is a place full of eternal pain and destruction that consumes lost souls like a beast that is never satisfied

“The pains of death surrounded me, And the pangs of Sheol laid hold of me; I found trouble and sorrow.” (Psalm 116:3, NKJV)

“Hell and Destruction are never full; So the eyes of man are never satisfied.” (Proverbs 27:20, NKJV)

The Good News

“Jesus said to him, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.” (John 14:6, NKJV)

“For “whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.” (Romans 10:13, NKJV)

“When I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand. Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul.” (Ezekiel 3:18–19, NKJV)

- It is clear that we are to warn the unsaved
- They must know of the need to be saved and get their hearts right with God
- God will hold us accountable for not telling them
- If they reject the message their blood is not on our hands
- We are not responsible for people’s choices
- We are accountable to share the good news of the power of Jesus to save them, as the Holy Spirit leads
 - **John 6:44; 16:8**
- Will you obey the Holy Spirit?

“Some wish to live within the sound of church or chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell.”

– C.T. Studd – Missionary, author (b. 1860, d. 1931)

- Many Christians are nonchalant about soul winning
- God is not!
- He is so serious that He sent His only Son

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.” (John 3:16–17, NKJV)

You do not need to be a theologian to share the Gospel with others

- You don't even need to know a lot of scripture
- The truth is you already possess the most powerful tool to share Christ with others

That tool is your testimony!

- What has Jesus done in your life?
- How has He helped you, healed you, and strengthened you?
- From what has He delivered you?
- How has He protected you?
- In what ways has He provided for you?
- What does it feel like to know you are saved for all eternity?
- What has Christ's forgiveness done for you?

If you genuinely love people and care about them God will help you build bridges to reach hearts through conversation

- That bridge may be your profession, your children, a compliment, or even a cup of coffee

Every person that you meet is an eternal life and an opportunity for you to make an eternal difference for them

Think about the person who shared the Message with you

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;” (1 Peter 3:15, NKJV)