**FUEL THE FIRE**

**Luke 3:16**

**John answered, saying unto *them* all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:**

**INTRO:**

[**Luke 12:49**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Luke-12-49/)**- I am come to send fire on the earth; and what will I, if it be already kindled?**

**Proverbs 26:20a Where no wood is, *there* the fire goeth out:**

**1. Notice the Danger**

**\*\*If there’s no wood (fuel), then the fire will go out!**

**\*\*If the fire goes out, then . . .**

 **A. The Heart’s Soul Grows Cold**

 **B. The Home Site Grows Cold**

 **C. The Holy Sanctuary Grows Cold**

**\*\*Have we not seen hearts, homes, and holiness grow cold in these last days we’re living in?**

**\*\*Faith, Love, Joy, Thoughtfulness, Kindness, Worship, Testimonies, and Praise have all grown cold because no one went and got the wood and no one fueled the fire! Now the fire has gone out and people have grown cold toward God!**

**\*\*Somebody please step up here at this church and fuel the fire and help keep the fire going so we don’t grow cold!**

**2. Notice the Duty**

**Illustration: When I was a kid we had a homemade wood stove with duck work throughout the house. If we ever ran out of wood, it got cold! Preparations had to be made and work had to be done to keep the fire fueled! You and I have the duty of fueling the fires of God as well!**

**\*\*In this analogy, the wood is the fuel that represents the Spirit and the Scripture!**

 **A. You got to Seek the Wood**

**\*\*Just like seeking for the wood to bring home to the fire, you got to seek out the Spirit and the Scripture!**

 **B. You got to Secure the Wood**

**\*\*You secure it by collecting it. Collect all the Holy Spirit and Scripture you can collect!**

 **C. You got to Store the Wood**

**\*\*Keep that Scripture and Spirit in your soul! Hide it in your heart. Use it when needed and when the time is right!**

 **D. You got to Split the Wood**

**\*\*Don’t put all the wood on the fire at one time! In other words, take what God has given you and use it for the glory of God as needed. Rightly divide the scripture. Use it when it will add to the fire and build the fire and not just for the purpose of saying you adding it!**

 **E. You got to Set the Wood**

**\*\*Take what God has given you through the Spirit and the Scripture, and place it on the fire when He says to set it on there!**

 **F. You got to Stir the Wood**

**\*\*All some people do is try to stir the fire all the time, and they end up killing the fire! You only stir the wood when God says to stir the wood. It must be done in the Spirit and not in the flesh!**

**\*\*God has provided the fire and the fuel, but it is our duty to take what God has given us and Fuel the Fire!**

**\*\*So the question we must answer is “What Fuels the Fire?”**

**BODY – Fuel the Fire**

**What Fuels the Fire of God?**

**I. Our Savior Fuels the Fire**

**\*\*You can’t even have a fire without the Savior!**

**\*\* The Savior fuels the fire . . .**

 **A. Through His Strength**

**Psalms 18:32 32**[**It is God that girdeth me with strength, and maketh my way perfect.**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Psalms-18-32/)

 **1. He makes the Fire Perfect**

 **2. He makes the Fire Powerful**

 **3. He makes the Fire Persistent**

 **4. He makes the Fire Prosper**

 **5. He makes the Fire Permanent**

**\*\*You can’t have a fire without God’s Strength!**

 **B. Through His Spirit**

**Zechariah 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This *is* the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.**

**\*\*Without the Holy Spirit, the fire would not . . .**

 **1. Shine (His fire gives us light.)**

 **2. Satisfy (His fire gives us warmth.)**

 **3. Supply (His fire gives us food.)**

 **a. He Feeds Us**

 **b. He Fills Us**

 **C. Through His Sanctuary**

**Psalms 77:13 Thy way, O God, *is* in the sanctuary: who *is so* great a God as *our* God?**

**\*\*Through His Sanctuary He will Fuel the Fire when the Saints are . . .**

 **1. In One Assembly, 2. In One Accord, 3. In One Attitude, and 4. In One Agenda!**

**II. Our Sincerity Fuels the Fire**

**Hebrews 10:22-23 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, . . . 23 Let us hold fast the profession of *our* faith without wavering; . . .**

 **A. It Takes Honest Sincerity to Fuel the Fire**

 **1. You can fuel the fire by asking God for His Forgiveness**

**I John 1: 9 9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our*sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

 **2. You can fuel the fire by asking God for His Favor**

**Psalms 5:12 For thou, LORD, wilt bless the righteous; with favour wilt thou compass him as with a shield.**

 **B. It Takes Holy Sincerity to Fuel the Fire**

**\*\*When you offer something to the Savior and the Service, offer it with Holy Sincerity!**

 **1. There’s Fuel in Our Speech**

 **a. Be a Spokesperson with your Speech**

**\*\* Psalms 107:2 says, “Let the redeemed of the Lord say so;” – So testify and be a spokesperson for the Lord.**

 **b. Be a Supporter with your Speech**

**\*\* I Corinthians 1:20 For all the promises of God in him *are* yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.**

**\*\*In other words, we need to say “Amen” to the preaching in order to fuel the fire!**

 **2. There’s Fuel in Our Song**

**\*\*Just like when you’re searching for wood . . .**

 **a. Search for the Message in the Song**

 **b. Search for the Messiah in the Song**

**\*\*You can find fuel for the fire in the songs we sing!**

 **3. There’s Fuel in Our Scripture**

 **a. You got to Read It to get any Good out of it!**

 **b. You got to Repeat It to get any God out of it!**

**III. Our Supplications Fuel the Fire**

**II Chronicles 7:1 Now when Solomon had made an end of praying, the fire came down from heaven, and consumed the burnt offering and the sacrifices; and the glory of the LORD filled the house.**

 **A. Just to be Heard Fuels my Fire!**

**Psalms 40:1  I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry.**

**\*\*Have you ever prayed and you just knew all of heaven and the Lord was listening?**

 **1. When He listens, it speaks of His Charity.**

 **2. When He listens, it speaks of His Concern.**

 **3. When He listens, it speaks of His Care.**

 **B. Just to be Held Fuels my Fire!**

**Psalms 94:18 When I said, My foot slippeth; thy mercy, O LORD, held me up.**

 **1. Sometimes He Wraps me in His Love!**

 **2. Sometimes He Warms me in His Love!**

 **C. Just to be Helped Fuels my Fire!**

**Isaiah 41:13 For I the LORD thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not; I will help thee.**

**\*\*Get closer to the fire and pray!**

 **1. It always helps the Christian.**

 **2. It always helps the Church.**

 **3. It always helps the Campfire!**

**CLOSE**

**Illustration: There’s two ways to put out a campfire. You can throw cold water on it and kill it. However, the bible tells us not to quench the Spirit. Or, you can just let it die out. Just do nothing, and it will die out! Many churches have just gone to sleep and allowed the fire in the church to die out!**

**So, what will you do here at this church?**

**Just set back and never get any wood - never get deeper in the scripture and never walk closer with the Holy Spirit. Never testify; never say “Amen;” never pray for your church; never invite anybody to church; never come to revival; never come to Sunday School; never do anything for God in the church; never pray for your pastor; never tithe; never participate in the fellowship; never stay and eat with the church on special Sundays, and pretty soon the fire will just die out! Then you can sit around at the house and say, “I wonder what ever happened to Pine Ridge?”**

**I do not want to see that happen – do you? If not, then we have to ask our Savior to fuel the fire. We have to get sincere with God and fuel the fire, and we must cry out to God and pray in order to fuel the fire!**

**Will you come and pray and fuel the fire that’s in this place?**