"LORD, BURN IT DOWN"

Do you pray easy prayers? (bless me, help me, protect me, provide for me…)

Have you ever prayed "God, if there is anything in my life that doesn't belong there-burn it down"?

Hebrews 12:28–29 says:

28 Since we are receiving a Kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful and please God by worshiping him with holy fear and awe. 29 For our God is a devouring fire.

Where in the Bible do we see God's *presence* represented with fire?

Where in the Bible is God's *power* represented with fire?

Where in the Bible is God's *judgment* represented with fire?

Where in the Bible is God's *purification* represented with fire?

1. **GOD'S FIRE REVEALS WHAT WE BUILT**

1 Cor 3:12-13 Anyone who builds on that foundation may use a variety of materials—gold, silver, jewels, wood, hay, or straw. 13 But on the judgment day, fire will reveal what kind of work each builder has done. The fire will show if a person's work has any value.

FIRE REVEALS

Have you ever seen in your life, where pressure revealed what you had your life built on?

Is there things in your life that you have been asking God to repair, when the truth is, you need God to remove them instead?

2. **GOD'S FIRE PURIFIES WHAT BELONGS TO HIM**

FIRE PURIFIES

What does a refiner do?

What happens when precious metal is placed under intense heat?

Heat separates the valuable from the worthless! Impurities rise to the surface and then can be removed!

The refiner doesn't put gold in the fire because he hates the gold.

He puts it in the fire because he knows its value.

Psalm 139:23-24

23 Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. 24 Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

Do you allow God to 'refine' your life?

3. **SOME THINGS HAVE TO BURN BEFORE WE CAN WALK IN FREEDOM**

Acts 19:19 A number of them who had been practicing sorcery brought their incantation books and burned them at a public bonfire. The value of the books was several million dollars.

What is significant about them burning the books instead of selling them, giving them away or storing them elsewhere?

Have you ever made a DECLARATION that you are not going back to something the Lord delivered you from?

Have you ever been guilty of trying to MANAGE what God wants you to SURRENDER?

Do you believe sometimes surrender needs to be radical?

2 Corinthians 5:17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

Are there things that when you surrendered them, you made lifestyle changes in order to avoid 'going back'?

4. **DON'T ASK GOD TO BURN WHAT YOU'RE STILL FEEDING**

You cannot sincerely ask God to burn something down while you keep supplying the wood.

What are you asking God to remove? (temptation, bitterness, comparison, worry, stress, negative thoughts etc.)

Are you doing things that CREATES those to occur?

At some point prayer must be accompanied by obedience.

5. WHAT SURVIVES THE FIRE IS WHAT REALLY MATTERS

What remains is more important than what burns!

What keeps you from seeing what REALLY matters?

What distracts you from focusing on Jesus being the Main Thing? (people, circumstances, money, plans, activities etc)

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

YOU CAN BUILD YOUR LIFE ON JESUS! What needs to be MOVED in your life? (and rebuilt on Him?)

Is your marriage built on Jesus?

Is your family built on Jesus?

Is your future? Your church? Your identity? Your hope?

Because if Jesus is the foundation…. the fire cannot destroy what God has built!

Ask the question "JESUS, WHAT NEEDS TO BURN IN ME?"

- **Maybe it's pride.**
- **Maybe it's unforgiveness.**
- **Maybe it's bitterness.**
- **Maybe it's lust.**
- **Maybe it's greed.**
- **Maybe it's jealousy.**
- **Maybe it's insecurity.**
- **Maybe it's an addiction.**
- **Maybe it's a secret compromise.**
- **Maybe it's the approval of people.**
- **Maybe it's something that started innocent but has slowly become an idol.**

Don't protect what God is trying to remove.

Are you ready to ask God to burn down what He needs, to build something in you that will last for eternity?

What stood out to you the most in today's lesson?