

Our **Virtual**

PowerGroup

In the Wilderness
Week 4 Study

Icebreaker

One of the things we have learned in this series is that prayer can put out fires and lead you out of the wilderness, are there any prayer requests we can pray over as a group now that you feel are still keeping you in the wilderness?

Passage 1 1 Peter 1:6-7 (NIV)

"In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed."

Reflection What is the apostle Peter telling the people of that time and how is it relevant today for us?

Passage 2 Isaiah 48:10 (NIV)

"See, I have refined you, though not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction."

Reflection Think about it:
What is the difference between a wild fire and a controlled fire?
What kind of fire is God speaking of here?

Passage 3 2 Corinthians 7:1 (NIV)

"Therefore, since we have these promises, dear friends, let us purify ourselves from everything that contaminates body and spirit, perfecting holiness out of reverence for God."

Reflection What and who do we need to purify ourselves?

Passage 4 Romans 5:3-5 (NIV)

Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Reflection What do trials produce in us?

Passage 5 Romans 8:18 (NIV)

"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us."

Reflection Why is it important to keep this mindset of what Paul is speaking of here?

Application

"'Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire,' says the LORD Almighty. 'Not a root or a branch will be left to them. But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves. Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act,' says the Lord Almighty." Malachi 4:1-3

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A REFINERS FIRE AND CONSUMING FIRE is spoken in this passage. Earlier we saw all about the refining fire that is controlled and there for a purpose of a greater ending, a greater product, a better person. The all consuming fire is a different type of fire it's not there to refine it's there to burn all away. Like many prophets and the apostles spoke, consider it a great thing when being refined by the Father.

Journal