

Five-Day Devotional Guide: Tending the Fire

Day 1: The Fire Must Not Go Out

Reading: Leviticus 6:12-13

The Lord instructed that the fire on the altar was to be kept burning continuously, with the priest adding fresh wood each morning to sustain it.

Devotional: The fire on the altar was not a suggestion — it was a command. God designed it to burn without ceasing, and that required daily, intentional attention. The same is true of your spiritual life. The fire God has placed in you does not maintain itself. It requires you to show up each morning and add fresh wood — through Scripture, prayer, and an open invitation to the Holy Spirit. Autopilot is the enemy of fire. You were not created to merely endure and hold on to the ski rope. You were made to burn. Ask yourself today: what wood am I adding, and what is stealing my oxygen?

Practical Application: Before you reach for your phone tomorrow morning, pause and simply say, "Holy Spirit, I welcome You into this moment." Let that become your daily kindling.

Day 2: The Altar Belongs Everywhere You Go

Reading: Hebrews 13:10-14

The writer of Hebrews points to the reality that believers have access to an altar that surpasses the old system, and calls them to go outside the camp — beyond the familiar and comfortable — to where Jesus is.

Devotional: For generations, people believed the presence of God was confined to a building. But the moment Christ tore the veil, the altar became portable. You carry it. The presence of God that fills a sanctuary on Sunday morning is the same presence that walks into your workplace on Monday. The same fire that burns at the altar is available in the committee meeting, the hospital room, the grocery store line, and the tent at the farmers market. The challenge is not whether God will show up in those places. The challenge is whether you will recognize that you are already bringing Him there.

Practical Application: Identify one place this week where you have not thought of yourself as a carrier of God's presence. Walk into that space with intentional awareness that the altar goes with you.

Day 3: Obedience Over Sacrifice

Reading: 1 Samuel 15:22 and Romans 8:37

Samuel declares that obeying the voice of God is more valuable than religious offerings. Paul affirms that through Christ, believers are not merely survivors but are positioned as more than conquerors.

Devotional: There is a difference between being busy for God and being obedient to God. Religious activity can fill a calendar while the Holy Spirit's actual promptings go ignored. True obedience often looks inconvenient — it interrupts your schedule, redirects your route, and asks you to stop when you planned to keep moving. But it is in those moments of surrender that the fire spreads. You are not called to endure to the end with your head down. You are called to conquer — not through striving, but through hearing and responding. The enemy works hard to make you feel insignificant so you will miss your moment.

Practical Application: The next time you sense a quiet prompting to reach out to someone, pray for someone, or speak an encouraging word, act on it before the moment passes. Notice what God does.

Day 4: Fresh Fire Requires Releasing Offense

Reading: Matthew 18:21-22 and Ephesians 4:31-32

Jesus teaches that forgiveness is not a one-time transaction but an ongoing practice. Paul calls believers to release bitterness and offense, choosing instead the posture of grace.

Devotional: Offense is one of the most effective tools the enemy uses to smother a fire. When you carry a grudge, you are not just holding something against another person — you are blocking the oxygen that keeps your flame alive. Forgiveness is rarely a single event. It is a process, sometimes requiring you to choose it again each time a name surfaces or a memory stings. The practice of blessing those who have wounded you is not weakness. It is the very thing that loosens their grip on your spiritual momentum. A fire cannot burn well in a closed, airless space. Release the offense and let the air back in.

Practical Application: Write down the name of one person you have been carrying offense toward. Pray a specific blessing over their life today, and choose again to forgive. Repeat as needed.

Day 5: You Are a Fire Starter

Reading: Isaiah 6:6-7 and Acts 1:8

Isaiah describes a coal from the altar being placed on his lips, transforming his speech and commissioning him for God's purposes. In Acts, Jesus promises that the Holy Spirit's power will move outward through His people to reach the world.

Devotional: The coal touched Isaiah's lips and everything changed. What came out of his mouth after that moment was no longer driven by fear or inadequacy — it was shaped by the fire of God. The same Spirit that commissioned Isaiah lives in you. You do not need a platform, a title, or a lengthy message. Sometimes two and a half minutes of Spirit-led words will do more than fifty minutes of polished presentation. The fire in you is real, and it is meant to spread. You may feel dim right now, but you cannot extinguish God. He does not go out. He is simply waiting for you to tend what He has already placed inside you.

Practical Application: Step into one conversation this week with the intentional awareness that the fire of God is in you. Ask someone how they are doing and genuinely listen. Let the Holy Spirit direct what comes next.