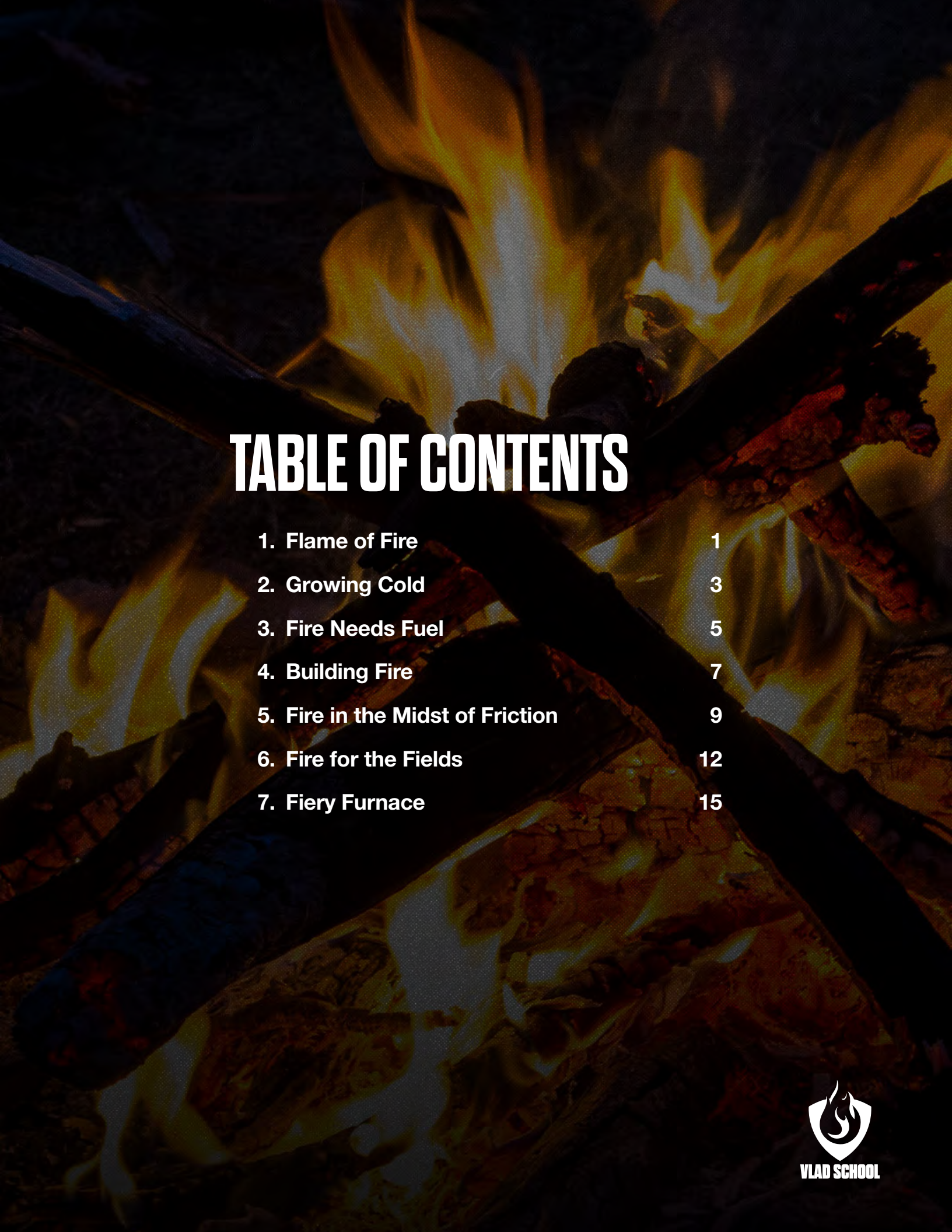
STAYING ON
FIRE FOR GOD
VLAD SCHOOL



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LESSON 1

FLAME OF FIRE

"For our God is a consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:29).

What You Need to Know About the Fire

Fire brings light.

Fire brings heat.

Fire brings purging.

Fire needs fuel.

Fire spreads.

Fire can die.

Fire produces smoke.

Fire leaves ashes.

I. THE PURPOSE OF FIRE

1. **Fire was used for holy purposes.**
   - The sacrifices were consumed by fire (Gen. 8:20).
   - The fire on the altar was not to go out (Lev. 6:9, 12-13).
   - The "fire from heaven," the "fire of the Lord," would sometimes fall upon a sacrifice (Lev. 9:24; 2 Chr. 7:1; 1 Kgs. 18:38).
   - Fire used for a sacred purpose that was obtained from any place other than the altar was called "strange fire" (Lev. 10:1, 2; Num. 3:4).

2. **Fire was used for domestic purposes.**
   - For purposes such as baking, cooking, warmth, etc. (Jer. 36:22; Mrk. 14:54; Jn. 18:18).
   - On the Sabbath, no fire for any domestic purpose was to be kindled (Ex. 35:3; Num. 15:32–36).

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3. **Fire was used as an instrument of punishment.**
    - Death by fire was inflicted on people guilty of certain forms of unchastity and incest (Lev. 20:14; 21:9).
    - The burning of war captives or other prisoners (2 Sam. 12:31; Jer. 29:22).
    - The bodies of infamous persons who were executed were also sometimes burned (Josh. 7:25; 2 Kgs. 23:16).
4. **Fire was used in war.**
    - Fire was used in the destruction of cities, as Jericho (Josh. 6:24), Ai (Josh. 8:19), Hazor (Josh. 11:11), Laish (Judg. 18:27).
    - The war chariots of the Canaanites were burnt (Josh. 11:6, 9).
    - The Israelites burned the images of the house of Baal (2 Kgs. 10:26).

II. THE PATTERN OF FIRE

1. God's **presence** is like a fire (Heb 12:29), a refiner's fire (Mal. 3:2); God answers by fire (1 Kgs. 18:24, 37-38).

    The first time God appeared to a human in Scripture, He assumed the form of a smoking firepot and a flaming torch (Gen. 15:17). God drew Moses' attention with a burning bush, a fire that didn't burn out (Ex. 3:2).

2. God's **word** is like a fire (Jer. 23:29).
3. The Holy **Spirit** is like a fire (Mt. 3:11; Acts 2:3).

    In his first letter to the Thessalonians, Paul warns believers not to "quench the Holy Spirit" (1 Thess. 5:19 NASB). The word "quench" normally refers to extinguishing a fire.

III. THE POWER OF FIRE

"One day Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian. He led the flock far into the wilderness and came to Sinai, the mountain of God" (Exodus 3:1, NLT).

1. Burned-out believers need a fresh burning-bush experience with God.
2. If you want fresh fire, go beyond what you're familiar with.
3. The fire of God exposes and expels insecurities.

LESSON 2

GROWING COLD

*"And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold" (*Matthew 24:12).

Love for God is like fire; it can grow hotter or colder.

I. FOCUSING MORE ON YOUR LOVE FOR JESUS

*Peter answered and said to Him, "Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble" (*Matthew 26:33).

Peter focused more on his love for Jesus.
John was the disciple that Jesus loved (Jn. 13:23, 19:26; 20:2; 21:7).

When we focus on our love for God instead of His love for us:

- We are living for approval instead of being accepted by God.
- We make empty promises instead of living in His presence.
- We live on emotions instead of devotion.
- Our passion lacks compassion.

*"We love Him because He first loved us" (*1 John 4:19*).*

II. DEVOTIONAL LIFE GOES TO SLEEP

*"Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, 'What! Could you not watch with Me one hour?'" (*Matthew 26:40).

"And the Lord said, 'Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren'" (Luke 22:31-32).

Jesus prayed for Peter. Satan asked for Peter. Peter didn't pray for Peter.

When our prayer life goes to sleep, our fire is quenched.

"So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed"
*(*Luke 5:16).

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III. AVOIDING SACRIFICES

*"But Peter followed Him at a distance to the high priest's courtyard. And he went in and sat with the servants to see the end" (*Matthew 26:58).

Many follow Jesus into success but distance themselves from Him when it's time to sacrifice.

"Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it" (Matthew 16:24-25).

You can't be on fire for God if you're full of yourself.

IV. WARMING AT THE WRONG FIRE

"But Peter followed Him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he sat with the servants and warmed himself at the fire" (Mark 14:54).

"Now the servants and officers who had made a fire of coals stood there, for it was cold, and they warmed themselves. And Peter stood with them and warmed himself" (John 18:18).

The world's fire is attractive, addictive, and annihilating.

Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread" (John 21:9).

The world's fire vs Jesus' fire:

- Built by the enemy vs built by Jesus
- Jesus at trial vs Jesus triumphant
- Denied Jesus three times vs affirmed love for Jesus three times
- Regret vs restoration

V. REPENTANCE RESTORES THE FIRE

"Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love" (Revelation 2:4).

"Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place—unless you repent" (Revelation 2:5).

When we fall out of love, we fall.

When we fall out of repentance we fall out of love.

To get your fire back:

- Remember
- Repent
- Repeat

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LESSON 3

FIRE NEEDS FUEL

"And the natives showed us unusual kindness; for they kindled a fire and made us all welcome, because of the rain that was falling and because of the cold. But when Paul had gathered a bundle of sticks and laid them on the fire, a viper came out because of the heat, and fastened on his hand" **(Acts 28:2-3).**

I. OVERCOME EXCUSES

An excuse is a rationalization we make to ourselves and others about why we cannot or should not do something. An excuse is a defense mechanism that protects us from the fear of stepping out of our comfort zones.

"*But they all with one accord began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a piece of ground, and I must go and see it. I ask you to have me excused'"* **(Luke 14:18).**

You will only live on the fire to the extent of your ability to overcome the excuses of the flesh.

Stop making excuses. Start making fire.

II. GET A SPARK

Someone kindles fire, but it will burn by your bundle of sticks.

"*And the fire on the altar shall be kept burning on it; it shall not be put out. And the priest shall burn wood on it every morning, and lay the burnt offering in order on it; and he shall burn on it the fat of the peace offerings"* **(Leviticus 6:12).**

III. BUNDLE OF STICKS

An integrated spirituality (Dr. Glen Scorgie):

- Relational
- Transformational
- Vocational

"Then Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." They immediately left their nets and followed Him" **(Mark 1:17-18).**

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Three legs of deep spirituality:

- **Follow - pursuit**
- **Forsake - purity**
- **Fish - purpose**

Three dimensions of prayer (by Richard Foster):

- **Prayer moves upward - intimacy with God**
- **Prayer moves inward - personal formation**
- **Prayer moves outward - ministry**

Threefold cord of spirituality:

- **Only focus on relational spirituality - results in selfishness.**
- **Only focus on transformational spirituality - results in legalism.**
- **Only focus on vocational spirituality - results in worldliness.**

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LESSON 4

BUILDING FIRE

I. DRIFTING TO DRAWING

"Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded" (James 4:8).

We don't drift towards God, we must draw near to God.

Drifting happens automatically. Drawing happens intentionally.

You can't have intimacy with God without being intentional.

Before you can draw near to God, God draws you to Himself.

"Blessed is the man You choose, and cause to approach You, that he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, of Your holy temple" (Psalm 65:4).

"And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself" (John 12:32).

II. CONDEMNATION TO CONVICTION

"And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment" (John 16:8).

Conviction vs Condemnation:

- Conviction is specific. Condemnation is general.
- Conviction attacks the issue. Condemnation attacks your identity.
- Conviction is from the Holy Spirit. Condemnation is from the devil.
- Conviction gives you hope. Condemnation makes you hopeless.
- Conviction leads to repentance. Condemnation leads to remorse.

III. CONCEALING TO CONFESSING

"When I kept silent, my bones grew old through my groaning all the day long. For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; my vitality was turned into the drought of summer. I acknowledged my sin to You, and my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity of my sin" (Psalm 32:3-5).

Don't wait till you get caught, arrested, suspended, separated, or fired. Sin grows in the dark.

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IV. GUILT TO GRACE

"She said, 'No one, Lord.' And Jesus said to her, 'Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more'" **(John 8:11).**

Grace empowers holiness.

"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age" **(Titus 2:11-12).**

V. FEELING TO FEEDING

All Scripture and no Spirit, we dry up. All Spirit and no Scripture, we blow up. Both Spirit and Scripture, we grow up. - ***David Watson***

When you no longer feel the Spirit, feed on the Holy Scriptures.

The Power of God's Word:

- **Imparts life.**

  "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life" **(John 6:63).**

- **Imparts faith.**

  "So, then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God" **(Romans 10:17).**

- **Feeds.**

  "But He answered and said, 'It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God'" **(Matthew 4:4).**

- **Cleanses.**

  "That He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the Word" **(Ephesians 5:26).**

- **Brings breakthrough.**

  "But Simon answered and said to Him, 'Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless, at Your word I will let down the net'" **(Luke 5:5).**

- **The Sword of the Spirit.**

  "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God" **(Ephesians 6:17).**

LESSON 5

FIRE IN THE MIDST OF FRICTION

"For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another so that you do not do the things that you wish" (Galatians 5:17).

I. DEFINITION OF THE FLESH

1. **Flesh frequently refers to the body** (Lev. 14:9).
2. **The flesh is a general description of all mankind** (Gen. 6:17 includes all animals too).
3. **The flesh is the sinful nature.**

   "For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death" (Romans 7:5).
   "For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live" (Romans 8:13).

   - The flesh is a left-over, free disposition to sin that we have from our father Adam.
   - The flesh is the carnal desire of the lower part of our nature.
   - "The flesh is the evil principle in man's nature, the traitor within who is in the league with the attacks without. The flesh provides the tinder on which the devil's temptations can kindle." Dr. W.G. Scroggie

II. THE WORKS OF THE FLESH

1. **The flesh produces works.**

   "Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God" (Galatians 5:19-21).

2. **The flesh has passions and lusts.**

   "And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires" (Galatians 5:24).

   "For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world" (1 John 2:16).

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3. **The flesh enslaves to sin.**

   I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin" (Romans 7:25).

4. **The flesh does nothing good.**

   "For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find" (Romans 7:18).

5. **The flesh is at war with the Holy Spirit.**

   "For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another so that you do not do the things that you wish" (Galatians 5:17).

III. OVERCOME THE FLESH

1. **Death**

   "*Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Romans 6:11).

   We received the old man by birth, and we're delivered from the old man by death (Rom. 6:4, 7).

   Jesus' death is both substitutional and inclusive.

   We were included in Jesus' death, burial, resurrection, and exaltation (Eph. 2:6). Consider your old self dead with Christ (Rom. 6; Gal. 2:20).

2. **Decision**

   "*Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts"* (Romans 6:12).

   "Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin" (Romans 6:6).

   "Done away with" means rendered inoperative. The old man was rendered inoperative.

3. **Discipleship**

   "*And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God"* (Romans 6:13).

   After presenting ourselves to God as being alive from the dead, we must offer our members as instruments to God.

4. **Devotion**

   "*I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh*" (Galatians 5:16).

   We must move from having the Holy Spirit to walking in the Holy Spirit.

   Walking in the Holy Spirit doesn't remove the lust but it empowers us not to yield to its cravings.

   "*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness*" (Galatians 5:22).

   It's the fruit of the Holy Spirit, not the work of flesh.

   It's the fruit of the Holy Spirit, not fruits.
   It's about reactions as much as about our actions.

   Fruit feeds others. Fruit grows slowly.

5. **Discipline**

   "*And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires*" (Galatians 5:24).

   We put to death deeds of the flesh from the position of being dead with Christ.

   ***"For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live"* (Romans 8:13).**

   The Holy Spirit helps us to put to death the deeds of the body.

   ***"For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life"* (Galatians 6:8).**

   Actions are small seeds that nurture the new nature, or they can be planted into an old nature.

   It's not about trying harder to change but training with the Holy Spirit.

   "*But reject profane and old wives' fables, and exercise yourself toward godliness*" (1 Timothy 4:7).

   If you live in guilt, you will try harder. If you live in grace, you will train better.

LESSON 6

FIRE FOR THE FIELDS

1. A CAREER IS DECIDED; A CALLING IS DISCOVERED.

A career is natural; a calling is supernatural.

A career can change; a calling does not.

A career requires a degree; a calling needs the anointing.

A career is for money; a calling is for eternity.

You were born on purpose (Jer. 29:11).

God's will is found in God's ways (Heb. 10:7; Acts 9:6).

If you give God your mind, He will give you His will (Rom. 12:1-2).

Ministering to the Lord opens a way to become a minister of the Lord (Acts 13:2).

Do what you know you should do.

"And let it be, when these signs come to you, that you do as the occasion demands; for God is with you" (1 Samuel 10:7).

God's will in God's way is whatever you do in His name for His glory.

"And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him" (Colossians 3:17).

2. RUNNING FROM THE PURPOSE IS RUNNING FROM THE PRESENCE.

"Now the word of the Lord came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, "Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me." But Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the Lord…" (Jonah 1:1-3).

Disobedience to God's call puts those around you in danger.

God's power is for God's purpose (Acts 1:8).

Fire is for fields (Jdg. 15:4).

The "Lo" of Jesus' presence is for those who "Go" into Jesus' purpose (Matt. 28:19-20).

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3. THE CALL OF GOD IS MORE ABOUT THE PRICE, NOT THE PERKS.

"Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin" **(Hebrews 11:25).**

"The best leaders had to endure more pain. Many people could never have more influence because they don't have a big enough leadership pain threshold. If you are not hurting you are not leading." Dr. Sam Chand

Suffering comes from the pressure of the position and the pain from people.

"But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work"

(2 Timothy 2:20-21).

Paul tells us that we can take action by cleansing ourselves so that we leave behind our existence as vessels of wood and clay (used for dishonorable purposes), and enter into a new existence as vessels of honor–gold and silver vessels. No one is called to be a vessel of clay or wood, for these are vessels of dishonor! Every child of God is called to be a vessel of gold and silver, for these are vessels of honor.

4. CHARACTER MIGHT NOT LIMIT YOUR GIFTING BUT IT WILL LIMIT YOUR CALLING.

"Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them" **(Numbers 20:12).**

"The LORD was also angry with me for your sakes, saying, 'Even you shall not go in there'" **(Deuteronomy 1:37).**

Blaming your circumstances for your character is like blaming the mirror for your looks.

Don't worry if your potential is greater than your position. Make sure that your gifting doesn't outgrow your character.

Pursue integrity more than influence.

Don't draw your value from your visibility.

Pick up a towel, don't get attached to a title.

Serving is not a stepping stone to a greater ministry.

Motives matter. Do whatever you do as unto the Lord.

"Because you did not serve the Lord your God with joy and gladness of heart, for the abundance of everything, therefore you shall serve your enemies, whom the Lord will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in need of everything; and He will put a yoke of iron on your neck until He has destroyed you" (Deuteronomy 28:47-48).

5. THE CALL OF GOD ON YOUR LIFE IS GOD'S ANSWER TO THE CRY OF YOUR GENERATION.

"Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt" (Exodus 3:9-10).

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LESSON 7

FIERY FURNACE

"I have seen Christians in Communist prisons with fifty pounds of chains on their feet, tortured with red-hot iron pokers, in whose throats spoonfuls of salt had been forced, being kept afterward without water, starving, whipped, suffering from cold-and praying with fervor for the Communists. This is humanly inexplicable! It is the love of Christ, which was poured out in our hearts." (Richard Wurmbrand, Former Communist Prisoner, 1967)

I. FAITH IN THE FIERY FURNACE OF PERSECUTION

1. **Persecution is not when you suffer for your own wrongdoing.**

   "*But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters"* (1 Peter 4:15).
   Samson and Joseph both went to prison. Samson lived in compromise, while Joseph lived pure. Jesus died on the cross as righteous, but the thieves on that cross were rebels. Not all suffering is the same.

2. **Persecution is when you suffer unjustly for righteousness** (Mt. 5:10).

3. **Persecution is when you suffer unjustly because you follow Jesus** (Mt. 5:11).

   This was said of Polycarp (who was burned to death in mid-2nd century AD), "But when the magistrate pressed him hard and said, "Swear the oath, and I will release you; revile the Christ," Polycarp said, *"Eighty-six years have I been His servant, and He has done me no wrong. How then can I blaspheme my King who saved me?"*

4. **Persecution is when you suffer unjustly for preaching the gospel** (Mt. 10:27-28).

   Jan Hus, who was burned alive at the stake in 1415, stated the following (In the Bohemian language, "Hus" suggests "goose"). *"You may roast the goose, but a hundred years from now a swan will arise whose singing you will not be able to silence."* Martin Luther burst upon the scene in 1517 – Luther took the swan as his symbol.

   Jim Elliott (who was speared to death in 1956) stated, *"He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."*

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5. **How to deal with persecution?**
    a. Don't be surprised if you are persecuted: Jesus promised it (Jn. 15:20).
    b. Respond with joy and consider it a blessing (Mt. 5:10).
    c. Maintain endurance (Rev. 2:10).
    d. Pray for persecutors and forgive them (Mt. 5:44; Lk. 23:34).
    e. Do not fear humans, only fear God (Mt. 10:28).
    f. Don't stop preaching the Good News (Phil. 1:12).

II. FAITH IN THE FIERY TRIALS OF LIFE

1. **The presence of evil proves that we live in a broken world marked by sin and a cosmic conflict between evil and good** (Gen. 3:16-24; Rom. 6:23).
2. **The suffering of Jesus brought salvation** (Is. 53:1-12; Mt. 8:16-17; Lk. 22:20; Gal. 3:13-14; Col. 2:14-15; 1 Pt. 2:24).
3. **The coming reign of Jesus will end suffering** (Gen. 3:15; Num. 24:17; Lk. 1:31-33; 1 Cor. 15:20-28; Rev. 19:11-20; 21:1-5).
4. **Suffering will refine us if we don't let it define us** (Rom. 8:28; Rev. 7:9-17).

    Suffering produces patience (Jm. 1:2-4).

    Suffering proves our faith to be genuine (1 Pet. 1:6-7).

    Suffering gives us an eternal perspective (2 Cor. 4:17-18).

    Suffering helps have more compassion for others (2 Cor. 1:4).

5. **How to suffer well:**
    a. Remember that Jesus doesn't leave us in a fire (Dan. 3:25).
    b. Find joy in God despite suffering (Jm. 1:2-4).
    c. Seek fellowship with others (Gal. 6:2).
    d. Grieve if need be (1 Pet. 1:6-7).
    e. Engage in worship (Ps. 42:11).
    f. Find comfort in the word of God (Ps. 119:50).

LESSON 1 - FLAME OF FIRE

Ice Breaker: Would you say that your fire for God is growing, diminishing, or staying the same? Why?

Watch Video

Suggested Scripture to Read:

Exodus 3

3 Discussion Questions:

1. What does burning for God look like practically for you?
2. Why do you think some people seemingly experience “burning for God” more often than others?
3. What are some insecurities that don’t belong within you that you believe God will expose and remove by His fire?

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LESSON 2 - GROWING COLD

Ice Breaker: Can you share a moment when you felt your spiritual life was the strongest? What made it feel that way?

Watch Video

Suggested Scriptures to Read:

Matthew 24:12

1 John 4:19

Matthew 26:58

Revelation 2:4

3 Discussion Questions:

1. What are the signs that indicate our love for God is growing cold? Use personal examples. How can we become more aware of these symptoms in our lives?
2. How can focusing on what 1 John 4:19 says help us change the way we serve and love the Lord?
3. Why is repentance key in returning to our first love? How can we practice genuine repentance in our daily walk with God?

LESSON 3 - FIRE NEEDS FUEL

Ice Breaker: Share about one time in your life when you sensed the Lord kindled a fire within you that you didn't have to strive for.

Watch Video

Suggested Scriptures to Read:

Acts 28:2-3

Luke 14:15-24

3 Discussion Questions:

1. What are some excuses that you are faced with in your walk with the Lord?
2. What are the "bundle of sticks" that you sense you need to gather in your life?
3. Thinking back on the video, how can the relational, transformational, and vocational "legs of spirituality" help us to maintain our fire for God?

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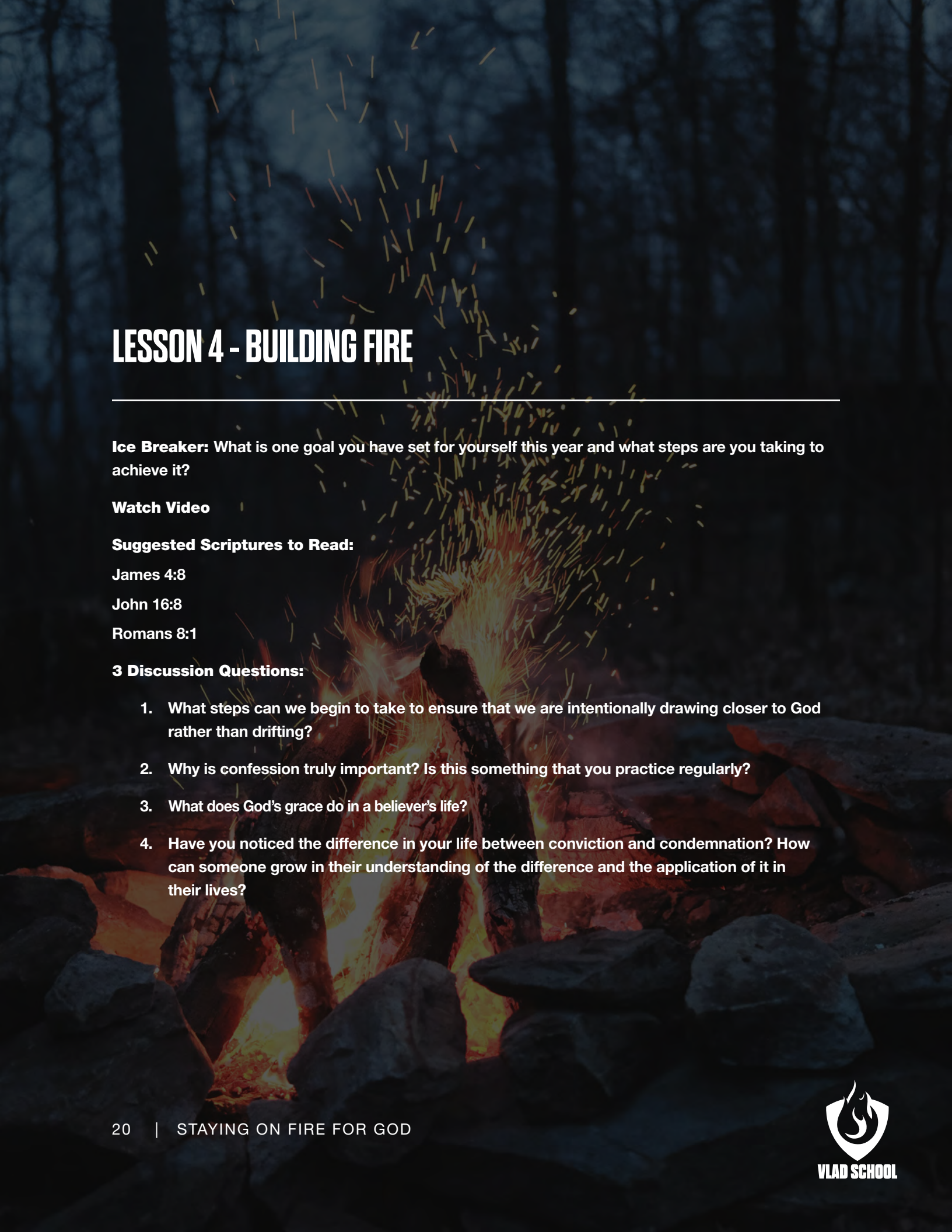

LESSON 4 - BUILDING FIRE

Ice Breaker: What is one goal you have set for yourself this year and what steps are you taking to achieve it?

Watch Video

Suggested Scriptures to Read:

James 4:8

John 16:8

Romans 8:1

3 Discussion Questions:

1. What steps can we begin to take to ensure that we are intentionally drawing closer to God rather than drifting?
2. Why is confession truly important? Is this something that you practice regularly?
3. What does God's grace do in a believer's life?
4. Have you noticed the difference in your life between conviction and condemnation? How can someone grow in their understanding of the difference and the application of it in their lives?

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LESSON 5 - FIRE IN THE MIDST OF FRICTION

Ice Breaker: Share about a time when you experienced a setback after you made a commitment to pursue God fully.

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Suggested Scriptures to Read:

Galatians 5:17; 2:24; 2:20

Romans 6:11-13

3 Discussion Questions:

1. What does it really mean to be dead to self and living with Christ? What should our lives look like with this truth in mind?
2. How can discipleship cause us to truly overcome the flesh? Why is this important?
3. How can we walk in the Holy Spirit to overcome the flesh?
4. What are areas that you must submit to the Lord to overcome in this area?

VLAD SCHOOL

LESSON 6 - FIRE FOR THE FIELDS

Ice Breaker: Can you share about a time when you felt a strong sense of purpose in what you were doing? What made that experience so meaningful?

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Suggested Scriptures to Read:

Hebrews 11:25

2 Timothy 2:20-21

Numbers 20:12

Deuteronomy 1:37

3 Discussion Questions:

1. How did you discover your calling in life? Did it come with a “price tag”?
2. Reflect on the idea that the call of God often involves sacrifice and suffering (Hebrews and Timothy verses). How can we prepare ourselves to endure the challenges that come with following God’s purpose for our lives?
3. Have you ever run from something the Lord was telling you to do? Did you experience setbacks?
4. What are some ways that we can ensure that our gifting does not outgrow our character?

LESSON 7 - FIERY FURNACE

Ice Breaker: What is one piece of advice or encouragement you have received that helped you during a tough time? How did it impact you?

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Suggested Scriptures to Read:

Matthew 5:10-11

John 15:20

Galatians 6:2

Hebrews 10:24-25

3 Discussion Questions:

1. What does it mean to go through persecution with joy for the sake of Christ?
2. How can we maintain courage and faith during times of persecution?
3. What role does being in a community and having fellowship with other believers play in enduring trials?