



Living By Faith Part 10–Fervent in Spirit

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USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Romans 12:9-13, NIV]

⁹ Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. ¹⁰ Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. ¹¹ Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. ¹² Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

[Romans 12:11]

¹¹ Never be lacking in **zeal**, but keep your spiritual **fervor**, serving the Lord.

Fervor = The Greek word **zéō** = means **to boil, to be hot.** to bubble over. to show great **zeal**; to be **passionate** (literally "boiling" with interest or desire)

God has called you to live out this faith journey with fervor, and Paul says to never lack in zeal.

Fervor is the natural by-product of living in a constant revelation of what God's done for us.

1) Fight for it.

[1 Timothy 6:12, NIV]

"Fight the good fight of faith."

You can't sleep through this fight. If you sleep on the sidelines, you will end up in the effects of apathy.

Sharpen your tools and weapons. Be prepared to contend for your faith. Be strong in God's Word, and be ready with revelation.

2) Pray for more.

[Romans 12:12, ESV]

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

Pray like your life depends upon it because it does!

This isn't religion; it's relationship. We need to be passionate to know God and to keep coming back to Him.

3) Repent for being okay without it (being lukewarm).

Jesus didn't give His life for us to be lukewarm. We weren't designed to live a journey of complacency.

[Revelation 3:15-16, NIV]

I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.

Things never intended to form or grow result in stagnant places. When we are boiling hot, it burns all that away.

[Revelation 3:20, NIV]

²⁰ Here I am! **I stand at the door and knock.** If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, **I will come in** and eat with that person, and they with me.

FOR MONDAY—

1. Listen to God's Word, leaning in to what God has done for His people. Make it personal: remember what God has done for you.
2. Share stories with your family, friends, or small group about how God has marked your life.
3. Ask God for a new level of passion for Him.

TALK IT THROUGH

1. Do you know anyone who had, or did you come from, a sports-oriented family? What was that like?
2. What are some things that people around you are truly passionate about? Do they also express this in a love for Jesus?

3. Have you ever gotten bored or sluggish in your walk with God? How did that affect your relationship with him? How did you get out of that mentality?
4. What does it mean to be set apart from the world? What are the marks of a devoted follower of Jesus?
5. Where do we get spiritual fervor from, especially if we don't feel passionate in our pursuit of Jesus? How does transformation in this area happen?
6. What are some things that God has done for you or your family? Why is it good to reflect on and remember all the things He has done?
7. Why do you think the plan of the enemy is to try to steal away our fervency? [John 10:10] What does it take to contend for the faith?
8. What is something you need to fight for? How do you prepare to take on those things?
9. Consider Revelation 3:15-16—Why would God not hold it against someone for being hot or cold? What could He do with people in either situation? Why does He specifically call out the lukewarm?
10. What develops or grows in complacency that were never intended to be there? How do we eradicate and clean out those areas? If you're in this place right now, who can you ask for help?