



MID WEEK MESSAGE NOTES AND INTERACTIVE PDF

What It Takes to Keep the Fire

Stay rooted in the Word, full of the Holy Spirit, and faithful to the people God has called you to reach.

SERMON TITLE	MINISTER
What It Takes to Keep the Fire	Evangelist Debbie Rich
DATE	PRIMARY SCRIPTURE
Wednesday, April 3, 2024	Acts 4:23-31

TOPICS [Revival](#) | [Church](#) | [Holy Spirit](#) | [Word of God](#) | [Giving](#)

NOTES

Truth to carry into the week.

01 Return to your own company when pressure comes.

- After threats from the authorities, Peter and John returned to their own companions and reported what had happened. They did not face the pressure alone. ([Acts 4:23](#))
- Together the believers lifted their voices to God. Their prayer asked for boldness to speak His Word rather than for an easier path. ([Acts 4:24,29](#))
- The place shook, and they were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the Word boldly. Seek people who will pray with you and stand in faith. ([Acts 4:31](#))

“we will not give in. We will not quit. We will persevere.”

STUDY [Acts 4:23-24](#); [Acts 4:29-31](#)

02 Keep the Word and the Spirit together.

- The early believers continued in the apostles’ doctrine, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayers. A living church holds to truth as it shares life together. ([Acts 2:42](#))
- Scripture is profitable for teaching and correction. Let the Word guide what you believe and practice instead of chasing whatever sounds new. ([2 Timothy 3:16-17](#))

- The Spirit gave boldness to the praying church. Sound doctrine and the Holy Spirit belong together in a people who are growing up in Christ. ([Acts 4:31](#); [2 Timothy 3:16-17](#))
- Ask both questions: Is this faithful to the Word, and are we responding to the Spirit who calls us to obey it? ([Acts 2:42](#); [Acts 4:31](#))

“we are people of the Holy Ghost and people of the Word.”

STUDY [Acts 2:42](#); [2 Timothy 3:16-17](#); [Acts 4:31](#)

03 Let grace lead to a holy life.

- Jesus calls the lukewarm church to recognize its need and turn to Him. Familiarity with spiritual things is no substitute for a living response. ([Revelation 3:15-19](#))
- The grace of God teaches us to turn from ungodliness and live in a way that honors Him. Forgiveness is not a reason to return to what held us captive. ([Titus 2:11-12](#))
- Invite the Lord to show where compromise has cooled your love for Him. Repent, receive His grace, and follow Him wholeheartedly. ([Revelation 3:19](#); [Titus 2:12](#))

“We actually believe in living holy lives like the Bible talks about.”

STUDY [Revelation 3:15-19](#); [Titus 2:11-12](#)

04 Serve and give with integrity.

- God loves a cheerful giver, not a gift extracted by pressure. Let generosity answer His leading and help meet a real need. ([2 Corinthians 9:7](#))
- Seeking God’s kingdom first changes the purpose of what we hold. Resources can help send workers, build churches, and care for people. ([Matthew 6:33](#); [Matthew 28:19-20](#))
- Paul invited others to follow his example as he followed Christ. Ministry must show the same integrity in its conduct that it proclaims in its teaching. ([1 Corinthians 11:1](#))
- The goal is people strengthened by the gospel, not a display of wealth or a larger crowd at any cost. Keep the heart of the work pure. ([1 Corinthians 11:1](#); [2 Corinthians 9:7](#))

“I am called to break people out of poverty, not to raise money.”

STUDY [2 Corinthians 9:7](#); [Matthew 6:33](#); [1 Corinthians 11:1](#)

05 Do not let yesterday’s fire grow cold.

- The Lord tells His people to hear what the Spirit says to the churches. An earlier encounter cannot replace listening and responding now. ([Revelation 3:19-22](#))
- Paul pressed toward the goal before him. Thank God for what He has done, then keep pursuing the work He has placed ahead. ([Philippians 3:13-14](#))

- Perseverance is lived out in ordinary choices: prayer, the Word, repentance, and time with believers who help you keep seeking God. ([Acts 2:42](#); [Philippians 3:13-14](#))

“what it takes to get. It takes to keep.”

STUDY [Revelation 3:19-22](#); [Philippians 3:13-14](#); [Acts 2:42](#)

06 Pass the fire to the next generation.

- Paul told Timothy to entrust what he had received to faithful people who could teach others. The work is meant to continue beyond one leader or one gathering. ([2 Timothy 2:2](#))
- Jesus sends His disciples to make disciples among the nations. What God has done in a local church should prepare people to go and to send. ([Matthew 28:19-20](#))
- Pray for those just beginning, teach them the Word, and make room for them to serve. A faithful church helps others carry the gospel long after today. ([2 Timothy 2:2](#); [Matthew 28:19-20](#))

“The church has to have continuous revival.”

STUDY [2 Timothy 2:2](#); [Matthew 28:19-20](#)

SCRIPTURE INDEX - NKJV

Read the Word in context.

[Acts 4:23-24](#)

[Acts 4:29-31](#)

[Acts 2:42](#)

[2 Timothy 3:16-17](#)

[Revelation 3:15-19](#)

[Titus 2:11-12](#)

[2 Corinthians 9:7](#)

[Matthew 6:33](#)

[Matthew 28:19-20](#)

[1 Corinthians 11:1](#)

[Philippians 3:13-14](#)

[2 Timothy 2:2](#)

How will I keep the fire?

Who helps me pray and stand firm when following Jesus becomes difficult?

Where do I need to return to both the Word and the Holy Spirit instead of following a habit or trend?

What choice will protect integrity and love for people in the way I serve or give?

Who can I encourage or teach so the work God has begun continues beyond me?
