

# Campfire Series

## Week 1: Spark a Flame

### Week 1 Title: Spark A Flame

Main Text: Luke 8:16–18

Supporting Texts: Matthew 5:14–16, 2 Timothy 1:6

## Introduction

- Opening declaration: “Be ready to SHINE!”
- Camp Fires series focuses on igniting and sustaining a spiritual flame.
- Tonight’s message: **Spark A Flame**
- You are the light of the world (**Matthew 5:14**).
- Light = Fire. A spark can grow into a blaze.

### Big Question:

*Are you ready to spark a flame for Jesus that lasts an eternity?*

## Main Points

### 1. Hiding Your Light Will Extinguish Your Flame

- **Illustration:** A flame sealed in a jar dies from lack of oxygen.
- A fire needs fuel and air—so does your faith.
- Fear and culture often cause us to hide our flame.
- **2 Timothy 1:6** – “Fan into flame the gift of God...”
- Your spark isn’t just for you—it ignites others too.

- **Testimony:** Share a testimony of when the fire inside of you impacted someone around you.

**Reflection Questions:**

- *Are you hiding your light?*
- *Are you feeding your fire or smothering it?*

## **2. Hiding Your Light Will Eventually Burn You**

- **Illustration:** Candle under a bed = a hidden fire becomes destructive.
- **Luke 8:17** – Secrets don't stay hidden; light reveals all.
- Secret sin, shame, or compromise will eventually surface.
- Let Jesus' fire expose and consume what you've tried to hide.

**Truth:**

- What you hide now may one day harm you.
- Better to be healed and restored than exposed.

## **3. Be Ready to Let Your Light Shine**

- Matthew 5:15–16 – Put your lamp on a stand so others may see and glorify God.
- Your spark gives light to the house—your family, friends, school, workplace.
- *Life changes? Pain? Fear?* Still shine.

**Declarations:**

- No matter your circumstance – **shine**.
- No matter your place – **shine**.
- No matter your pain – **shine**.

**Encouragement:**

Let tonight be the night your spark becomes a flame—and your flame becomes a wildfire.

## **Conclusion & Altar Call**

### **Three invitations:**

1. *Have you been hiding your spark?*
2. *Are there hidden things threatening to consume your light?*
3. *Are you ready to shine boldly and ignite others?*

### **Call to Action:**

- These altars are open.
- Fan the flame.
- Spark something tonight that spreads far beyond you.

### **Final Words:**

It's time to spark a flame that will light up this generation. Imagine a whole generation on FIRE for Jesus!

## **CAMPFIRES WEEK 2: Sticky Situations**

\*\*\* Key Verses- John 16:33 | Romans 8:28 | Luke 1:34-38 | Genesis 22:9,12 |  
Psalms 51\*\*\*

\*\*\* Key Theme- God works in your life even when things get messy\*\*\*

### *Opening Thoughts:*

- Whenever I think of camping so many things come to mind, but there is truly one thing that tops the list as my favorite..... SMORES!!!!
  - I mean it was to be the best thing ever created, chocolate, a ball of soft sugar (we call marshmallow, and the sweet crunchiness of graham cracker.
  - THE PROBLEM- the marshmallow gets EVERYWHERE.... And if you have a beard you have pretty much accepted needing to take a shower before taking your first bite...
- Isn't that kind of how coming home from camp feels and if we are really honest how life goes.
  - We know that camp is great, and when living your life for Jesus life is great, BUT even with all the good we experience, it's important we understand now that we will experience some sticky situations.
- John 16:33- "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."
  - Our Savior, that many of us have given our lives to at some point or another, and that we live for TOLD US... YOU WILL HAVE TROUBLE!"
  - Just because you say yes to Jesus doesn't mean that your life becomes void of sticky situations.
  - But there's good news.....
- Romans 8:28- "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."
  - "In all things" meaning the good AND THE BAD (the sticky situations)
  - You are someone who was carefully crafted, with skill and purpose, by God, for His purpose.

### *Message:*

- So how am I supposed to see God at work in the middle of these sticky situations?

1. Have the obedience Mary, mother of Jesus, had.
  - a. Luke 1:34-38- “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?” The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. Even Elizabeth, your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. For no word from God will ever fail.” “I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her.
  - b. Mary was in the middle of a STICKY SITUATION. She was a young girl, engaged to Joseph, a virgin, and somehow she was pregnant.
    - i. How might that have looked to the world around her? It was frowned upon and that is putting it lightly.
    - ii. Joseph could have left her, the world absolutely judged her, and her life was changing forever.
    - iii. But she didn’t run, she simply said “I am the Lord’s servant. (SHE SAID YES)
2. Have the faith Abraham had.
  - a. Genesis 22:9- “When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood.”
    - i. Abraham was asked to sacrifice his ONLY son that God PROMISED him to be his.
    - ii. He didn’t fight back, he didn’t argue, and he didn’t run.
    - iii. He bound his son ready to give Him up for God’s glory. (Talk about a STICKY SITUATION.)
  - b. Genesis 22:12- “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”
    - i. Abraham had faith in God, trusting his plan no matter how crazy it may have felt or sounded.
    - ii. And it was because of his faith, that God saved his son and made him father to many nations.
3. Go to the Lord in Prayer as David did.
  - a. Everybody remembers the good of David and how wonderful he was, but we can’t ignore the STICKY SITUATIONS.
  - b. David not only committed adultery with Bathsheba, but he also murdered to cover it up. (Walk through the story for those who don’t know.)

- c. But in Psalms 51 (Read as much as you feel is appropriate) we see a man praying a powerful prayer of repentance pleasing for God's mercy and cleansing.
- i. He could have done whatever he wanted because he was king, but he sought after THE King more than his own desire ultimately.

*Alter  
Time:*

- In this life you will face some very sticky situations!
  - But that's just a piece of the story...
- What are you going to do about it?
  - Are you going to run or say yes? (Obedience)
  - Are you going to disobey or have faith in God's plan? (Faith)
  - Are you going to trip and give up or land on your knees in prayer? (Prayer)

## Week 3: Campfire Conversations

### Introduction

One of the best parts of sitting around a campfire is the conversations you get to have with the people around you. Think about the funny stories, shared interests, and friendships that can form. It's through conversations like this that you can build relationships and gain insight. Conversations like these can shape you into who you are and who you will become. Today we can learn about how God wants to have these conversations with us.

#### **1. Conversations with God come through prayer. (1 John 5:14-15, 1 Thess. 5:16-18)**

- God wants to hear you. Talk to Him about everything. Pray scriptures. Pray prayers that leaders in your life pray. Talk to God about your sin. Talk to God about what worries you. It's good to talk to God about personal things. He knows how to listen.
- God wants to speak to you. God is our ultimate source of wisdom and guidance in our lives.
- Pray all the time and be alert. Praying without ceasing is a constant state of prayerful connection with God. Your conversation with God doesn't have to stop when you say 'Amen', but you can learn to listen to him every day.

#### **2. Be ready to listen. (2 Tim. 3:16-17, 1 Cor. 14:3, 1 Kings 19:11-13)**

- God speaks through his word. It's important to know the Bible so you can discern God's voice.
- God speaks through other people. Pastors, teachers, mentors, or peers in your life can hear God and speak prophetically to you.
- God speaks in a still, small voice. God wants to speak to you personally, but it doesn't have to be in a display of his grandeur. A quiet voice can only be heard if you are listening. Listening is crucial to a relationship.

#### **3. Conversations with God lead to obedience. (Ps. 33:9, 1 Pe. 1:14, 1 Sam. 15:22)**

- When God speaks, things change. When he speaks to you, you get to change. God is calling you into alignment with his will and purpose. His will for our lives is much better than our own.
- Obedience takes faith. When God speaks, we have to trust him and act on what He said.

### Conclusion

Will you trust his voice and be obedient? Will you be ready to listen when he speaks to you? Will you spend time in prayer and develop a relationship with a God who wants to speak to you? After having an encounter with God at Camp, having conversations with God and developing your relationship with Him is crucial to sustaining what he started. If you don't know where to start, begin to think about it like a conversation around a campfire. Conversations with God will be the most important conversations you will ever have.

## WEEK 4: S'more to Come

**Theme:** There is always *more* when we get to know Jesus, more grace, more purpose, more love, and more power.

### Key Verses:

**Ephesians 2:8-9 (NIV),** “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.”

**Ephesians 3:20-21 (NIV):**

“Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us...”

**John 10:10 (NIV):**

“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”

**Acts 1:8 (NIV):**

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...”

### Introduction:

Jesus can do much more of what you expect! In Ephesians 3:20-21 says, “Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us.” He can take broken pieces, broken experiences, or simply moments, and put them back together to form something beautiful.

Have you ever seen the movie *The Sandlot*? I see this movie all the time with my kids. In the movie, they boys do a camp out on a tree house, were Smalls, the main character, who is this nerdy indoor boy who is learning how to play baseball and have friends, had no clue what a s'more was (you are killing me Smalls!). Then Ham, the catcher, explains to him what is a s'more and how to make one. This brought me back to the first time I ever saw and tasted a s'more: gooey, crunchy, sweet, messy, sticky, and somehow more than you expected. That's life when we know Jesus: He takes the broken and builds something beautiful. Just when you think you've hit the limit, or when you have hit rock bottom, He opens up a new level and lifts you up. You're not done growing, not done receiving. He takes our ordinary and turns it into something extraordinary. When we walk with Him, we discover there's always *s'more*, more love, more grace, more power. He doesn't run out, and He doesn't hold back. There's always s'more.

### 1. S'More Grace Than We Can Imagine

First of all, who knows what is grace? Grace is unmerited favor. We don't deserve anything. Even though we fail Him, and fall short, Jesus still decides to forgive us and love us. In the Bible says in Ephesians 2:8-9, “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.”

Grace doesn't run out. It flows. It overflows.



One of the first sentences when I pray is “thank you Jesus, because your mercies are new every morning (Lamentations 3:22-23). Even when we think we've used it all up, and are a mess, Jesus offers more grace and more forgiveness.

- Grace isn't just for salvation, it's for your every day.
- Like marshmallows in a s'more, sweet, messy, but essential, grace sticks to you, even in your worst moments.
- Jesus doesn't just give grace for your past; He gives grace for your present.
- When you fall short, grace steps in.

Grace isn't a one time gift. It's a constant river, flowing from a God who refuses to let go of you.

## 2. S'More Purpose Than We've Known

I have always said, true success, is doing the will and the purpose God has for your life. God has a plan and a purpose for everybody and you are not the exception. In John 10:10b says, “**I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.**” The enemy has been trying to steal and destroy what God has for you, but Jesus is saying to you tonight, that he has called you to have life and purpose to the full! Jesus doesn't just forgive us, He fills us with purpose and embraces us with His love. You weren't just saved from something, you were saved for something. He empowers you to fulfill the purpose He has for your life.

- His Spirit fills you, guides you and sends you.
- His will and purpose make your life be part of something bigger, to build his Kingdom, even in the small, quiet, unseen moments, Jesus is still using you.

You are not aimless. In Christ, your life is marked by divine appointments.

## 3. S'More Power Available

You were not meant to live a weak, defeated life. Jesus has given you power, through the Holy Spirit, to overcome, to testify, to build up the church and empower others

- **Acts 1:8, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you...”**
- You're not just surviving, you're *anointed* and *empowered* with purpose
- This power isn't just for pastors, evangelists and missionaries, it's for *you*. To break chains. To speak truth. To walk in boldness.

If you're feeling dry or tired, you don't need more effort; you need more *fire*. The Spirit of God lives in you to guide you and empower you to build His Kingdom.

## Conclusion:

There's Always S'More. God is not done with you. You may think you've hit the ceiling of what He can do, but He's just getting started. Maybe you don't know Him, and your life is a mess, and you don't know what to do, how to put it together, but He knows. Life with Jesus doesn't get smaller, or more boring, it gets deeper and adventurous. There's always more joy, peace, love,

and mission waiting as you follow Him. You may have been walking on your own, believing the lies of the enemy, letting the scars of life wound you, believing you've seen all of what God can do. But He's saying, *"I'm not done with you yet."*

There's more: More *healing* from what broke you; more *strength* for the battles ahead; more *vision* for your calling; and more *intimacy* in His presence.

Jesus doesn't give leftovers. He gives *abundantly, above, and beyond* you can ever imagine

**Altar Call:**

If you're hungry for more of Jesus, more grace, more love, more power, don't stay in your seat.

- Come for salvation if you don't know Him and want to say "yes" to Jesus.
- Come for renewal if you've been walking in your own strength, if your life is messy and in pieces, and you're ready to surrender it all to Him and live by His.