



# STIRRING HEARTS

Week 50 | May 13, 2025

Our hearts can **grow still**, becoming *stagnant* and nearly frozen like a mud puddle in the middle of Winter. This is **not** how we were meant to be. Our hearts were *made for motion*, designed to rush and flow like a great river at the height of Spring! We were **made for passion**, to *live and love* with intensity, not apathy. Above all else we were made to **love God** and *live for Him* in this way.

The Enemy knows this and spends much of their **time**, **energy**, and **effort** seeking to *restrict the movement* of our hearts, or at the very least divert them away from God. In response to this **desperate need** and our *Enemy's assaults*; let us pray this week to the only One who can truly "stir our hearts" like no other, asking Him to:

## 1. Set us AFLAME ([Luke 24:32](#))

- a. **NOTE:** Discouragement and depression are like ice in our veins, freezing our hearts from **the inside out**. That is why the Enemy's attacks are always focused where we are *most vulnerable*, where it will hurt the most. Their aim is to **reduce the fire** of our heart to nothing more than a *barely smoldering ember*, weighing us down by the **pressures** of this life, smothering the light inside us with a blanket of **overwhelmedness**. Hope is not lost, though, for our God has proven time and time again that He can **set aflame** even the most *fire-resistant* substances. ([Psalm 42:5-6](#); [1 Kings 18:33-39](#))
  - i. **For Ex.** "Lord God, thank You for being our 'devouring fire', able to **ignite** and **reignite** even the *coldest of hearts*. I ask now that You would be with the downtrodden, all those whose hearts are **weighed down** by the Enemy's attacks of *depression* and *discouragement*, all those who are feeling overwhelmed and **exhausted**. *Stir their hearts*, Lord, setting them aflame from the **inside out** and *burning away* every trace of the Enemy's influence."
  1. **REMEMBER:** Fires *go out* when their fuel is exhausted. To keep them alive we must **keep them fed**. ([Psalm 36:7-9](#))

## 2. Shake us AWAKE ([Psalm 57:8](#))

- a. **NOTE:** When they fail to *diminish* our heart's flame through **depression** or **discouragement**, the Enemy will often then attempt to *lull the people* of this world into a deadly slumber built on a false **sense of security** and an *attitude of complacency*. If everything is alright and nothing is wrong, what need do we have for God? This trap has **devastating consequences** for those caught in its snare, for a heart that is *immobile* easily becomes poisoned and bitter to the taste. Only God can rouse us from **this sleep**, *waking us* to the reality of our need for Him and the world's **need for His people**. ([Proverbs 1:32](#); [Revelation 3:16](#); [Matthew 5:14](#))

- i. **For Ex.** “Father God, thank You for **raising us** from our slumber and giving us *new life*. I lift up to You all those who have drifted off once more, **lulled to sleep** by the *lies of the Enemy*, as well as those who have never woken for the first time. **Shake their lives**, Lord, *violently if need be*, in order to rouse them from their drowsiness and awaken them to their **need for You**. Snap them out of their *complacency* and *lethargy*, stirring their hearts in order to free them from **apathy**.”
  1. **REMEMBER:** God often *awakens us* by shining His light into our lives, revealing what was **hidden**. ([Ephesians 5:13-14](#))

### 3. Steer us **ALONG** ([Proverbs 21:1](#))

- a. **NOTE:** When the Enemy is not successful at *quenching our flame* or caging us with **complacency**, they will often turn to even *shrewder tactics*. If they cannot prevent our hearts from being stirred, then they will do everything in their power to **deceive** and **distract** them from the direction *God intended*, aiming to mislead us onto the path that leads to our **inevitable destruction**. Scripture teaches that our hearts are *easily fooled*, often led astray by the lies of the Evil One. But God also promises to give **wisdom** and **discernment** to those who ask, *granting us* the ability to see, hear, and know His **will** and His **way**. ([Proverbs 14:12](#); [2 Corinthians 11:3](#); [Jeremiah 17:9](#); [James 1:5](#))
  - i. **For Ex.** “Dear Lord, thank You for **sending Jesus** to *make a way* for our salvation and abundant life. Thank You for **guiding us** onto this path, since it is *hard to find*. I lift up to You now all those whose hearts have been stirred by You, those who have **felt** and **responded** to *the calling* on their lives. Continue to lead, guide, and direct us as we act on **the passions** You have given us, keeping us far from the *road of destruction* and firmly fixed instead on Your path of life.”
    1. **REMEMBER:** Those we are *surrounded by* have a tremendous impact on the direction of our lives. Guard your heart against those who would **influence it** for evil. ([1 Corinthians 15:33](#); [Proverbs 4:23](#))

### Questions for Reflection:

- Has the fire of your heart **gone out** for *lack of nourishment*?
  - Take the time to be fed by God, only He can **truly sustain** you.
- What is **God's light** revealing in your life?
  - It may be *blinding at times*, painful even, but what it reveals is always for our good.
- What **direction** do the people in your life *encourage you to travel*?
  - Limit the access of those who **pull you away** from God and *strengthen your bonds* with those who push you closer to Him!