

Fan the Flame

This fan can certainly help keep you cool in this heat, but it is also to remind us to fan into flame the fire of the Holy Spirit, which is God's gift to every believer in Jesus. Jesus is God's one and only son who is able to restore our relationship to God which sin took away. (John 14:6) God *gifted* Jesus-followers the holy spirit as their helper, refiner, comforter, and daily guide here on earth (John 14:15-17). God also rewards believers with eternal life with Him in Heaven at our homegoing (John 3:16).

As Paul was facing imminent death, he penned one last letter to his beloved Timothy whom he mentored, reminding him to *fan into flame the gift of God* (1 Timothy 1:5-6). Paul was encouraging Timothy to "stir up" the flames with the goal to keep burning bright and strong; to persevere. It is this Holy fire that sparks a spiritual passion within us, to use our God-given gifts and talents. How are you doing in this area?

Who are the Timothy's in your life that you can speak into? Perhaps it's family members, neighbors, the checkout people at the store, or the staff at your assisted living community.

What would you write in one last letter to them? It doesn't have to be long; just a word of eternal encouragement or consideration if they don't know Jesus. *Gift* them this fan devotional!

How are you fanning the flames to keep your fire for Jesus burning bright? Reading His Word, talking to and praising Him in prayer and song, filling your day with sermons and hymns or praise music in your home and in your daily commute in the car, sharing your excitement with others, using your gifts and talents for eternal purposes, volunteering to visit shut-ins, etc.

Imagine burning bright in your circle of influence with the love of Jesus and witnessing the spread of a holy fire! Fan the flame, my friend! There was a campfire song I sung growing up.

It only takes a spark to get a fire going.

And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing;

That's how it is with God's Love, Once you've experienced it,

You spread His love to everyone. You want to pass it on.

DEVOTIONAL