Sermon Reflection

Sermon Series: Fanning the Flames
Sermon Title: A Church on Fire for God – October 25, 2026
Context Reading: Romans 12:9–13 (NIV)
Main Scripture: Romans 12:11 (NIV)

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Romans 12:11 (NIV)

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

Key Thought

A church that is truly on fire for God is measured not just by the passion of its worship, but by the passion it demonstrates in loving and serving others.

Overview

When we think about a church being on fire for God, we often picture passionate worship, powerful preaching, and people excited about their faith. While those things are important, the Apostle Paul reminds us in Romans 12 that spiritual passion should also be reflected in how we live and treat one another.

Paul describes a community of believers whose love is genuine, whose service is faithful, and whose hospitality extends beyond the church walls.

Being on fire for God is not simply about what happens during worship on Sunday. It is about how our faith influences the way we live Monday through Saturday.

Point 1: A Church on Fire Loves Genuinely

Scripture

Romans 12:9–10 (NIV)

"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves."

Reflection

Paul reminds us that Christian love must be sincere. It cannot simply be something we talk about, sing about, or demonstrate when it is convenient. Genuine love is reflected in how we treat people, especially when relationships become difficult.

It is possible to participate in worship, serve in ministry, and appear spiritually passionate while struggling to show patience, kindness, and compassion toward others.

A church on fire for God should be a place where people experience the love of Christ through the way we treat one another.

Reflection Questions

Am I showing genuine love to others or simply talking about love?

How do I treat people when they are difficult to love?

Am I giving others the same grace and kindness I want to receive?

This Week's Application

Show kindness to someone who may need encouragement.

Choose patience and grace when dealing with difficult people.

Look for opportunities to demonstrate love through your actions.

Point 2: A Church on Fire Serves Faithfully

Scripture

Romans 12:11 (NIV)

“Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.”

Reflection

Paul connects spiritual passion with serving the Lord. Our excitement about God should motivate us to become actively involved in the work He has called us to do.

Sometimes we become comfortable enjoying the benefits of church without contributing to the work of ministry. We appreciate the worship, fellowship, and encouragement, but forget that God has given each of us gifts, abilities, and opportunities to make a difference.

Serving God is not limited to having a title or holding a position in the church. Every act of service, whether seen or unseen, can become an expression of our love and commitment to Him.

Reflection Questions

Am I actively using my gifts and abilities to serve God?

Have I become more comfortable attending church than participating in ministry?

What is one way I could become more involved in serving others?

This Week's Application

Identify a gift or ability you can use to serve.

Look for an opportunity to help without being asked.

Serve faithfully, even when your contribution goes unnoticed.

Point 3: A Church on Fire Practices Hospitality

Scripture

Romans 12:13 (NIV)

“Share with the Lord’s people who are in need. Practice hospitality.”

Reflection

Paul reminds believers that spiritual passion should extend beyond worship and service into how we welcome, support, and care for others.

Hospitality is more than greeting someone at the church door. It is about making people feel welcomed, valued, and included. It means noticing when someone is struggling, reaching out to those who may feel disconnected, and being willing to share what we have with those who are in need.

A church can have wonderful worship and strong traditions, but if people do not experience kindness, warmth, and genuine care, something important is missing.

When we practice hospitality, we help others experience the love of Christ through our actions.

Reflection Questions

Do I make people feel welcomed and valued when they are around me?

Am I willing to reach out to people outside my usual circle?

How can I show greater kindness and hospitality to someone this week?

This Week's Application

Make an intentional effort to welcome someone new.

Reach out to someone who may feel overlooked or disconnected.

Look for a practical way to help someone in need.

Living It Out This Week

Love others with sincerity and kindness.

Use your gifts and abilities to serve faithfully.

Make someone feel welcomed, valued, and cared for.

Pastoral Encouragement

As we conclude our *Fanning the Flames* series, I want to encourage you to remember that being on fire for God is about more than what happens during a worship service. It is about allowing the love of Christ to influence how we live every day. You may not preach a sermon, sing in the choir, or hold a leadership position, but you can still make a tremendous difference in someone's life. A kind word, a helping hand, a welcoming smile, or an unexpected act of generosity may be exactly what someone needs to experience God's love. Never underestimate what God can do through the simple things you do for others. **The fire of God should not only be something people hear when we worship, but something they experience when they encounter us. Keep loving genuinely, serving faithfully, and showing hospitality, because that is what a church on fire for God looks like.**

Closing Prayer

Lord, thank You for the love and grace You have shown us. Help us become a church that reflects Your presence not only in our worship, but also in how we live. Teach us to love sincerely, serve faithfully, and extend kindness and hospitality to others. May our words, actions, and relationships demonstrate the love of Christ to everyone we encounter. Keep the fire burning within us so that others may experience Your goodness through our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.