

God Time Day 1: Have You Lost Fervor?



If you've been a Christian for very long, you know that our spiritual journeys can sometimes resemble a roller coaster with lots of ups, downs, twists, and turns. Some of those downs can be times when we have lost spiritual fervor.



Read Romans 12:11 (NIV).
Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.

God tells us to "never be lacking in zeal." Zeal can be defined as great energy or enthusiasm. More than a feeling, this fervor serves God.

On a scale of 1 (low) to 10 (high), rate your zeal, "your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord."

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



Spend time talking about it honestly with God and ask Him for more fervor.

God Time Day 2: God Cares About the Details



Read Matthew 10:29-31 (NLT).
²⁹*What is the price of two sparrows—one copper coin? But not a single sparrow can fall to the ground without your Father knowing it.* ³⁰*And the very hairs on your head are all numbered.* ³¹*So don't be afraid; you are more valuable to God than a whole flock of sparrows.*

Underline what doesn't escape the Father's notice (v. 29) and what He numbers (v. 30).



God cares about the details. This means that there is no burden too small to bring to Him in prayer. He cares about our every concern. Don't worry that you might "bother God" with your little concerns. Make a list of some of them and praise God for caring about the details of your life!

God Time Day 3: God Knows How to Help You...



Read 2 Kings 6:1-4.
¹*The sons of the prophets said to Elisha, "Please notice that the place where we live under your supervision is too small for us.* ²*Please let us go to the Jordan where we can each get a log and can build ourselves a place to live there."* "Go," he said. ³*Then one said, "Please come with your servants."* "I'll come," he answered. ⁴*So he went with them, and when they came to the Jordan, they cut down trees.*

The "sons of the prophets" were a guild of prophets who collected under a headmaster to study, praise, and worship. (The widow's husband from last week was one of these men. Elisha did not teach men how to prophesy – only God could create a prophet.)



Rewrite in your own words the problem this group of prophets had and what the solution was.



Read 2 Kings 6:5-7.
⁵*As one of them was cutting down a tree, the iron ax head fell into the water, and he cried out, "Oh, my master, it was borrowed!"* ⁶*Then the man of God asked, "Where did it fall?"* When he showed him the place, the man of God cut a piece of wood, threw it there, and made the iron float. ⁷*Then he said, "Pick it up." So he reached out and took it.*

Underline anything that stands out to you.

As we talked about yesterday, God cares about the details. We could look at this story and let Elisha steal our focus; he performed a really cool miracle! But ultimately, God was the one who manipulated the axe head's weight or the water's density—all because the axe head was borrowed, and the borrower would be in great trouble for losing it.



Look at your list from Day 2. Spend time praying about those little concerns. God knows how to help!

God Time Day 4: Growing the Fervor



Praying shows that we trust God. It's important to trust Him with both the little and the big things. This is one way we exhibit zeal and spiritual fervor. When we don't go to Him, we are relying on ourselves, other people, or things to meet our needs. Remember the first commandment?



Reread 2 Kings 6:1-4 from Day 4.

Elisha helped someone he cared about, and God worked a miracle. Sure, God brought the opportunity, but Elisha had to be obedient. We could call this true spiritual zeal.

But what do we do when we realize we've lost zeal or need more fervor? We position ourselves to get it back! But first, we need to ask ourselves two questions:

1. **Do I want my spiritual fervor back? OR Do I want more spiritual fervor?** It's easy to say yes, but it's harder to do something about it. Spiritual fervor takes effort.
2. **Will I let God help me?** Again, it's easy to agree to help. It's harder to accept it and then follow God's lead in developing spiritual disciplines like prayer, Bible study, and making godly decisions.



Take some time and journal your answers to the above questions. Don't try to find solutions yet; just try to answer honestly. Look at the rating you gave yourself on Day 1 and keep it in mind while you answer the questions.



Read Jesus' words in John 15:10-11.

¹⁰If you keep my commands you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.

Keeping God's commands fill us with joy. Yes, obedience is one way to grow fervor!

How would you rate your obedience to God's commands?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Pray for more obedience.

God Time Day 5: Don't Lose Your First Love



Read Revelation 2:4-5.

⁴But I have this against you: You have abandoned the love you had at first. ⁵Remember then how far you have fallen; repent, and do the works you did at first. Otherwise, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place, unless you repent.

The prophetic words above are spoken by Jesus to the church at Ephesus.

Underline what He has against them. (Verse 4)



Circle what He wants them to do (verse 5).

Verse 4 tells us that the church had abandoned the love they had at the beginning. What do you think this means?

Some scholars say that verse 4 means that the church stopped loving Jesus as much as they did at first. Others say it means they stopped loving one another. Others say that it means they stopped loving mankind at large. And guess what? Others say that it means all three. There's good reason to think the last option is right. If we love Jesus less, it only follows that our love for those inside and outside the church will also dwindle.

There is a solution! It involves the three easy steps found in verse 5:

Remember, Repent, and Do.

Love for the Lord (and His people) go hand-in-hand with obedience, and that grows fervor.



Ask God to show you what "solution" you need to follow up on. Do you need to remember, repent, or do?

(Loving God fervently will be demonstrated through our praying, worshiping, praising, reading our Bibles, fasting, serving, giving, sharing, connecting, helping, encouraging, and more.)

Remember what we've learned from Elisha: a faith that is committed, active, trustful, and fervent is a faith that perseveres!