

#4 Keep the fuel together.

This is a great example of fellowship. We need one another.

One time a younger man was meeting with an older Christian and talking with him in front of his fire place. The young Christian was telling him how he really didn't need to go to church because it wasn't necessary. The older man did not say much but as the younger man talked, the older Christian took a poker and pulled out a burning coal from the fireplace and put it by itself. As time went on, the burning coal got colder and colder and finally was just a smoking ember.

The younger Christian got the point without words. He realized that we need one another, and Christian fellowship helps us to keep burning bright for the Lord.

Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."



5. One last point to remember

Not only will a fire keep us warm, it will also attract others. As you are living for Jesus, praying, reading the Word, and fellowshiping with other Christians, others will be watching.

You will be a testimony to them that in this cold, dark world, Jesus invites them also to be born again and enjoy the warmth, and fellowship of a fire burning bright.



Philippians 2:15 ... you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation." Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky
1Thess. 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

HOW TO KEEP THE FIRE BURNING.



Times at Camp Elim are fun, exciting, fast, and furious and can create some great friendships and memories.

The primary goal of Camp is to present the Gospel to young people and encourage them to grow in their faith.

Some come to faith in Christ during their time at camp. They are born again by making that decision to believe in Christ as their savior.

Others who come to camp who are already saved and want to grow in their faith.

It is always exciting to see the joy, and the resolve of many who want to become stronger Christians and live for Jesus in the coming days and months.

Many times, the week at camp will end with a time around a roaring campfire. There will be times of singing, prayer and testimonies from campers who tell how they came to know Christ

or how they want to live for him in the days to come.

Often it will be said as they think about the campfire, "I don't want the fire to die out."

That is a great desire and one that the Lord loves to hear from us. We have a responsibility to do some things that will cause that to happen.

Here are some things to do that will cause the "fire" to keep strong as you leave Camp Elim, as well as for the rest of your life.

If you do not want to become cold toward Him or to not wander in your faith, you will need to desire to do what God wants you to do.

Here are five things to remember:

#1- The fire begins with believing on the Lord Jesus Christ

Make sure that you are truly born again and are trusting in Christ alone for your salvation. The Bible tells us that once that fire is lit it will never go out.

John 10:28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand.

John 10:29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand.

Philippians 1:6 ... being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 42:3 A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out. In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;

Understand that you are saved by faith and not by any good things you will ever do. Salvation is a gift to those who will simply believe.

Acts 16:31 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household."

John 3:15 that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

Titus 3:5 he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit,

#2- To keep the fire burning, it will need fuel.

This could be compared to the Word of God in our lives.

You will need to read the Bible regularly. Just like you don't like to miss a meal, you should desire every day to read His message to you.

Romans 10:17 Consequently, faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.

Jeremiah 23:29 "Is not my word like fire," declares the LORD, "and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?"

Psalms 1:2 but whose delight is in the law of the LORD, and who meditates on his law day and night.

Psalms 119:111 Your statutes are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.

Here are some practical suggestions:

- Have a plan to read the whole Bible
- Have a plan to read a whole book in the Bible
- Read 5 Psalms each day and in one month you will have read the whole book of Psalms
- Read one chapter a day from the Book of

Proverbs, which has 31 chapters. If you forget where you left off just read the chapter of the day of the month to get back on track.

-Read a chapter in the Old Testament and then one in the New Testament

-Take notes on sermons you hear, and talks given in youth group.

-Find a good podcast that features some Bible-based preaching

-Keep a little notebook and record what you hear and learn from God in your readings.

Proverbs 12:27 The lazy do not roast any game, but the diligent feed on the riches of the hunt.

#3 A good fire has oxygen

This could be like your prayer life. Make it your habit to pray all day long. Be thankful at meals, be full of praise songs, ask God for help, thank God for answered prayers, pray for others. Thank the Lord for your blessings each day.

A fire will slowly die down if it does not have oxygen. Its flame will become smaller and eventually become a cold ember.

If we cease to pray it is easy to forget about the Lord and think that we can do it by ourselves

1 Thess. 5:17 ... pray continually,

Philippians 4:13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

John 17:1 After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you."