



Zenith 2010 Curriculum & Theme Guide

Ignite!

Refining & Purifying My Faith

As a follower of Christ my desire is to have such a faith that **consumes** the whole me. A faith so ignited by the love of God, that I live it out in my daily life. A faith that begins with what God did through Christ. His love and grace is transforming my **heart**. A *faith flame* that begins in my **heart** and moves through all of me. The faith which causes my **ears** to be attentive to His Holy Words and the Spirit's leading. Oh to have, ignited **eyes** that see others with the grace in which God sees me. Let my **hands** be ignited that share the light of my faith through service to others. As I walk, may my **feet** be those of faith that take this all consuming faith to a dark world. An **ignited** faith that **consumes** me!

Daily Themes:

Sunday

Ignited Heart

Why faith? Is ignition even a worthy desire? Why do we need a faith that is on fire? Am I cold hearted, lukewarm, or do I have a heart "on fire" for the things of God.

Change from the inside out. Mt. 3:11 "I'm baptizing you here in the river, turning your old **life** in for a **kingdom life**. The real action comes next: The main character in this drama—compared to him I'm a mere stagehand—will **ignite** the **kingdom life** within you, a fire within you, the Holy Spirit within you, changing you from the inside out. He's going to clean house—make a clean sweep of your lives. He'll place everything true in its proper place before God; everything false he'll put out with the trash to be burned." (MSG)

Objective: God's love ignites hearts through Jesus sacrifice.

The Worship: A Heart that is ready to receive and communion with Christ.

For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, Romans 8:3

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' Mark 12:30

The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. 1 Timothy 1:5

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Matthew 5:8

Monday

Ignited Sounds

Who am I listening to? Are my ears attentive to the Word? Do I have a passion to know more of the Way? What noises are distracting me from the Spirit's leading? What stirs your fire? Just as God cannot look at a world that is hurting or a people that choose to follow other gods without desiring change, neither can a true follower of His. The gap between where we are and where we desire to be, between what the world around us looks like and what God wants it to look like, creates conflict. An ignited faith has ears discern the distractions and focus on the sacred.

Objective: An ignited heart leads to ignited ears. Ears which are attentive to the Word of the Lord and tuning in to the Spirit's leading.

The Worship: Hearing and responding to God's Words.

Those who hear and don't act are like those who glance in the mirror, James 1:23

Post this at all the intersections, dear friends: Lead with your ears, follow up with your tongue, and let anger straggle along in the rear. James 1:19

Everything of God gets expressed in him, so you can see and hear him clearly. You don't need a telescope, a microscope, or a horoscope to realize the fullness of Christ, and the emptiness of the universe without him. Colossians 2:9

Tuesday

Ignited Sights

Am I always looking at me? How do I see others? Do my eyes see others (friends, enemies and strangers) like God sees them?

Objective: Ignited eyes are those who see others with God's vision.

The Worship: Focused my eyes on "things above" and developing God vision.

Give a cool cup of water to someone who is thirsty, for instance. The smallest act of giving or receiving makes you a true apprentice. You won't lose out on a thing." Matthew 10:42

We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing him directly just as he knows us! 1 Corinthians 13:12

Wednesday

Ignited Hands

What is a priority? Do I have a passion to serve others in Jesus' name? Am I using my hands to humbly serve others?

Objective: Ignited hands are those who are used to serve other's in Jesus' name.

The Worship: Celebrating the service offered in Jesus' name.

(Note: Wednesday is service day at Zenith)

*Why, anyone by just giving you a cup of water in my name is on our side. Count on it that God will notice.
Mark 9:41*

Give a cool cup of water to someone who is thirsty, for instance. The smallest act of giving or receiving makes you a true apprentice. You won't lose out on a thing." Matthew 10:42

That is what the Son of Man has done: He came to serve, not to be served—and then to give away his life in exchange for many who are held hostage." Mark 10:45

Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it: 1 Peter 4:10

Thursday

Ignited Steps

Am I so consumed with the things of God that I am an igniter for others faith? Is my faith an igniter or a extinguisher? Do I have a fire in my bones and it wears me out trying to contain it.

Jeremiah 20:9 (NLT)

⁹ But if I say I'll never mention the Lord or speak in his name, his word burns in my heart like a fire. It's like a fire in my bones! I am worn out trying to hold it in! I can't do it!

Objective: A ignited consuming faith shares the LIGHT in a dark world. Go!

The Worship: A prayer to God for personal ignition to share and shine.

Zenith Classes 2010

“Spark Plugs”



Class topics are “spark plugs” for ignited faith. Topics include areas that help an ignited faith remain started and have forward (growing) momentum. Teachers are encouraged to focus on how to use and maintain these “spark plugs” in faithful living.

1. Fasting

- a. **Objective:** Helping students understand how to fully depend and pay attention to God through the discipline of fasting
- b. **Suggested Text:** Jesus, (Matthew 4:1-11) Acts 14 (Paul & Barnabas);

2. Praying

- a. **Objective:** To help students understand that prayer is designed to accomplish more than checking and item off a to-do list or getting our wishes into the provider. Prayer connects us to the Father, strengthens our relationship with him and partners us in his work.
- b. **Suggested Text:** Nehemiah (1-5); Luke 11:1-12

3. Encouraging

- a. **Objective:** To help students understand the value of encouragement. To prepare them to be greater encouragers to people around them and to demonstrate the importance of surrounding oneself with encouragers.
- b. **Suggested Text:** Paul & Barnabas (Acts 14) Hebrews, 3:13; Hebrews 10:24; Romans 1:8-17

4. Serving

- a. **Objective:** Helping students understand that serving others is about bringing the attention to God and not to ones self. God is glorified when we humble ourselves and serve others.
- b. **Suggested Text/Characters:** Mary, Mary Magdeline, Martha, Eph. 6:7

5. Connecting (Community of believers, Youth Group)

- a. **Objective:** To help students understand the importance of connection with a group of believers. That being a part of the body not only builds up each member of the group, but also brings out the best in each individual member. As a whole they can accomplish much.
- b. **Suggested Text/Characters:** Acts 2 & (Judas –removed from community)

6. Meditation

- a. **Objective:** To help students become more in tune with the Father by removing distractions and, simply being with their maker
- b. **Suggested Text/Characters:** Joshua (Joshua 1:8) ; Psalms 1:2

7. Suffering

- a. **Objective:** To help students understand how suffering for Christ can bring glory to the Father and draw us closer to Him. To demonstrate how suffering, while puzzling in the moment, is part of his plan.
- b. **Suggested Text/Characters:** Joseph, Lazarus

8. Sacrifice/Offering

- a. **Objective:** To help students understand how sacrificing self and offering all they have to the Father deepens faith and aligns our will with His.
- b. **Suggested Text/Characters:** Mark 12:41-44; Exodus 35:1-35; Leviticus 19:1-37

9. Witnessing/Sharing

- a. **Objective:** To help students understand how to share their conversion story and to tell of what God has done and is doing in their lives. Speaking personally and passionately of God ignites others faith
- b. **Suggested Text/Characters:** 1 Kings 7:3-20; Jonah 3:1-10

10. Focusing (What you see)

- a. **Objective:** To help students recognize that the only way to follow faithfully is to keep our eyes focused on our master.
- b. **Suggested Text/Characters:** Ps 141:8; Paul and Silas (Acts 16:16-40)

11.Praise/Worship

- a. **Objective:** To help kids recognize the strength that is gained and the encouragement received when we devote our lives to praising Him. To help them see the value of praising God in good times and bad.
- b. **Suggested Text/Characters:** Ps 145 (with accompanying background information)

12.Communing

- a. **Objective:** To help students desire to and learn to be in a state of intimate communication with their God and heightened sensitivity and receptivity to His will.
- b. **Key Text:** 1 John 1:3; Abraham: Friend of God (Gen 12, 13, 22)

13. Following (Holy Spirit)

- a. **Objective:** To help students understand how part of God dwells and works inside every believer. How to in faith, trust and rely on the Holy Spirit's guidance in your life
- b. **Key Passages/Character:** Mark 1:9-13, Matthew 18:15-20; Matthew 10:16-42; John 14:15-31

14. Purifying

Objective: To help students understand what it means to live a life of purity.

Key Passages/Character: David, John 17:1-26