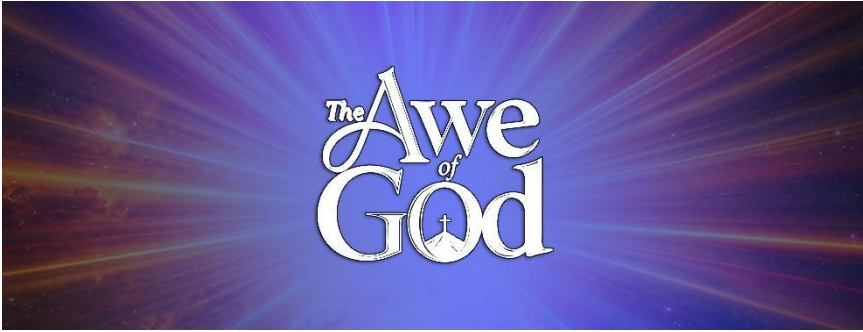




Respect The Fire

Leviticus 6:12-13

When the Extraordinary Becomes Ordinary

“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that is unshakable, let us be thankful, and please God by worshiping Him with holy fear and awe, for our God is a devouring fire.” Hebrews 12:28-29

Fire gives light and warmth, purifies, and transforms. We approach it with awareness of its power. God is loving and holy; Father and King. He invites us close, but His presence must never become common.

Why Should We Fear God?

“The fear of the Lord is the foundation of wisdom.”
Proverbs 9:10

Holy fear is reverence that leads us to surrender. Take His presence, Word, worship, obedience, and the privilege of calling Him Father seriously.

“Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that your fear of Him will keep you from sinning.”

Exodus 20:20

“How then could I do such a wicked thing? It would be a great sin against God?” Genesis 39:9

Joseph cared more about grieving God than being caught by people. The fear of the Lord protects the fire in our relationship with Him.

Don't Let the Fire Go Out

“The fire on the altar must be kept burning; it must never go out. Each morning the priest will add fresh wood to the fire ... Remember, the fire must be kept burning on the altar at all times.” Leviticus 6:12-13

God sent the fire; the priests tended it. We cannot manufacture God's presence, but we can feed what He has ignited through obedience, attention, and care.

“Fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you.”

2 Timothy 1:6

I. Keep Seeing God as **HOLY**

“I saw the Lord. He was sitting on a lofty throne ... Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Heaven's Armies! The whole earth is filled with his glory.” Isaiah 6:1-3

The angels have never become bored with His holiness. Gratitude can become entitlement when we treat mercy as owed, worship as entertainment, or His Word as one opinion among many.

2. Remember What God Has **DONE**

“Beware that in your plenty you do not forget the LORD your God.” Deuteronomy 8:11

Israel could remember the Red Sea, manna, and deliverance while losing wonder. Remember answered prayers, provision, protection, comfort, and where Jesus found you.

3. Keep Putting **WOOD** on the Fire

“Fire goes out without wood.” Proverbs 26:20

A neglected relationship grows weak. Sunday can ignite us, but daily life sustains us.

Yesterday’s encounter cannot sustain today’s fire.

God’s mercies are new every morning.

Lamentations 3:22–23

Some days the wood is a long prayer; some days it is one whispered prayer or one verse. Consistency keeps the fire burning.

4. Remove the **ASHES**

Ashes show that something once burned; they cannot fuel today’s fire. We cannot live only on what God used to do. Remove disappointment, offense, secret sin, unforgiveness, pride, unhealthy habits, and distractions.

“Let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up.” Hebrews 12:1

5. Stay Close to People Who Carry

FIRE

A coal separated from the fire cools. God did not design us to follow Him alone.

“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together ... but encourage one another.”

Hebrews 10:24-25

We need people who encourage, pray, share burdens, and lovingly challenge us. A large gathering can still leave people unknown. Connect groups give us space to be known and help someone notice when our fire is low.

“All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to prayer.” Acts 2:42

The early church gathered in the temple and in homes (Acts 2:46). We need both. Hurt, busyness, and fear can keep us isolated; isolation endangers the fire. Your testimony, wisdom, prayer, and presence may strengthen someone else.

My Next Steps:

- Attend a Connect Group this week
- Sign up to be Baptized on Sunday Oct 4th

Tithes & Offerings

“Everything we have has come from you, and we give you only what you first gave us!” 1 Chronicles 29:14

As we give, let’s do it with gratitude and awe, offering back a portion of what He has placed in our hands.

Next Week: Pastor Lon is back to continue the Awe of God series!

