

Are You Fired Up or Burned Out?

- What aspects of life make you feel fired up? What aspects leave you feeling burned out?
- What evidence is there in your life that you might be bumping up against your fatigue limit?

Can You Finish Strong?

 Thinking about your recent commitments, do you find yourself finishing as strongly as you began? Do you stumble?
 What would help you stay strong?

Chapter 3 Christ Is the Answer, but What Are the Questions?

 Which of the five basic questions included on page 15 are you having the most difficulty answering in your own life?

Do You Have "Christed Eyes"?

• What insights about following after Christ did you take away from the story of the rich young ruler in Mark 10:17-22?

Do You Use Time Creatively?

 How do you view time? How does that view impact how you use your time? How does it influence your view of God and eternity?

Do You Have a Faith That Will Not Shrink?

• Over and over, the author says that one of the keys to keeping our faith alive is to "continue." What about continuing feels difficult? What encourages you to stick to those things that helped you develop vibrant faith?

When Is Stubbornness a Good Thing?

• When has tenacious determination to persevere despite difficult life circumstances deepened your faith?

What Is the Best Tribute We Can Pay Our Lord?

 What would it look like for you to extend lovingkindness the way Christ did? Would it mean being kind in moments that are difficult? Would it mean being kind to people who annoy or frustrate you or are simply very different from you?

Why Is Gratitude So Important?

- What are some ways you've noticed ingratitude sneaking into your daily attitude? What impact has it made on your soul?
- How do you think a grateful heart represents "coming to yourself"?
- What part does gratitude play in your relationship with Christ?

What's the Difference Between Childishness and Childlikeness?

- Do you agree that childlikeness is part of our maturity?
- How do memories of your own childishness or childlikeness shape your faith?

Do You Build Walls or Bridges?

- How have you built walls between yourself and others on topics that your faith requires you to stand firm on?
- What would it look like for you to build a bridge instead?

Have You Ever Experienced God's Surprising, Reconciling Presence?

• Describe a time when you experienced spirit-led reconciliation.

Are You Talking More and Communicating Less?

- How have your conversations changed because of technology?
 Has there been a change in frequency? Depth of sharing? The number of people you stay in touch with? Do you feel that the changes are positive or negative?
- The author asserts that the "key to communication is love." How does this apply even to people with whom you aren't close?

Do You Love Anyone Like That?

- With whom in your life do you find it most challenging to exercise unconditional love?
- What is one small step you could take today to come closer to Christ's standard of unconditional love?

Did Jesus Really Mean That?

- Does choosing to respond to harshness with kindness or to hurt with forgiveness change you? How?
- Do you believe you understand what Jesus meant? Are you acting on it?

When God Speaks, Can the Church Be Our Hearing Aid?

- How does your involvement with church help you hear God's word more clearly?
- When has the church helped cut through the background noise to make God's message easier to hear?

Do You Know Firsthand the Grace of God That Sets Us Free?

- What image or story from scripture most resembles how you view the way God relates to you?
- How does your relationship with God exhibit God's freeing grace? How does it not?

Is Jesus God's Way of Getting Rid of a Bad Reputation?

- Do you agree with John Killinger and the author that "Jesus is God's way of getting rid of a bad reputation?" Why do you think so many people still want nothing to do with God?
- What wrong ideas about God's character have you held? How did Jesus change those perceptions?

Anybody Here Enjoy Religion?

- How might you give people the impression that you may not actually enjoy religion?
- In what ways do you think people see religion as a source of goodness but not gladness? Would walking into a service at your church or having a meal at your home change their mind?

Do You Make Excuses, Excuses?

- The author says "Our problem is not that we hesitate to admit anything, but rather that we are learning how to justify everything." How do you see that playing out to today's culture?
- What areas of sin in your own life are you most likely to try and justify with excuses?

Are You Standing in the Need of Prayer?

 What about prayer do you find most difficult? How might you be able to overcome that aspect and focus on God as a friend who wants to talk with you?

What Shall I Do to Inherit Eternal Life?

- What is God cultivating in you right now as you wait on him?
- In what areas of your spiritual walk do you find yourself most drawn to simple solutions rather than the trust and commitment required by cultivating a relationship with God?

Do You Really Know the Good News?

 Write your own short list of "positive don'ts." (See page 95 for examples.)

What Are the Most Authentic Qualities of Life?

 How do you believe that love, humility, and forgiveness have affected you personally as you seek to follow after Christ?

Are You Dreaming the Impossible Dream?

- What parts of your life are you tempted to see as a failure because the results didn't match your big dreams?
- How have you made contributions in key areas of your life that you never even thought to dream of?

Are You Locked in a Room with Open Doors?

- What fears, anxieties, or attitudes cut you off from others or from God?
- Into what areas of your life is it most difficult to allow God's love for you?

Was the Innkeeper Really a Bad Guy?

• What other story from the Bible would you re-evaluate, given the same lessons the author discussed in this chapter?

CHAPTER 28
Where's His?

• How did the story in this chapter lead you to think about the parts of your time, talents, and resources you share with God?

Will You Face Death Unafraid?

• When you think of death, does the thought of meeting God face to face make you excited or apprehensive?