



Community Groups are used extensively as the primary vehicle for discipleship at The Gathering and run on a quarter system. There is one in the fall, one in the winter and one in the spring. During the summer weeks we don't meet in Community Groups but we still offer the Growth Guides as a tool to help you grow personally. The Growth Guides are designed to help you dig deeper into the weekly sermon on your own or with your family and are available each week along with the note sheets at church as well as online.

USE THIS GUIDE TO PREPARE FOR THE DISCUSSIONS IN COMMUNITY GROUP.

Consider...

Use the summary and discussion below to review and apply this week's message:

Message Summary

"What happens when God answers by fire?" may be the wrong question if we haven't asked ourselves whether or not we've given him something to answer! While we'll take a deeper look at the showdown between Elijah and the prophets of Baal at the end of our "Burn" series, this week we took note of what Elijah did BEFORE God answered by fire: 1 Kings 18:30 tells us that he "repaired the altar that was in ruins." Before we can see the fire of God, we've got to rebuild the altar of God.

Discuss

Use the following questions to review and apply the points learned in the message.

- Before we can rebuild the altar, Paul talked about needing to develop an "altar" ego. Describe some personal encounters you've had with God that changed how you saw yourself.
- Paul described rebuilding the altar as becoming "people of the presence, people of sacrifice, people determined to meet with God." How would you describe someone who has rebuilt the altar?
- Why is being changed better than being modified? Give examples of both spiritually.
- The story of Uzzah being struck dead is tragic and eye-opening to the dangers of taking shortcuts in establishing the presence of God. What are some examples of shortcuts that people often take in rebuilding the altar of God in their lives? In their churches?
- We rebuild the altar on history and unity, or, by looking back and looking around. Looking back over your life, name some people who were committed to the altar and presence of God. How can their example motivate you as you rebuild the altar of God in your life?
- Read Psalm 133. Why do you think unity is so powerful? Why does it lead to God's blessings?
- Consider the following statement: "The price of revival is paid in the place of prayer." What could it cost you to rebuild the altar personally? Corporately?

We are currently in a season of prayer and fasting that we call "50 Days to Fire" as a church. Please join us for corporate prayer each Wednesday night in the Worship Center from 7:30 - 8:30.