



Kiss The Fire - Week 2 | Shawn Johnson | 10.12.2025

Weekly Study

SHARE

As group members settle in, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how their lives are going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

- **Share a high, a low, and something interesting from this week.**

The deep truth we'll keep returning to throughout this series is that God ***is with you.*** Our prayer is that your group meeting is always a time where all of you can slow down and encounter the stillness and peace not found in a busy world. Begin your group time a little differently and take 10 deep breaths together. This may feel a little strange at first! But as you do so, remember two things: 1. You are safe here. 2. God's presence is closer than the air that we breathe. In fact, His *Spirit* is the Hebrew word "Ruach", or the Greek word "Pneuma". Through the biblical authors, God Himself wanted us to discover Him as the Divine Breath.

- **Take 10 deep breaths together. In your mind, as you breathe in, say "God is with me." As you breathe out, say, "And I am with Him."**
- **Did any memories or emotions come up as you did this exercise?**
- **Share either how you have experienced God with you this week, or where you desire Him to meet you in the week ahead.**

GROW

Welcome to Week Two of our new series, Kiss the Fire.

Inspired by Shawn's upcoming book, which is releasing on October 14th, this series is all about learning how to get back up when you want to quit. Each week, we'll dive into short, powerful studies that meet you where you are and help you find faith in the middle of the fire.

For those who want to go deeper, Ryan Wekenman has written an incredible 10-week study that pairs perfectly with this series. You can grab the book in our lobbies or find the full study on our app.

This week, Pastor Shawn gave us practical steps and real-world examples for what it takes to get ***“really good at not quitting.”*** He reminds us that we have to fight to take hold of the plans and promises God has for us.

As Ephesians 6:12 tells us, our battle is not against our fellow man, but against the powers of sin and brokenness at work in our world. We were all born into a fight, and sometimes, throughout our lives, that becomes more apparent and heartbreaking. Our awareness of that reality is what gives us the perspective we need to **not give up**.

Read Matthew 7:13-14, Galatians 6:9

- **What is the battle you feel like you're up against right now?**
- **Can you or your group help pinpoint the lie you may be believing about your situation?**
- **What would it look like to invite God into your battle this week, to keep your eyes on Him?**

MOVE

Pastor Shawn dove into the story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in Daniel 3 to give us the tools we need to kiss the fire in our lives and walk away whistling - the *how-to* when everything in life feels like it's knocking you down.

1. Lock Arms with People Who **Serve God**.
2. Trust God. Period.
3. Worship Through the Fire.

As Pastor Shawn recounts the story of when Coach Marc Montoya told him this powerful phrase, what's so profound is that he said, "**We're** going to kiss this fire..." Not, "*you're*." We were never meant to live lives of isolation, and we're certainly not meant to fight the fires in our lives alone. When we inevitably face circumstances in our lives that bring us to our knees, we all need people who are ready and willing to lock arms with us and help us carry our burdens. A **Group** of people that remain strong in faith, seeking after the Lord in prayer, devoted to Him and one another. You are doing this! And may this be a timely reminder of just how much purpose rests on the relationships you're cultivating together.

Read Hebrews 10:24-25

The words "faith, trust, and belief" get thrown around interchangeably in our English language, and can feel rather fluffy, as if we're talking about Santa being real or the Denver Broncos winning the Super Bowl. But the concept of faith, while not blind, requires a strong and committed inner disposition of the heart. A trust that goes beyond our circumstances. Now, this is not something we conjure up by ourselves, but a deep conviction that the Holy Spirit actively builds within us when we choose to fix our eyes on Jesus in obedience and surrender. When we choose to trust, He builds our faith.

Read Daniel 3:17-18, Romans 15:13, Isaiah 55:8-9

We as humans were made to worship, and we are constantly being formed by the world around us. It takes grit and a fighter's spirit to give God our worship and affection when the noise of the world is so distracting - begging us to bow down to other idols. May you remain in Holy defiance as you choose God alone.

- **In vulnerability, how can your group be praying for you *specifically* right now?**
- **Share a time or story when God showed up for you against all odds. If you don't have a story to share, allow the testimony of someone else to build your faith!**
- **What idols, crutches, or worldly comforts do you find yourself running to over God when life gets difficult? How can you replace those times with worship and prayer?**

P R A Y

Take a few minutes to allow people to share prayer requests with the group and then pray for each other.