

“Be Different” - LESSON 3

“Stay Fired Up”

Main Focus:

Christians must continually feed their passion for God!



Power Verse:

“Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.”

- Romans 12:11 (NIV)



Whatchagaddaknow:

“Let’s Stay Fired Up!”

LEADER’S INFO

The Bible is clear that our faith journey is not a sprint but a marathon. Like a campfire, our spiritual passion and fervor requires regular attention - feeding it with God’s Word, stoking it with prayer, and guarding it against the winds of distraction.

In this lesson, the kids will be challenged to recognize the ways they can fuel their love for God and keep their spiritual fire burning brightly for their entire lives.

Through the story of Jesus teaching the temple teachers, kids will learn that staying fired up for God isn’t just about emotion but about daily choices and habits rooted in His truth.

We must all “Stay Fired Up” even when life gets tough, because God is always ready to fan the flame in our hearts.



“The Spark” Intro Video

“Fired Up!”



“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Dylan teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”



Character Skit

“Inspector Change-A-Lot”



Offering Time



Game Time!

“Noodle Joust”



Bible Story

“Jesus Teaches The Teachers”



Power Verse Video

“Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.”

- Romans 12:11 (NIV)



Call To Action

“Stay Fired Up”



Rewind!

Review Game



Small Group Experience

Main Focus:

Christians must continually feed their passion for God!



Power Verse:

“Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.”

- Romans 12:11 (NIV)



Whatchagaddaknow:

“Let’s Stay Fired Up!”

Lesson 3 Materials Needed:

“The Spark” Intro Video

- “Lesson 3 - The Spark” Intro Video

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

- “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video
- “Whatchagaddaknow” Trigger Video

Character Skit

- “Inspector Change-A-Lot” Theme Graphic/Music

Offering Time

- “Offering Time” Bumper Video

Game Time!

- “Game Time!” Bumper Video
- “Noodle Joust” Graphic
- Two Styrofoam Pool Noodles
- Two Large Hats

Bible Story

- “Jesus Teaches The Teachers” Graphics

Power Verse Video

- “Lesson 3 Power Verse” Video

Call To Action

- “Stay Fired Up” Graphics
- A Candle
- Lighter
- Jar
- A Bible
- A Log Or Piece Of Wood

Rewind!

- “REWIND!” Bumper Video
- “REWIND!” Lesson 3 Graphics

Small Group Experience

- Bible
- Marshmallows
- Large Craft Sticks
- A Way To Keep Time
- Romans 12:11 Print Piece

“The Spark” Intro Video

“Fired Up!”

“Whatchagaddaknow” Video

Dylan teaches “Whatchagaddaknow”

Character Skit

“Inspector Change-A-Lot”

Offering Time

Game Time!

“Noodle Joust”

Bible Story

“Jesus Teaches The Teachers”

Power Verse Video

“Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.”

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Call To Action

“Stay Fired Up”

Rewind!

Review Game

Small Group Experience



Introduction to “The Spark” Intro Video

Leader: Hey, kids! Today we’re continuing our series called “BE DIFFERENT!” It’s all about how Christians are supposed to live lives that are very different than the rest of the world.

I have a question for you. Have you ever been camping? *(allow response)* What are some of your favorite things to do on a camping trip? *(allow response)* Those are all very fun!

One of the things I love about camping is building a campfire then sitting around it roasting marshmallows and hot dogs. Anybody else love sitting around a campfire? *(allow response)*

You’re probably wondering what a campfire has to do with today’s lesson. Well, I am glad you asked. But first, I want to check out this video...

(play “The Spark - Intro Video Lesson 3”)

Leader: We all have a fire inside us that needs to stay burning for God! We don’t ever need to just ignore that fire and let it go out. We need to pray every day, read and study God’s word, and serve others. Those are all very important ways we can feed the fire and “Stay Fired Up!”

We will learn all about that today. Through our Bible Story, we will learn about some people who kept their passion for God burning strong even at an old age!

Right now, it’s time to find out “Whatchagaddaknow.”

(play “Whatchagaddaknow” Teaching Video)



CHARACTER SKIT

Character: “Inspector Change-A-Lot” *(They are a wacky person who loves to invent things! Dressed like an old-timey detective, they should come in each week ready to feature their latest invention or tool that can be debunked with a simple solution.)*

Inspector: *(Enters wearing an absurd amount of winter gear—coat, scarf, gloves, earmuffs, etc.—shivering dramatically while holding a thermometer.)* Brrrrr! It’s freezing out there! I can’t seem to warm up, no matter what I do!

Leader: Inspector Change-A-Lot! Why are you dressed like that? It’s perfectly comfortable here.

Inspector: Comfortable? *(Shivering)* Are we in the same room? I’m freezing my socks off! *(Pulls out a thermometer)* And this! This is my brand-new Fire-O-Meter 5000! It’s supposed to measure how fired up people are. But... something’s wrong. It keeps saying I’m ice cold!

Leader: That’s odd. How does it work?

Inspector: Simple! It measures excitement for God. This thing should be sizzling hot! But look at me! *(Holds the gadget near themselves dramatically)* Ice. Cold.

Leader: Hmm... Inspector, do you think maybe the problem isn’t your gadget but... you?

Inspector: Me? Impossible! I’m always inventing things! I’m busy all the time! Creating great things, changing the world – what more could you need to be excited?

Leader: Well, Inspector, there’s your answer. You can’t be fired up for God if you’re not spending time with Him! Praying, studying the Bible, and serving others keep our hearts on fire with His love.

Inspector: Oh no! So you’re saying... I’ve been so busy doing stuff that I forgot about being with God?

Leader: Exactly! But don’t worry, it’s never too late to start. Let’s do something right now to help you get fired up. How about we pray together?

Inspector: *(Looking hopeful)* You’d do that for me? Okay, let’s try it!

Leader: *(Prays a simple, heartfelt prayer out loud while the Inspector bows their head. As the prayer ends, Inspector looks at the gadget.)*

Inspector: *(Shocked)* Wait a minute! It’s working! The needle’s moving! *(Starts fanning themselves)* Oh wow, it’s getting hot in here! I think... I think I’m finally warming up!

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CHARACTER SKIT

(Continued)

Leader: See? When you spend time with God, your heart gets fired up for Him. And it shows in your life!

Inspector: Amazing! I never realized how much I needed to pray, read God's Word, and serve others to stay excited and motivated. I guess my Fire-O-Meter wasn't broken after all—it just needed me to change!

Leader: That's right. And today, we're learning three important things we can all do to stay fired up for God.

Inspector: *(Excitedly)* Oh, I can't wait! I'm ready to learn and stay on fire for God! *(Begins taking off winter gear)* No more cold for me—this room feels like a tropical island now!

Leader: That's the power of being close to God! And remember, Inspector, it's not just about inventions or gadgets. It's about spending time with Him every day.

Inspector: You're right! Thank you for helping me figure it out. I'm off to tell everyone I meet how to stay fired up for God! I'll see you next time—this is Inspector Change-A-Lot, and I'll be back to inspect your transformation, so be ready, and stay fired up!

(EXITS WHILE THEME MUSIC PLAYS)



GAME TIME

“Noodle Joust”

Items Needed For Game:

Two styrofoam pool noodles (*four-foot-long styrofoam tubes used as a swimming pool toy*); two large hats

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Preparation:

Choose three boys and three girls to participate in this game.

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How To Play:

Choose one boy and one girl to compete against each other first. Place a hat on each of their heads, making sure it is not tight. Have the contestants stand approximately three to four feet apart from one another, facing one another. Give each of the contestants a pool noodle. Have them each hold the pool noodle in one hand and place the other hand behind their back.

When you say, “Go!” the contestants must use their pool noodle to try to knock the hat off of their opponent’s head. The first one to do so is declared the winner. Do three rounds of the game, allowing the other contestants to compete against each other. The team that wins the best two out of three is the winning team!



Bible Story

“Jesus Teaches The Teachers”

Materials Needed:

The graphic slides for Lesson 3; begin with the slide that says “Bible Story”; follow the instructions below, changing the slides to follow along with the story (*as shown*)

Preparation:

Familiarize yourself with the passage in Luke 2:41-52; have your open Bible in your hands as you tell the story

The Story:

Today’s Bible Story is found in the book of Luke, chapter 2. One day, when Jesus was 12 years old, he went with his parents, Joseph and Mary, to a big festival in Jerusalem. They went to this festival every year, but this year was different!



When the festival was over, Jesus’ parents started on their journey back home. Everything was going great like it did every year. Jesus was hanging out with some other friends who were traveling in a large group with them, and they were headed home from a great time at the festival. Everything was going GREAT - except for...Jesus wasn’t actually hanging with the other travelers.



When Mary and Joseph made it home, they suddenly realized Jesus had never been traveling with them in the first place! (*show pic*) Jesus was missing! They started freaking out! They had lost the Son of God! This was NOT good! They were worried to death and immediately headed back to Jerusalem to find Jesus!



Thankfully, when Mary and Joseph made it back to Jerusalem, they found Jesus! (*show pic*) He was just sitting there with the teachers in the temple, teaching them, and and talking with them about the Scriptures. The teachers were amazed at Jesus’ questions and answers!



Well, Mary saw Jesus sitting there and she ran over to him and said, (*show pic*) “Son! We’ve been looking EVERYWHERE for you!” She was so scared, but so relieved to have found Jesus!

However, Jesus wasn’t scared at all. He replied to his mom, (*show pic*) “Why did you have to search everywhere? Didn’t you know that I would be in my Father’s house?”

Wow! Jesus was just a 12-year-old kid, but he was found teaching the teachers in church! Even though Jesus was young, that didn’t stop him from talking with and learning from the teachers. And even though the teachers were old, they still made sure to learn too - they were taking lessons from a little kid! That’s how much they wanted to feed the fire of excitement about God that was in their hearts.

In your lesson today, you’re going to learn the importance of choosing daily to do the things that feed our fire of excitement for God. You are going to learn how to “Stay Fired Up!”



Call To Action

“Stay Fired Up”

Materials Needed:

The “Stay Fired Up” graphics; a candle; lighter; jar (*to place over the candle*); a Bible; a log or piece of wood

Preparation:

Begin with the slide titled, “Stay Fired Up”



The Message: (*title slide*)

We’ve been learning about staying the importance of staying “fired up” for God! Romans 12:11 refers to that spiritual fire as “zeal.” That verse says that you should “keep your spiritual fervor” - which means “stay fired up!” When we think of fire, we think of something that burns bright, gives warmth, and spreads energy. That’s what our love for God should look like in our lives!

But here’s the thing—fire doesn’t burn all by itself. You have to take care of it to keep it going. In the same way, we have to take care of our relationship with God so it stays strong and passionate. Let’s break it down into three ways to help our hearts “Stay Fired Up!” First, you must...



Pray Every Day (*slide*)

Prayer is like oxygen. If a fire doesn’t get oxygen, it dies out. The same is true for our relationship with God. If we don’t stay connected to Him through prayer, the fire in our hearts will start to fade. When we talk to God, we are reminded that He is with us, He loves us, and He has the power to help us through anything we face. Prayer is more than just giving God a list of “stuff we want” - like He’s our own personal Santa Claus. It’s all about spending time with Him, telling Him about your day, and listening to what He says to your heart.

(*hold up a candle and light it*) This candle represents your fire for God. What happens if you put a jar over it?
(*demonstrate*) The flame slowly goes out because it can’t get any oxygen. Without prayer, your faith can feel like this candle—weak and dim. But when we pray, it’s like removing the jar and letting fresh oxygen in, allowing the flame to burn brightly again.

Make it a habit to pray every day. Start your mornings by saying, “Good morning, God! Thank You for loving me!” And before bed, talk to Him about what happened during your day. The more you pray, the stronger your fire for God will grow!

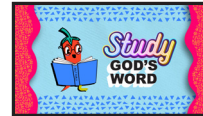
If we want to “Stay Fired Up”, we must pray every day...AND...

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Call To Action (Continued)

Study God’s Word (slide)



(hold up the Bible) **The Bible is like the wood for our spiritual fire.** Imagine you’re sitting around a campfire on a cold night. It feels so warm and cozy, but you notice the fire is starting to shrink. What do you do? *(hold up the piece of wood)* You grab some more wood and throw it onto the fire to keep it going. In the same way, we need to add the fuel of God’s Word to our hearts every single day. The Bible reminds us of God’s promises, teaches us how to live, and gives us the strength to face challenges. Without it, our fire can begin to fade and go out.

When you read the Bible, you’re giving your spiritual fire exactly what it needs to stay strong. You’re learning about God’s love, His power, and His plans for your life. Even reading just a little bit each day can make a big difference. If you’re not sure where to start, try reading a Psalm or a story about Jesus. Take time to ask God, “What do You want me to learn from this?” When we spend time in God’s Word, our fire for Him will burn hotter than ever!

So, if we want to “Stay Fired Up”, we must pray every day, study God’s Word, and...

Serve Others (slide)



Here’s a cool thing about fire - it can spread! When you light one candle, you can use it to light another, and another, until the whole room is glowing. That’s what happens when we serve others and share God’s love. When we take what God has given us and pass it on to someone else, it doesn’t just brighten their life, it keeps our own fire strong, too. God didn’t make us to live selfishly. He made us to serve and love the people around us.

When we serve others, it’s like sharing the fire of God’s love. Maybe you can help a friend with their homework, invite someone to church, or write a note of encouragement to someone who’s feeling sad. Each time you do, you’re spreading God’s love and making your own fire grow even brighter.

Are you ready to keep your fire for God burning strong? If you pray every day, study God’s Word, and serve others, then you will definitely “Stay Fired Up!”

ALTAR RESPONSE (play soft music)

Pray that every child will pray every day to stay connected to God, study His Word to keep their heart fueled, and serve others to spread the fire. Pray that they will use the fire of God to impact their families, schools, and communities!



Materials Needed:

“REWIND!” Lesson 3 Graphics; “REWIND!” Bumper Video

Preparation:

Play the “REWIND!” Bumper Video; Begin with the slide titled “REWIND!”; there is a slide for each question

1. Whatchagaddaknow today?

Answer: “Let’s Stay Fired Up!”

2. Who was the young boy in the Bible Story?

Answer: Jesus

3. Who was looking for Jesus?

Answer: His Parents

4. What was Jesus doing when His parents found Him?

Answer: Teaching In The Temple

5. Did the teachers receive Jesus’ teaching?

Answer: Yes

6. True or False: It is my responsibility to keep my fire for God burning?

Answer: True

7. According to our lesson today, “_____ Every Day.”

Answer: Pray

8. According to our lesson today, “Study God’s _____.”

Answer: Word

9. According to our lesson today, “_____ Others.”

Answer: Serve

10. Where was our Power Verse found?

Answer: Romans 12:11