

“Burning Up” | Worship as confession

GETTING STARTED: How closely do you monitor smoke and carbon monoxide alarms in your home? How would you handle a 3 a.m. alarm?

EXPLORE THE TOPIC:

1. Read Deuteronomy 12:2-4. What is God asking of His people? What other actions might someone be tempted to do other than to “destroy completely?” How does Hebrews 12:1-2 offer similar encouragement to us today?
2. How did God’s words in that Deuteronomy passage act as alarm to His people? How did he deliver this alarm? What “alarms” can we rely upon today as a warning for the sinful snares around us?
3. Read Exodus 34:10-12. Identify the arrangements of this covenant. What is expected of Moses and the people? What is God promising? What similarities do you notice between this covenant and the one that God made with Abraham in Genesis 15:18-21.
4. Why might someone believe that “God forgives all, so I’ll do what feels good”? What is the danger in this attitude? How is this related to Paul’s words in Romans 6:1?
5. What actions could a person commit themselves towards if they are trying to combat the snare of greed? Pride? Negativity? Lust? Other snares? What increases/decreases a person’s chance of successfully combating known weaknesses?
6. Read Exodus 34:13-14. What is significant about the use of the word “jealous” in this passage? Why was God jealous in the time of Moses? Today?
7. What is the difference between “managing sin” and

“crucifying sin” in our lives? How do the following passages illustrate the new identity that comes with a relationship with Jesus?

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| Matthew 5:13-14 | Romans 8:17, 37 |
| 1 Corinthians 6:9 | 2 Corinthians 5:20 |
| Ephesians 1:7-8, 2:10 | 1 Peter 1:23, 2:9 |

APPLY THE TRUTH:

Confession doesn’t have to be the defining point of your time with God. Try structuring a prayer time using the following “ACTS” acrostic. This helps situate confession alongside other important aspects of your time with God.

Adoration – Psalms 68:35 “Praise be to God!”

Confession – 1 John 1:9 “If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just, and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.”

Thanksgiving – Psalms 69:30 “Glorify him with thanksgiving”

Supplication – Philippians 4:6 “Make your requests known to God.”

PRAY:

This is the corporate prayer used in service on Sunday:

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

NOTES:
