

Prepare for an

AWAKENING

Based on the book by Stovall Weems

WEEK 2 :: MARCH 16, 2011

The Fire Inside

Be filled with the Spirit.

—EPHESIANS 5:18, NIV

What were the disciples doing on the day Jesus rose from the dead? Cowering behind locked doors for fear of their enemies (John 20:19).

What were they doing a few weeks later when the Pentecost holiday rolled around? Boldly preaching the Good News to a crowd, until three thousand people were saved (Acts 2).

So, what intervened to accomplish this great difference in the disciples? Of course it was the coming of the Holy Spirit. Talk about an awakening!

The disciples should have remembered Jesus' Last Supper promise that He would send the Holy Spirit. Though Jesus would no longer be physically present with His followers, the Holy Spirit would become the presence of God inside them, leading them into truth, empowering their mission for Christ, and bringing glory to the Lord.

We, too, can be filled with the Holy Spirit. We must be. Why? Because acquiring or maintaining fervor for the Lord is not something we can achieve in our own power. It's a matter of yielding to the Holy Spirit and walking in step with Him every day. He's the fire inside that makes us burn with zeal.

Spirit-filled souls are ablaze for God. They love with a love that glows. They serve with a faith that kindles. They serve with a devotion that consumes. They hate sin with fierceness that burns. They rejoice with a joy that radiates. Love is perfected in the fire of God.

—SAMUEL CHADWICK

Destitute of the Fire of God, nothing else counts; possessing Fire, nothing else matters.

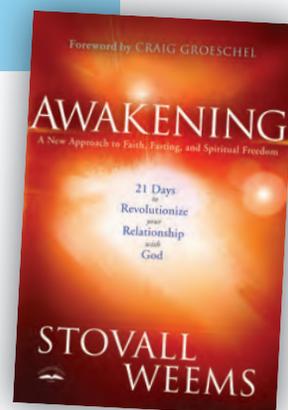
—SAMUEL CHADWICK

Bible Reading Plan: John 14:15-17; 16:7-15

Prayer Focus:

Have you been quenching the Holy Spirit within you or fanning His sparks into a fire? Seek God for a fresh filling of the Holy Spirit today!

Based on the book, *AWAKENING: A New Approach to Faith, Fasting, and Spiritual Freedom* by Stovall Weems



About the Author

Stovall Weems is the founder and lead pastor of Celebration Church in Jacksonville, Florida, a thriving, multi-site church with locations both regionally and internationally. In addition to being a pastor, teacher, and conference speaker, Stovall leads Awakening, a 21-day spiritual campaign of prayer, fasting, and personal devotion that takes place each January. Stovall and his wife, Kerri, have three children. Learn more at www.awake21.org.