

Fresh Fire: Becoming Ignitable for Christ

As we approach the momentous Nov. 5 elections, there are lots of people who can offer a more astute political commentary than I, so I'll defer to them. What I can do, however, is help ignite a fresh spiritual fire in each of us, knowing that, as we burn bright, America will be changed. Revival in the church remains our nation's only real hope. (If you are not a follower of Jesus, you may not find the rest of this article relevant. But you're free, of course, to read on.)

Amy Carmichael (1867-1951), an Irish missionary to India once prayed, "Make me Thy fuel, Flame of God!" Inspired by this prayer, missionary martyr Jim Elliot (1927-1956) wrote, "God makes His ministers a flame of fire. Am I ignitable? God, deliver me from the dread asbestos of 'other things.' Saturate me with the oil of Thy Spirit that I may be a flame. Make me Thy fuel, Flame of God."

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Am I ignitable? Are you? Or are we too immersed in the dreaded asbestos of "other things"?

Make us wholly ignitable, Lord! We want to be living torches for you.

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Speaking of John the Immerser (the Baptist), Jesus said, "John was a lamp that burned and gave light, and you chose for a time to enjoy his light" (John 5:35, NIV). Speaking of all of us, apostle of faith Smith Wigglesworth (1859-1947), said,

“Oh, if God has His way, we should be like torches, purifying the very atmosphere wherever we go, moving back the forces of wickedness.” How wonderful that would be!

Yet for many of us, this goal seems both farfetched and unattainable. For others still, it is not even a desirable goal, wondering, “Isn’t that a little fanatical?”

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