

Study Guide: 11-2-25 GrateFull - Your Kingdom, Communion, and Consuming Fire

Overview

This message, titled "GrateFull - Your Kingdom, Communion, and Consuming Fire," encourages believers to move beyond basic gratitude to being "grateFULL" – experiencing the fullest life God intends amid life's chaos and "shaking." Drawing from Hebrews 12:28-29, it contrasts Old Testament fear at Mount Sinai with New Testament grace at Mount Zion, emphasizing gratitude for an unshakable Kingdom, child-of-God access, and God's consuming fire that burns away sin without destroying us. God has a plan for us, full of joy, and growth (not constant suffering), using trials to refine us for completeness.

Reflection Questions

1. What "shaking" am I currently experiencing, and how does it challenge my ability to be grateful?
2. How does viewing God as a loving Father (like wanting good for His kids) change my perspective on trials?
3. In what ways have I received the unshakable Kingdom now, not just in the future?
4. How does my access to God as His child influence my worship and daily relationship with Him?
5. Am I more afraid of God's consuming fire or grateful for what it removes from my life?

Main Points

1. **We received an unshakeable Kingdom**
 - Life is full of chaos and daily trials (James 1:2-4), but through Jesus, we enter an eternal, steady Kingdom now (Hebrews 12:28; Hebrews 13:8).
 - Entry requires confessing Jesus as Lord and believing in His resurrection (Romans 10:9; Romans 6:23).
 - This overcomes chaos, enabling grateFULL living.
2. **We've been given child of God access**
 - Jesus' blood brings us near to God's throne room (Hebrews 4:15; Psalm 103:10-14).
 - God sympathizes with our weaknesses, shows compassion, and removes sins far away.
 - Worship flows from His goodness, not ours, producing reverence and awe.
3. **He is a consuming fire**
 - Unlike Sinai's terror (Hebrews 12:18-21), we approach Zion's joy and forgiveness through Jesus' blood (Hebrews 12:22-24).
 - God's shaking removes shakable things (sin, iniquity) so only eternal remains (Hebrews 12:25-27).
 - His fire consumes what hinders Kingdom fullness in us, not us – for our benefit.

Application

- **Daily Practice:** Start each day listing 3 things you're grateful for, including one trial, thanking God for His unshakable presence in it.
- **Worship Response:** In prayer or song, focus on God's character (steadfast love, mercy) rather than your performance; confess sins to invite His refining fire.

- **Overcoming Chaos:** When "shaken," run to Jesus as your stronghold – read Romans 8:28 and affirm His good plans.
- **Share Access:** Invite someone far from God to experience Kingdom stability through confessing Christ.
- **Embrace Refining:** View struggles as God's loving consumption of hindrances; journal how past "shaking" led to growth.

Group Discussion Prompts

1. Share a personal "shaking" story – how did (or could) gratitude change your perspective?
2. How does the bristlecone pine or JFK Jr. photo illustrate the unshakable Kingdom or child access for you?
3. Debate: Is it harder to worship from God's goodness or our own? Why?
4. What shakable thing (e.g., sin, fear) might God be consuming in your life right now?
5. Pray the message's closing prayer together, adding personal thanks for trials and God's fire.