



The Flame

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from GCCN Prayer Ministries

Introducing *The Flame*

Can you imagine what it was like?

Huddled together, waiting, wondering. First there was the sound of the wind. Then came the dancing cloves of flames, resting on everyone in the room.

Both the wind and the flames are symbols of the Spirit. Jesus had promised that His Spirit would “come upon” them (Acts 1:8), and while those in the upper room waited expectantly, they could not have anticipated what was actually going to take place.

But, the Holy Spirit had come indeed! And the Church was born.

Life was never the same. The story of the Church in the Book of Acts notes that the believers gave themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to prayer. The record of the Church is one of power and unity.

The Flame, a publication provided through the Grove City Church of the Nazarene Prayer Ministry, will highlight the place and power of prayer in our lives. The Spirit is still calling the Church to be a people transformed by truth and the adventure of prayer. In His presence and in response to His enabling, we can become the people of prayer that He wants us to be.

Taking Our Next Step:

The Pause in the Practice of Prayer

If prayer seems like a chore, rather than an adventure, begin your time of prayer by hitting the pause button. Set aside the agendas of the day and simply ask the Holy Spirit to help you sense His closeness. Experiencing His presence is the fuel that transforms prayer from a dutiful task into a window in which we experience the warmth of our relationship with God.

Surrender to His agenda and ask:

- 1) What do You want me to pray about?
- 2) How do You want me to pray?

When we listen He will share His perspectives with our hearts and allow us to pray *with* Him, to pray in harmony with God’s will and purpose.

Let the adventure begin!