

**Men's Bible Study**  
**Gradually Then Suddenly –**  
**Epilogue "Don't Let The Fire Go Out"**  
**June 15, 2026**

**Anchor Scripture**  
**2 Timothy 1:6-7 (NLT)**

"This is why I remind you to fan into flames the spiritual gift God gave you when I laid my hands on you. For God has not given us a spirit of fear and timidity, but of power, love, and self-discipline."

**Opening Question**

What is something you were once passionate about that slowly faded because you stopped giving it attention?

A marriage?  
A friendship?  
A dream?  
Your health?  
Your walk with God?

Most fires do not go out all at once.  
They die gradually.  
The same is true spiritually.

**Chapter Summary**

In the Epilogue, Mark Batterson reminds us that the God-given dreams, gifts, callings, and passions within us must be continually nurtured. Fire unattended eventually fades. The Christian life is not simply about receiving inspiration; it is about maintaining spiritual intensity over the long haul.

**Teaching Point #1 – Every Man Has Been Given A Fire**

Paul tells Timothy to fan into flame the gift God has already given him.

The gift is already there.  
The fire is already there.  
The potential is already there.

### **Biblical Example: Moses — Exodus 3:1-10**

### **Teaching Point #2 – Fires Grow When They Are Fed**

No fire survives without fuel.

Spiritual Fuel Includes:

- Prayer – Luke 5:16
- Scripture – Psalm 119:105
- Worship – Psalm 95:1-2
- Brotherhood – Proverbs 27:17
- Obedience – James 1:22

### **Sports Illustration**

A championship athlete cannot live on yesterday's workout. Every day requires fresh discipline. The same is true spiritually.

### **Teaching Point #3 – The Enemy Wants To Extinguish What God Ignited**

Fear is often the bucket Satan throws on God's fire.

God's answer is:

- Power
- Love
- Self-Discipline

### **Teaching Point #4 – The Fire Is Bigger Than You**

Your children need your fire.  
Your grandchildren need your fire.  
Your church needs your fire.  
Your community needs your fire.

### **Psalm 78:4**

"We will tell the next generation about the glorious deeds of the Lord."

### **Real Talk For Men**

What has cooled off lately?

- Your prayer life?
- Your marriage?
- Your health?
- Your church involvement?
- Your dream?
- Your purpose?

## Discussion Questions

1. What area of your life currently needs to be “fanned into flame”?
2. What habits help keep your spiritual fire burning?
3. What fears are threatening your faith right now?
4. Who benefits when you remain spiritually strong?
5. What practical step can you take this week to reignite your walk with God?
6. What is one lesson from Gradually Then Suddenly that has impacted you the most?

## Closing Challenge

God does extraordinary things through ordinary men who remain faithful long enough.

Don't quit.

Don't coast.

Don't drift.

Don't let disappointment extinguish your passion.

Don't let age extinguish your purpose.

Don't let fear extinguish your faith.

Keep praying.

Keep serving.

Keep believing.

Keep growing.

Keep showing up.

Keep fanning into flame what God has placed inside you.

## Closing Scripture Declaration

### Galatians 6:9 (NLT)

"So let's not get tired of doing what is good. At just the right time we will reap a harvest of blessing if we don't give up."

Men, don't let the fire go out.