

THE OASIS COLLECTIVE PRESENTS

**FiRE**  
**FESTIVAL**

# **BIBLE STUDY OUTLINE**

# Theme: PURIFICATION BY FIRE

## Theme Scriptures:

“These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.”

1 Peter 1:7 NLT

“But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner’s fire and like launderer’s soap [which removes impurities and uncleanness]. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi [the priests], and refine them like gold and silver, so that they may present to the Lord offerings in righteousness.”

Malachi 3:2-3 AMP



Let's talk:

In the first scripture above, we see a striking comparison by Apostle Peter where he compares our faith to gold (even though he clarified that our faith is much more precious). So by way of comparison, we see that trials is to fire as faith is to gold. As precious and valuable as gold is, for gold to be gold, it needs to have been subjected to a certain intensity of fire (heat) before it can be called "pure gold". In other words, gold is only purified only to the degree to which it has encountered fire.

The purification of gold as it is, is not just a one time encounter. Goldsmiths will tell you that in the process of crafting or working with gold, in order to purify and refine it for the products we see out there, there is a step in the working process known as the smelting stage where the raw mined gold concentrate is melted in a high-temperature furnace in order to separate it from other impurities. This makes the element very conducive for other processes like shaping, polishing, etc.

The Apostle Peter comparing our faith to gold only goes to tell us that indeed our faith, at some point in time will be subjected to a high temperature of heat, with or without our permission but we need to find assurance that the holder of our faith, the Master Goldsmith (God), has allowed this heat only because it is necessary to achieve purification.

The second scripture, Malachi 3:2-3 also makes us understand the Lord is in Himself, the fire that purifies. "For our God is a consuming fire" Hebrews 12:29.

Malachi wrote that He is like a refiner's fire and a launderer's soap, which removes all impurities and uncleanness. He goes on further to say that this refiner's fire will refine the son's of Levi so that they may present the Lord's offering in righteousness. Subjection to the fire, and hence attaining purification, is a prerequisite to be found worthy to be the one/people in position to offer sacrifices to God.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." Matthew 5:8

"Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in His holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart; who has not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully."

Psalms 24:3-4

These scriptures only come to emphasize the necessity of our purification. God needs us to prioritize purification, so He can use us freely for what He desires for us.

## **Conclusion:**

Purification cannot be compromised. Purification must be prioritized on our walk with God. As believers, the trials we see and face should be repurposed as avenues for a purification course. The Lord Himself, whom we encounter is a consuming fire and so upon our encounter with Him on our faith journey, He has an obligation to remove any impurities that don't align us properly to His plans for us.

Purification is not a one time encounter. Purification is a rhythm (a repeated regular pattern).

You don't stay pure because you had an encounter with God. You stay pure because you stayed near to God. You stay pure because you prioritized a repeated, regular time of fellowship with God.



## Questions:

1. The processes of making gold makes it more flexible, and God's making of us makes us more tender to Him. What does it mean to be more tender toward God?
2. When God's refining process reveals hidden sin or weaknesses, what should our response be?
3. How does the refining process position us to reveal Jesus more clearly?
4. God will not allow you to be tested beyond what you can handle. How does this encourage you?
5. How do I consistently stay close to God and meditate on His faithfulness even in trying seasons of my life?