

# ***Life after a mission's adventure***

## ***Five Ways to Keep the Fire Burning in Your Life***

Going on a mission's adventure or taking time to go to a ministry school or camp can be a life changing experience. But when you leave and go back home, you may find it hard to adjust back to your "normal" routine. And while you never want to forget what God did in your life, you have to face the fact that you could not stay in that special place or setting forever.

What you experienced away from your regular life was an oasis. It was a blessing from God. We tend to want to stay in those places. Many times we are given the pleasure of these moments just so that we can go back to our normal lives and live them with more passion and awareness of God moving in everyday moments.

Here are some ways that you can hold on to what God did in your life during the oasis. Sure, you may have to go back to your regular life. But at least you can take the change done in your heart with you.

- 1.) Soak in Living Water at Least Once a Week – One of the greatest parts of special ministry experiences are moving praise and worship times. You don't need to wait until next year or a Sunday morning service to experience the same level of God's sweet presence in your life. Simply get away from all distractions, put in a couple of praise/worship CDs and go after God. The Lord will shower you in living water as you soak your troubles in his love. You can do this in your bedroom or some other isolated spot. Thus, you can sing off key as much as you want without worrying what the person in the pew next to you thinks. Just try it...
- 2.) Make God's Word Personal – The Bible can seem distant and dull if you read it as a collection of stories about dead people with no connection to you today. But the Bible is unique among all books ever written. The Bible is alive. God wrote it as his love letter to you. When the Bible mentions general or specific names of characters, try inserting your name in the blank. Think about how the particular story applies to you and your life. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal God's heart to you. This all starts with taking time to read God's Word every day. Start with 10 minutes and work up to more time.
- 3.) Don't Hang Up the Phone – God calls us to pray without stopping. What does that mean? I believe God is trying to tell us that he wants us to always keep the line of communication open. There are no magic words when it comes to prayer. We just simply talk to him like we would our best friend. We should be honest and not worry about saying the wrong thing. Try beginning and ending your day in prayer. And as you see or experience good and bad things throughout the day, take a few moments to talk it over with God.
- 4.) Silence the Noise – We are constantly bombarded on all sides by voices. Some are encouraging and others tear us down. These voices come in the form of gossip, slander, condemnation, public ridicule, jokes, criticism, praise, encouragement, etc. Many Christians struggle with their own personal identity crisis. Yet, God thinks enough of you that He sent his own Son to die for you. When you feel overcome by peer pressure or expectations of others, turn to God. Read the Bible and see what he says about you and his plan for you. Even those close to us including our family and friends can hurt us. Thus, we must find our identity in Christ alone.
- 5.) Get Plugged In – The Holy Spirit God has moved in your life and has given you great gifts and talents. Don't let these gifts waste away. Instead, use them by serving others as God directs you. Look for opportunities in your community or church to simply show God's love through your unique talents and passions. Just be open to the Lord and let him use you. God never intended for us to sit around and be a couch potato.