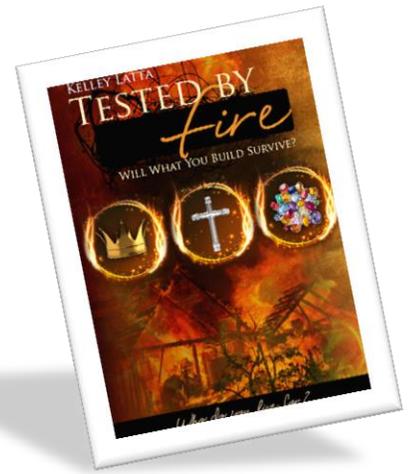


## Discussion of Week Four:

**Before class, download the prayer of commitment from the website and make copies for each group member. Invite the Spirit to guide your discussion.**



### **Day one:**

1. How did the building of the tower of Babel demonstrate rebellion against God?
2. Why do you think we find rest when we let Jesus lead (**Matthew 11:29**)? (p.79)
3. Discuss the differences between a “brick maker” and a “living stone.”
  - Why do you think our “bricks” are unacceptable to God (**1 Peter 2:5**)?
  - Share your own stories of how you’ve worn yourself out trying to make bricks.

### **Day two:**

1. Considering that God is at work, building a kingdom according to His perfect plan, why do you think **Psalm 46:10** is so important to put into practice?
  - How does building with our own works exalt us instead of God?
2. What rises up in you when you read Jesus’ words, “apart from me you can do nothing?” Do you believe Him?
  - How does making bricks differ from producing fruit (p.82)?
3. What does **Isaiah 5:1-6** speak to you about how God sees His church (p. 83)?

### **Day three:**

1. According to **1 Peter 1:2**, we have been chosen for obedience to Jesus Christ.
  - How do you understand the role of obedience in the life of faith (p.85)?
2. God describes our “righteous acts” as filthy rags in **Isaiah 64:6**. What do you think makes them unclean (p.86)?
3. According to **James 2:22**, what makes our faith incomplete (p.87-88)?
  - Based on **verse 23**, have we “believed” if we haven’t acted on our faith?
  - Discuss how you can be certain you are truly living by godly faith that pleases God.

**Day four:**

1. Why do you think God only uses *freewill* offerings to build His dwelling place (p.91)?
2. Jesus knelt to pray for the unity of believers before He went to the cross (p.92). One day every follower of Christ will be one with Him and one with each other (**John 17:21**). What will it take for us to truly become the One Body, without conflict or dissention?
  - What will our unity reveal (p.92)?
3. Based on **1 Corinthians 3:1-4**, what does a lack of unity demonstrate?
  - How does Scripture define “worldliness”?

**Day five:**

1. Read **1 Corinthians 3:10-13** together. When Christ returns, the fires of judgment will test the quality of our work (p.94).
  - What will happen to believers who ceased building on the foundation of Jesus Christ?
  - Discuss how the choices we make each day will affect our eternal reward.
2. What does gold represent in Scripture? [works done in obedience to Jesus, completed faith, living out God’s plan for you]
  - How do we build with gold?
3. Scripture associates silver with what? [sanctification, allowing Jesus to rid us of sin]
  - How do we build with silver?
4. What do costly stones represent? [souls won for the kingdom, sparkling with the brilliance of Christ’s light in a vast array of colors, all unique and all beautiful]
  - Are you building with gold, silver and precious stones?

**Close your time together by praying that the seeds planted in your hearts from God’s Word will be faithfully watered and grown by the Holy Spirit. Join together in praying the prayer of commitment, asking God to stir your heart to desire what you pray. Commit to live each day as living stones, following Jesus to fulfill His plans for your lives.**



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