



***Igniting the Kingdom***

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### **Luke 3:15-17**

The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. John answered them all,



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**“I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**



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**His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”**

**Luke 3:15-17**



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### **Luke 3:15–17 (The Message)**

The interest of the people by now was building. They were all beginning to wonder, “Could this John be the Messiah?” But John intervened:



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“I'm baptizing you here in the river. The main character in this drama, to whom I'm a mere stagehand, will *ignite the kingdom life*, a fire, the Holy Spirit within you, changing you from the inside out.



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**He's going to clean house — make a clean sweep of your lives. He'll place everything true in its proper place before God;**



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**everything false he'll put out with the trash to be burned."**

**Luke 3:15-17 (The Message)**



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**“Let him begin by treating [his cause] as a part of his religion. ... Then quietly and gradually nurse him on to the stage at which the religion become merely part of the ‘cause’ ...”**

**--C. S. Lewis**

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### **Ignition Trait #1: God's Blessing**

**When all the people were being baptized, Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove.**



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### **Ignition Trait #1: God's Blessing**

**And a voice came from heaven:  
“You are my Son, whom I love;  
with you I am well pleased.”**

**Luke 3:21 -22**

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### **Ignition Trait #2: God's Leading**

**Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness....**

**Luke 4:1**



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### **Ignition Trait #3: God's Power**

**Jesus returned to Galilee in the power  
of the Spirit....**

**Luke 4:14**