

Biblical Foundations of Lowfire

Introduction

Lowfire is not built on trends, feelings, or cultural reaction. It's built on Scripture, the living Word of God that still speaks, forms, convicts, and sends. Though our model may look different from traditional church settings, every part of our mission flows directly from the life of Jesus, the pattern of the early Church, and the full narrative of God's redemptive work.

Our formation pillars aren't random, they are drawn from the way Christ disciplined, the rhythms of spiritual transformation throughout the Bible, and the consistent call to seek God not just in knowledge, but in surrender, wilderness, community, truth, and mission. This document outlines the biblical backbone of what we believe, how we lead, and why we've chosen this path.

Our Pillars

1. Wilderness-Based, Embodied Formation

What it means:

Jesus didn't disciple in classrooms. He walked dusty roads, climbed hillsides, retreated to quiet places. The wilderness wasn't a background, it was a crucible. Throughout Scripture, wilderness is a sacred space where people are stripped of distractions and encounter the living God. At Lowfire, we follow this rhythm. We believe the body matters. That where you are shapes how you hear. And that embodied practices; like fasting, silence, surfing, hiking, or simply sitting under the stars, are vital parts of spiritual formation.

This pillar is about more than metaphor. It's about re-learning how to listen, to slow down, and to trust God in uncomfortable, exposed, beautiful places.

Key Scriptures:

Luke 5:16 – "But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed."

→ Jesus made a consistent habit of withdrawing, not just to avoid crowds, but to commune with the Father. His power flowed from these wilderness moments.

Exodus 3:1–5 – Moses meets God in the burning bush.

→ It's in the wilderness, not the palace, that Moses is called. God uses raw, desolate places to initiate calling and reframe identity.

Mark 1:12–13 – The Spirit sends Jesus into the wilderness.

→ His public ministry begins only after solitude, hunger, and testing. Formation precedes mission.

Romans 12:1 – “Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice...”

→ Faith is not just mental or emotional – it’s physical. Our whole lives, including our bodies and actions, are part of worship and transformation.

2. Deep, Gospel-Centered Identity and Surrender

What it means:

True identity in Christ is not achieved, it’s received. The gospel doesn’t ask us to perform better but to die to our false selves and be reborn in love. Lowfire guides participants into surrender: surrendering pride, striving, self-image, and lies we’ve believed. This is where transformation begins; not in behavior management, but in crucifixion and resurrection. We let go of what’s false to receive what is already true: that we are deeply known, fully forgiven, and wholly loved.

Key Scriptures:

Galatians 2:20 – “I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.”

→ Identity in Christ begins with death to the old self and life through union with Him.

Luke 9:23 – “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily...”

→ Discipleship is a daily surrender; not a one-time decision, but a lifelong laying down.

Romans 6:4 – “We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death...”

→ Baptism marks not a religious ritual, but a burial and rebirth into new identity.

2 Corinthians 5:17 – “If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come.”

→ The gospel doesn’t improve us, it remakes us. Identity becomes rooted in grace, not performance.

3. Community Formation Through Raw, Immersive Shared Experience

What it means:

Jesus formed his disciples by living alongside them; not just teaching, but eating, walking, grieving, laughing, and working together. True community can’t be manufactured in programs or events. It’s forged in the fires of shared life. At Lowfire, we live together, under the sun, around the fire, through moments of vulnerability, silence, and celebration. These immersive rhythms create a bond that mirrors the early church: honest, sacred, and rooted in love.

Key Scriptures:

Acts 2:42–47 – “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship...”

→ The early church wasn’t an event. It was a way of life; meals, worship, prayer, generosity, and shared mission.

John 13:35 – “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

→ Discipleship is marked not by beliefs alone, but by love embodied in relationship.

James 5:16 – “Confess your sins to one another and pray for each other so that you may be healed.”

→ Healing happens in safe, confessional community. Honesty invites the Spirit.

Galatians 6:2 – “Carry each other’s burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.”

→ Community is not consumption – it’s costly, mutual care.

4. Confession, Idol Exposure, and Healing in Experiential Environments

What it means:

Transformation can’t happen where truth is hidden. Throughout Scripture, God calls his people to name what is broken; to confess sin, to cast down idols, to return to him with undivided hearts. At Lowfire, we create intentional spaces for participants to bring the truth into the light; not in shame, but in courage. Around the fire, through silence, journaling, or prayer, we ask hard questions: What have you trusted instead of God? What stories still bind you? We believe confession opens the door for deep healing and restoration.

Key Scriptures:

Psalm 139:23–24 – “Search me, God... see if there is any offensive way in me...”

→ Spiritual maturity begins with asking God to reveal what we can’t see ourselves.

James 5:16 – “Confess your sins to each other... and pray... so that you may be healed.”

→ Healing is linked to honesty in community, not isolation.

1 John 1:9 – “If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive...”

→ Grace is not earned. It meets us when we step into the light.

Ezekiel 14:3 – “These men have set up idols in their hearts...”

→ Idolatry is often internal and must be named, not ignored.

5. Missional Reintegration After Formation

What it means:

The mountain is not the final destination. In Scripture, every encounter with God is followed by a return; back to the village, the city, the people, the world. Formation always leads to mission. At Lowfire, we help participants re-enter their lives with clarity and conviction – not to escape the world, but to carry light into it. This final pillar equips people to live differently: to walk as sent ones, bearing the fruit of formation with humility and fire.

Key Scriptures:

John 20:21 – “As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.”

→ Every disciple is commissioned. Encounter leads to calling.

Matthew 5:14–16 – “You are the light of the world... let your light shine before others.”

→ Formation is not meant to be hidden. It must be lived publicly.

Luke 8:39 – “Return home and tell how much God has done for you.”

→ After healing, Jesus sends the man back to his people – mission starts with testimony.

2 Corinthians 5:20 – “We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors...”

→ We live as representatives of a kingdom not of this world. Missional living is the overflow of spiritual renewal.

Our Mission

To awaken a deeper way of following Jesus.

What it means:

We believe many people today are spiritually asleep, numbed by noise, performance, and surface-level religion. The call of Jesus is not into shallow belief, but into a deeper, wilder, more costly way of discipleship. Lowfire exists to awaken that call: to disrupt comfort, ignite hunger, and draw people back into a way of life that is fully surrendered and fully alive in Christ.

Key Scriptures:

Romans 13:11 – “The hour has already come for you to wake up from your slumber...”

→ The gospel calls us to wakefulness. We are meant to live alert, expectant, and alive.

Jeremiah 6:16 – “Stand at the crossroads... ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it.”

→ The deeper way is not new, it’s ancient. It’s a return to presence, obedience, and faith that walks.

Matthew 7:13–14 – “Small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”

→ The way of Jesus is not broad or easy – it is narrow, and it requires intention to follow.

Our Vision

To create a space for all to discover something new in their faith — where the noise settles, the heart opens, and something sacred begins. To bring the spark home.

What it means:

Lowfire is not about information. It’s about ignition. We create space where people can encounter God in raw, unfiltered ways – through silence, beauty, challenge, and presence. When that encounter happens, it sparks something: hunger, repentance, clarity, calling. Our vision is to see that spark lit in the wilderness and carried home into daily life, relationships, and calling. Not as a memory, but as a flame that continues to burn.

Key Scriptures:

Exodus 33:14 – “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

→ Sacred space is carried by presence and rest is where the spark often ignites.

Isaiah 43:19 – “See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?”

→ The spark of new life often comes quietly. Our job is to slow down enough to notice.

Luke 12:49 – “I have come to bring fire on the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled!”

→ Jesus came to ignite hearts with purpose. His mission was not cold belief, but burning transformation.

Psalms 104:4 – “He makes... flames of fire his servants.”

→ The spark is not meant to stay still it becomes a life lived in service and holy intensity.

The Heart of Lowfire

Lowfire’s declaration is not abstract poetry, it is rooted in the biblical conviction that God still meets people in the wilderness. That He draws near in silence, reveals Himself through creation, and forms disciples not just in temples and crowds, but on coastlines, mountain trails, and lonely roads.

We believe the same fire that burned in the bush, on the mountain, and on the beach still burns today, not for spectacle, but for surrender. Not in noise, but in the stillness of presence. The invitation is the same now as it was then: return, be present, walk humbly, and be changed.

Scripture Anchors:

- Exodus 3:2 – “The angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush...”
→ God speaks in the wilderness. And the ground becomes holy not because of place, but because of Presence.
- 1 Kings 19:11–12 – “But the Lord was not in the wind... not in the earthquake... not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper.”
→ God is not always loud. Sometimes He’s in the hush. In the space between.
- Mark 1:35 – “Very early in the morning... Jesus went off to a solitary place, where He prayed.”
→ Even Jesus sought solitude in creation. His rhythm was presence, not performance.
- Luke 24:32 – “Were not our hearts burning within us while He talked with us on the road...?”
→ Sacred encounter doesn’t always happen in the synagogue. It happens on the road. Around firelight. In motion.
- Hebrews 12:29 – “For our God is a consuming fire.”
→ The fire still burns – not to destroy, but to refine. To draw near.

