THE FIRE - GINNY OWENS



"Most people think my greatest life challenge is blindness; I've been blind since age three. But that simply isn't true," says Owens. "My greatest challenge is doing battle with the critical voices in my head that distract me from what's most important. It's the whispers of those who feel sorry for me because of my physical challenge and don't think I hear their comments. It's the shouts of my own doubts and insecurities, asking, 'Do you have anything valuable to contribute to society?' It's the mindless chatter of our culture, inviting me to believe that any voice, as long as it's loud, is fine. Every song on this album is an invitation to my heart, and the heart of the listener, to allow God's perfect voice of love and truth to be irresistible to our hearts, drowning out all other voices, and moving us to action."

With a nearly two-decade long career that has included both Christian and mainstream success, she could have produced another lyrically-driven, acoustic-style album that has become her trademark. But she knew God was calling her to be bold and travel a new path. She set out to design an album that would reflect current music trends and inspire listeners to put feet to their faith.

"For the last two years, God has had me on quite a journey, insisting I move out of my comfort zone, never to return," Owens shares. "All the songs on Love Be The Loudest reflect this. They all speak to how God has been challenging me to change, teaching me to understand that I'm alive to give to others and to trust Him with everything."

Information from: http://ginnyowens.com/about/



On the mountain
I thought that I was brave
I barely needed faith
'Cause I felt strong enough

In the valley
All I knew had changed
And I was so afraid
But this is where you found me
And now these ashes are a holy place
You hold me here and teach my heart to say

Thank you for the fire
Thank you for the night
Thank you for the trial that I don't know how to fight
Thank you that you lead me to the end of my own
strength
This is where you lead me and carry me again
Thank you for the fire
Thank you for the fire

In the fire
Fear and faith collide
And all my questions why
Are answered by your love

In the fire
All my deepest pain
Is healed with endless grace
However long it takes
Only you can bring me to this place
Where my heart can finally learn to say

- Chorus -

There is hope
In the fire
I'm not alone, not alone
In the fire
You've already been here
In the fire
So I can walk without fear in the fire

- Chorus -

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James 1:2-8, New International Version (NIV)

2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, 3 because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance.4 Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you. 6 But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. 7 That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. 8 Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do.

- 1. What lines stuck out to you in the song? Anything you could relate to?
- 2. What would you say the song is about?
- 3. What is Ginny Owen's comparing fire to?
- 4. Why do you think so many songwriters and even book authors talk about fire this way?
- 5. Read James 1:2-8. What does James say we are supposed to do in the face of trials?
- 6. What does James teach us that these trials produce?
- 7. Why is it important to persevere in our faith through these trials?
- 8. What is it that James encourages us to ask for? Why is this important?
- 9. What is the one thing we must do when we ask God for wisdom? What happens if we don't do this?
- 10. How does James' encouragement line up with the message in this song?
- 11. What steps do we need to take to make sure we have joy even in the trials of our lives?
- 12. How can we pray for each other today?