

God Whose Purpose is to Kindle

1. God, whose purpose is to kindle, now ignite us
with your fire. While the earth awaits your burning,
With your passion us inspire. Overcome our
sinful calmness, Stir us with your saving name.
Baptize with your fiery Spirit, crown our lives with tongues of flame.
2. God, who still a sword delivers Rather than a placid peace,
With you sharpened sword disturb us, from complacency release!
Save us now from satisfaction, when we privately are free,
yet are undisturbed in spirit by our neighbor's misery.
3. God, who in your holy gospel wills that all should
Truly live, Make us sense our share of failure,
Our tranquility forgive. Teach us courage as we struggle
In all liberating strife. Lift the smallness of our vision
By your own abundant life.

Text: Luke 12:49; David E. Trueblood, 1900–1994, alt., © 1967, David Elton Trueblood
Tune: EBENEZER, 8 7 8 7 D; Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944