# VICTORY THROUGH OPPOSITION

KEY TEACHINGS Grom Burn Canada



PDF RESOURCE EP 13



# INTRODUCTION TO BURN CANADA

Burn Canada is a worship and outreach ministry that began in 2020 when a group of worship leaders, led by National Director Nikki, refused to let pandemic lockdowns silence their worship. What started as outdoor gatherings in 2021 has grown into a nationwide movement with 22 worship hubs (called "furnaces") across Canada.

The ministry operates under the banner of Burn 24-7, which originated in 2006 when Sean Feucht started campus worship nights in the United States, inspired by the Tabernacle of David's continuous worship. In 2010, a Canadian worship leader brought the vision to Canada. Now operating as its own entity, Burn Canada focuses on three core pillars:

**Their Mission:** "Igniting the hearts of people for Jesus" through extended worship, community building, and gospel outreach.

**What They Believe:** According to their statement of faith, Burn Canada affirms historical Christian orthodoxy including the Trinity, salvation through Jesus Christ alone, the authority of Scripture, and the power of the Holy Spirit. They emphasize that "worship is not just songs we sing, but a lifestyle of surrender to God" and believe in empowering every believer—regardless of age—to live out their calling.

**Their Approach:** Rather than building isolated events, they mentor worship leaders, train evangelists, and partner with multiple ministries across denominational lines to create sustainable kingdom impact in Canadian communities.



# THE LET US WORSHIP CANADA TOUR: WHAT HAPPENED

In August 2024, Sean Feucht's Let Us Worship tour partnered with Burn Canada for an 11-city Canadian tour featuring free outdoor worship gatherings. The tour was designed to bring worship to public spaces parks, legislative grounds, and city centers—across the nation.

However, what should have been a straightforward tour became national news when 9 out of 11 cities either denied or cancelled permits for the events. According to Burn Canada's legal updates, cities cited various reasons including:



Safety concerns due to threatened counter-protests Inadequate insurance and security measures Failure to meet municipal permit requirements Concerns about the event's messaging and potential for conflict

The CBC reported that critics accused the tour of having anti-LGBTQ messaging and connections to Christian nationalism, while supporters argued it was simply about religious freedom and worship. The controversy sparked intense debate about freedom of expression, religious liberty, and the use of public spaces in Canada.

Despite losing permits in Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Regina, Calgary, Kelowna, Abbotsford, and Vancouver, the tour proceeded with last-minute pivots to private properties including farms and church properties. Cities that maintained their permits—Saskatoon and Edmonton-required extensive additional measures including ambulances, extra security, and significantly more portable facilities than initially planned.

The media coverage—largely critical—ironically became what Nikki called "the best advertising agency we've ever had," drawing curious seekers who wanted to see for themselves what the controversy was about.

#### CORE MESSAGE

When Burn Canada faced unprecedented opposition, they discovered that God uses resistance to expand His kingdom in unexpected ways. Their journey reveals how intimacy with God, relentless love, and unity in the Church overcome even the fiercest attacks.



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#### 1. Don't Wear Saul's Armor

**The Principle:** You don't have to fight opposition the way the world expects.

Nikki repeatedly heard: "You do not have to wear Saul's armor. You have five smooth stones." Like David, they were called to fight from a place of intimacy with God, not with worldly strategies or defensiveness.

"We needed to trust God first over everything else... to fight this from a place of intimacy with the Lord, and he will lead us through this." - Nikki

#### **Action Steps:**

>>>>> When facing opposition, resist the urge to defend yourself immediately

Spend time with God first before responding to attacks
 Ask "What's Your strategy here, Lord?" instead of defaulting to conventional wisdom



#### 2. Pivot Up, Not Out

**The Principle:** When plans collapse, look up for the next step rather than retreating.

God taught them about pivoting throughout the year—preparing them for the chaos ahead. Their schedule was "completely thrown out," but each pivot led to unexpected fruit, including leading worship on a First Nations reserve.

"The Lord said pivot. We literally had a schedule and the schedule got completely thrown out... We ended up being invited to lead worship in an Anglican church on First Nations reserve... that was the beginning of the lessons for us to be able to navigate what we went through." - Nikki

- When plans fail, immediately ask "Where are You moving next, God?"
- >>>>> Take one faithful step without needing to see the entire path
- Remember that closed doors often redirect you to better assignments



#### 3. Love Disarms Hate

**The Principle:** Responding with genuine love to protesters and opponents "flips the script."

When protesters told Cassie to "go back to your cult leader," she responded: "I'm so glad you're here." In Edmonton, where thousands of protesters were anticipated, Nikki gave water to a protester on a hot day, literally bringing her to the living water.

"Despite all these permits being revoked... there were still people that were being reached and people that were being loved. It turned the story—I love to say flip the script. Because you do the opposite of what's expected." - Nikki

- >>>>> See protesters/opponents as people God is pursuing, not enemies
- Look for practical ways to show kindness (offer water, a hug, prayer)
- Remember: they're still hearing the gospel even while protesting

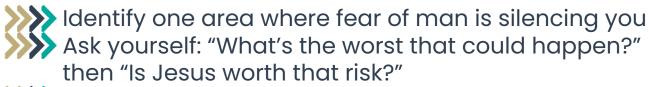


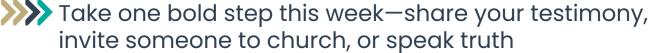
#### 4. Fear of Man Must Die

**The Principle:** You cannot fulfill your calling while protecting your reputation.

Cassie faced the possibility of arrest in Montreal and had to decide: "Am I willing to go to jail for Jesus?" That decision marked a turning point.

"Fear of man died in Halifax... Jesus requires us to use our voice. And there is a cost to discipleship... If you're quiet about Jesus, like, what are you doing?" - Cassie







#### 5. The Church, Not Churches

**The Principle:** Division in the Body of Christ cripples kingdom advance.

Many churches turned away from Burn Canada during the controversy, but the remnant—believers from various denominations and ministries—came together powerfully.

"Jesus didn't call us to be churches. Not one here, not one there. One. One body of Christ... We can't operate [with division], especially with what this hour looks like."

- Cassie

- Stop competing with other ministries; start collaborating
- Reach out to a ministry or church doing similar work and ask "How can we partner?"
- Lay down your brand/reputation for the sake of kingdom unity



#### 6. Intercessors Are Essential

**The Principle:** You cannot survive intense spiritual warfare without prayer covering.

Nikki and Cassie tangibly felt prayers during impossible moments. Intercessors would message exactly what they needed to hear at critical decision points—including a former grand chief who spent days in her prayer closet.

"There are times I tangibly felt people praying... At one point it started to happen where I'd be like, 'Lord, I don't know what to do next.' And then an intercessor would message me, 'Hey, this is what the Lord just showed me.'" - Cassie

- >>>> If you're in ministry: actively recruit and regularly update prayer warriors
- if you're an intercessor: when you feel burdened to pray, don't dismiss it—that's the Holy Spirit mobilizing you
- >>>>> Commit to praying for one ministry or leader facing opposition this month



#### 7. Pursue the One

**The Principle:** If everything was just for one person, it's worth it.

In Montreal, a woman came because she saw the controversy on the news. She'd rarely been to church. Nikki led her to Jesus, and the new believer immediately wanted to walk back through the protesters wearing her Let Us Worship shirt.

"If all of this was just for her, it was worth it... God will turn what was meant for evil into something so good." - Nikki

- Remember: God orchestrates opposition to reach people who would never come otherwise
- Ask God for eyes to see the "one" He's pursuing in your sphere



#### 8. Release Bitterness or It Will Stop You

**The Principle:** Unforgiveness toward churches or leaders who disappointed you will derail your future.

Processing hurt from silent churches and misrepresenting media required choosing Jesus's response: "Forgive them, they don't know what they're doing." Nikki didn't see her children for three weeks while fighting to keep permits, only to lose most of them anyway.

"If there's any bitterness or any unforgiveness, any resentment... that's one of the things that holds us back so many times... In this season, he's calling us higher. He's calling us to pivot up." - Nikki

- >>>>> Identify one person/church whose response hurt you during a difficult season
- Actively forgive them today—not because they deserve it, but because you need freedom
- Release them to God without needing acknowledgment or apology



# IMMEDIATE ACTION PLAN

#### This Week:

- Spend 30 minutes asking God: "Where is fear of man silencing me?"
- Take one bold step to share your faith publicly Forgive one person who disappointed you spiritually

#### **This Month:**

- >>>> Connect with one ministry/church doing similar work— explore partnership
- Commit to interceding for one leader or ministry facing opposition
- Look for the "one" God is pursuing in your workplace/ neighborhood

#### This Season:

- Evaluate: Are you building "your church" or THE Church?Practice responding with love when people oppose your faith
- Learn to pivot when plans fail—see it as God redirecting, not rejecting



# CLOSING ENCOURAGEMENT

"The same Holy Spirit that raised Christ from the dead lives in us. We can't do like, 'oh, yet. Jesus, Jesus. Great. You.' We got to know like Jesus is the Son of God."

- Cassie

Canada is being saved. The Church is rising. The question is: Will you give your yes, count the cost, and join what God is doing—even when it costs you everything?

Start today. Start small. But start.



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<a href="mailto:BURN 24/7 CANADA">BURN 24/7 CANADA</a>

Read their legal updates about the
Let Us Worship tour at:
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