

The background features a dark, starry space with a large, glowing orange and red nebula on the right. In the center, a bright, multi-colored flame (red, orange, yellow, and blue) rises from a glowing orb at the bottom. The text is overlaid on this scene.

REIGNITE

AWAKENING THE SPIRIT WITHIN

2 Timothy 1:7



FOLLOW THE
DONKEY



FOLLOW
THE DONKEY
The Continuing Journey

The Voice of the Master

Have you ever noticed how animals recognize their owner's voice?

It knows that voice. It knows who it belongs to

Animals may not have theology, but they have recognition

They know who feeds and cares for them



The Voice of the Master

“The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master’s manger; but Israel does not know, my people do not understand.”

Can you hear the heartbreak in that?

Isaiah 1:3

Even the donkey knows who feeds him

Even the ox knows who owns him

But my people, they’ve forgotten Me



The Forgotten Master

How do you forget God?

It does not mean you forget His name

You remember His benefits but ignore His authority

You enjoy His provision but resist His correction

**You speak about Him without walking
with Him**



The Forgotten Master

Forgetting God is relational drift

**It's when prayer becomes a last resort
instead of first response**

It's when obedience becomes selective

**It's when worship becomes
performance instead of presence**

**In Scripture, forgetting God often
meant living as if He were not watching**



The Remembered Master

Because the first step in fueling the pursuit of God isn't activity, it's awareness

Before we run for God, we must recognize God

Before we do anything for Him, we must truly know Him



The Knowing Donkey

The Grieving Master

Hear me, you heavens! Listen, earth! For the Lord has spoken: "I reared children and brought them up, but they have rebelled against me."

God doesn't begin as a judge handing down a *Isaiah 1:2* sentence He begins as a Father voicing heartbreak



This is not the anger of a tyrant; it's the ache of a parent

"I raised them. I loved them. And they walked away."

The Grieving Master

The NIV says, **“I reared them,”**
while the KJV translates it, **“I nourished them.”**

The Hebrew word means to lift up, to help grow

His people kept the rituals and lost the relationship

**Before we chase God’s will, we
must return to God’s heart**

**Presence without intimacy still
breaks His heart**



The Donkey's Knowledge

“The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's manger.”

The donkey: simple, stubborn, underestimated still knows who it belongs to, and where its provision comes from

It knows where to go when it's hungry or weary. It knows where to find rest

God says, “The donkey gets it. Why don't you?”



The Donkey's Knowledge

In Scripture, “to know” means intimate recognition relational knowledge.

Here's the question: are we more familiar with God's blessings than with God Himself?

We recognize His gifts: the job, the family, the provision but avoid the Giver

**Let's not let a donkey out-know us.
Let's be people who recognize the voice and care of our Master**



A Call to Know Again

“But Israel does not know; my people do not understand.”

They had religion, but not relationship

The temple, but not the King

The prayers, but not the Presence

**It's possible to serve God faithfully
yet be far from Him**

**Fueling the pursuit God begins not
with doing, but with knowing**



How to Know Again

**You can't chase what you don't recognize.
Pursuit begins with perception**

**We return to the places where His
presence is revealed:**

Through His Word we hear His voice

Through Prayer we learn His heart

**Through Obedience we understand
His ways**



How to Know Again

But even these practices can become empty if they're done without presence

Many are busy for God but distant from God

That's why we must seek connection before calling, relationship before results

They move not from pressure, but from recognition



Knowing God Again

*“Come now, let us reason together,” says the Lord.
“Though your sins are scarlet, they shall be as white
as snow.”*

Isaiah 1:18

**You don't earn your way back you
simply return**

**Before we chase revival, we must
rediscover relationship**

**Sit in His presence. Open His Word.
Listen for His voice**



The Knowing Donkey

**The donkey knows its master's voice,
its care, and its manger**

**Many are busy for God but distant
from God**

**But that is not the only connection as years later, that
same kind of animal carried Jesus into
Jerusalem where he faced the cross**

**The donkey knew who was on its back
even when the crowd didn't recognize Him**



The Knowing Donkey

Don't let the donkey out-know you.

**The fuel to pursue God begins with recognition:
“I know who my Master is”**

**Before you look for God's plan, spend
time with God's person**

**Before you chase the next spiritual
experience, return to relationship**



**To follow the donkey and
to pursue the path that
leads to Jesus you must
first know the One who
leads you there**

