Firstly, let's be honest - for all the talk of survival fire starting tools and methods, in most situations you will probably have a lighter or some matches. No one really goes camping or hiking etc without matches.

Preppers often talk about redundancy. When preppers refer to redundancy in this manner, they are talking about creating several fall-back options if the main option fails to work. For example, if your matches get wet, it's ok as you have a firesteel (like this one!) and know how to use it to start fire.

The ability to start fire will dramatically increase your chances of survival in almost all survival situations. Fire provides warmth and protection, and it enables you to cook and sterilize water. In most situations, if you can't stay warm and hydrated, you will die, so with this in mind, it is probably worth learning about some of the other ways to start fire in case you do find yourself to be without matches or a lighter.