

5/17/15 Sermon Notes and Journal Page

1 - What is Passion?

A - Passion defined: Webster's defines passion as: Strong and barely controllable emotion; intense desire, or enthusiasm. - Eagerness, zeal, vigor, fervency, desire, infatuation...

B - Passion is an outward expression of an inward emotional condition.

- When you say something is _____ what you are saying is that it is immaterial.
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2 - Sacrifice, Service, and Skill

Romans 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. ^(NASB)

A - "*by the mercies of God*" _____

- What is your Inward Spiritual Condition?
 - Forgiven / Redeemed / Empowered / Given Eternal Life / Gifted by the Holy Spirit / Free... from death, fear, doubt, free to preach salvation to the lost...
 - The real difference between believers is in how we _____ to embrace & express it.
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B - The words "*to God*" in the greek translate to "*for the purposes of God*"

- The physical part of our life: our skills, our knowledge, our time...
- Titus 2:14 "He gave his life to free us from every kind of sin, to cleanse us, and to make us his very own people, totally committed to doing good deeds."

C - The words "*service of worship*" I think lose something in the translation process - Typically I stay away from debating Greek but in this case I think it will benefit us.

The greek phrase here is "logikos ho latreia"

Logikos: Logic, it also has the context of "*at the very least*" or "*what everyone should already know*": _____

Ho: "*for the purposes of*" _____

Latreia: "*To work toward, or because of, a reward*": _____

Journal Page

1 - Giving in, is not the same as giving up. Over the years I have met many people who resist the idea that they can be *passionate* about their faith. This is mainly because they have bought into the idea that passionate Christians are weird. They are the ones that roll around on the floor laughing uncontrollably, or will suddenly grab your head and cast out a demon because you were listening to the wrong kind of music. Although I can't be positive, I'm sure that if Jesus had an Mp3 player we would find the works of all the great hymn writers right next to selections from BB King and Eric Clapton. As believers we need to remember that Jesus spent most of His time with people that were the *un-lovely, and unacceptable* of His day, and He didn't think twice about it. He never ordered them around, and never tossed their sin back in their face. He simply told them the truth about God and asked them to follow Him. Often we find ourselves walking through life on our own path, making our own way, and following our own rules. After all, it's our life. Then Jesus comes along and makes us an offer: come with me and walk my path. He is not asking us to give up on the journey, but to give in to His invitation. The rest will work itself out along the way. In this weeks journal I have two things for you to consider. The first has to do with the path you are currently walking. Take a few minutes and ask God to show you any area of your life where you have chosen to walk your own path. Maybe its in your private or social life, maybe it's your finances, maybe you're hanging on to an old sin that you just can't seem to let go of. Write out, in whatever way works for you, what that issue is: _____

Now, search through scripture for anything related to that subject (you may need a concordance for this, or try a google search) _____

Now, list at least three steps you now know you should take, or promises you have found in scripture, that will help you deal with this issue: _____

The second thing to consider for this week is pretty simple to do, but may take a few moments to think about. List as many areas of service the church currently has available. Not what you are personally doing, I mean all the various areas within the church that you can think of. Try to be as detailed as you can be, and include things like home meetings, supper club, and other things like that. Once finished circle all the areas you are currently involved in. How does that list look to you? Pray over the list and ask the Lord to reveal to your heart where He would have you get involved. Then, if your serious, connect with one of the pastors, elders, or ministry leaders and talk to them about your list. _____