

# Being Passionate for Jesus

Nothing significant is ever accomplished or sustained without passion.

Without passion life becomes routine and predictable. **Passion energises our life.**

*Mark 12:30 (msg) Jesus said “Love the Lord God with **all your passion** and with **prayer and intelligence and energy.**”*

The Bible teaches us to love, serve, trust and to pursue Jesus passionately.

*Colossians 3:23 (niv) Whatever you do, **work at it with all your heart**, as working for the Lord, not for men,*

*Romans 12:11 (niv) **Never be lacking in zeal**, but keep your **spiritual fervor** (enthusiasm), serving the Lord.*

*(nlt) **Never be lazy**, but work hard and **serve the Lord enthusiastically.***

We find meaning and satisfaction in life when we passionately pursue and serve Jesus.

**Reasons why our passion for Jesus can decrease;**

- **UNBALANCED SCHEDULES**

***Psalms 127:2 (tlb)*** *It is senseless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night, fearing you will starve to death; for God wants His loved ones to get their proper rest.*

***1 Timothy 4:7b (ph)*** *Take the time and the trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit.*

- **UNUSED TALENTS**

***1 Peter 4:10 (cev)*** *Each of you has been blessed with one of God's many wonderful gifts to be used in the service of others. So use your gift well.*

***1 Corinthians 7:17 (ph)*** *Each one should live his life with the gifts that the Lord has given him...*

- **UNREMOVED GUILT**

***Psalms 38:4-6 (nlt)*** *My guilt overwhelms me - it is a burden too heavy to bear. <sup>5</sup> My wounds fester and stink because of my foolish sins. I am bent over and racked with pain. All day long I walk around filled with grief.*

***1 John 1:9 (nlt)*** *If we confess our sins He (God) can be trusted to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

- **UNRESOLVED CONFLICT**

***Job 5:2 (nlt)*** *Resentment destroys the fool, and jealousy kills the simple.*

*Job 18:4 (gnb) You are only hurting yourself with your anger.*

- **UNSUPPORTED LIFESTYLES**

*Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (niv) Two are better than one, because... if one falls down, his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!*

*Hebrews 10:24-25 (nlt) Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.<sup>25</sup> And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another...*

- **UNDERNOURISHED SPIRIT**

*Colossians 2:6-7 (tlb) Just as you trusted Christ to save you, trust Him, too, for each day's problems; live in vital union with Him. Let your roots grow down into Him and draw up nourishment from Him. See that you go on growing in the Lord, and become strong and vigorous...*

*Philippians 4:13 (niv) I can do all things (in and) through Christ who strengthens me.*

**How is your passion for God and His purposes?**

Are you just going through the motions?

*Romans 12:11 (niv) Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor (enthusiasm), serving the Lord.*

# **TO BELONG TO GOD IS TO CARRY HIS HEART**

A passion for Jesus creates in us a passion for the lost.

As we pursue and obey Jesus, then we will care about the things that He cares about.

**The opposite is also true:** The more we focus on ourselves, and our needs, the more we drift away from passionately pursuing Jesus and what He cares about.

**Q: Are you passionately pursuing Jesus?**

If so, how is your passion for Jesus evident?

**Q: Do you need to rekindle your passion for Jesus and His purposes?**