

i. **Setting Goals.** Setting goals can be a powerful method that moves us out of passivity into direction, out of fear into confidence, and from vagueness into greater clarity.

ii. **Learn to Readjust:** Allow for adjusting of times, strategies, and resources.

When things seem to be delayed it's time for readjustment:

Ask: Is this project or goal from the Lord?
Am I called to accomplish it?
Is there something in my character or strategy that needs to be changed?

iii. **Keep Learning:** We will always be students!

iv. **Be Persistent:** Do not grow weary in well-doing!

Galatians 6:9 AMP - And let us not lose heart and grow weary and faint in acting nobly and doing right, for in due time and at the appointed season we shall reap, if we do not loosen and relax our courage and faint.

CONCLUSION

Revelation 3:19-22 AMP - (19) Those whom I dearly and tenderly love, I tell their faults and convict and convince and reprove and chasten. So be enthusiastic and in earnest and burning with zeal and repent (changing your mind and your attitude. (20) Behold, I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears and listens to and heeds My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will eat with him, and he will eat with Me. (21) He who overcomes, I will grant him to sit beside Me on My throne, as I Myself overcame and sat down beside My Father on His throne. (22) He who is able to hear, let him listen to and heed what the Holy Spirit says to the assemblies, churches.

ENTERING DESTINY THROUGH SONSHIP

Part 3 – Releasing Passion

July 10, 2005 – Debby Baril

INTRODUCTION

John 2:17 AMP - And His disciples remembered that it is written, Zeal (the fervor of love) for Your house will eat Me up.

II Kings 19:31 AMP - For out of Jerusalem shall go forth a remnant, and a band of survivors out of Mount Zion. The zeal of the Lord of hosts shall perform this.

Isaiah 9:7 AMP - Of the increase of His government and of peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from the latter time forth, even forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

I. DEFINING PASSIVITY

Passivity is the lack of courage, confidence and persistence to accomplish what God has called us to do.

2 Timothy 1:6,7 AMP - (6) Stir up, rekindle the embers of, fan the flame of, and keep burning the gracious gift of God, the inner fire that is in you by means of the laying on of my hands.

II. CHARACTERISTICS OF PASSIVITY

A. **Procrastination:** Talking and thinking about plans and dreams, but not taking action.

Acts 13:36 NIV - For when David had served God's purpose in his own generation, he fell asleep; he was buried with his fathers.

B. Dependency: Expecting others to take care of us and do for us what we should do for ourselves.

Revelation 3:7 NIV – These are the words of Him who is holy and true, who holds the key of David. What He opens, no one can shut; and what He shuts, no one can open.

Psalms 62:5 AMP – My hope and expectation are from Him.

C. Shame: Guilt says “I made a mistake”, shame says, “I am a mistake.”

Shame will result in non-aggressive planning or no planning for the future, or we let others plan out our future for us.

Shame keeps us in the past. We sit passively by while life passes us by! Our dreams and hopes lie buried in the ashes of yesteryears!

D. Blaming: Placing responsibility on others for our losses and failures.

E. Discouragement: Becoming easily diverted from dreams and plans by discouragement and negative circumstances.

F. Intimidation: Comparing ourselves with others and living with the fear that they can succeed but we cannot.

III. CAUSES OF PASSIVITY

A. Fear of Failure

The fear of failure produces so much pain that the risk seems too great. Recognize that there is a greater loss if we don't take the risk and live out God's plan.

B. Fear of Rejection

We have been raised with the lie that we are accepted based on our performance rather than on our being.

Rather than take the chance of it not being perfect or good enough I'd rather do nothing. People can't criticize what's not there. Instead I'll sit back and criticize what everybody else is doing. I'll reject before I am rejected!

IV. OVERCOMING PASSIVITY

2 Timothy 1:7 AMP – (7) For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, of cowardice, of craven and cringing and fawning fear, but He has given us a spirit of power and of love and of calm and well-balanced mind and discipline.

A. The Spirit of Power

We aren't talking about physical strength we are speaking about the ability to choose, to decide, and to take action.

i. **Creativity:** When the Holy Spirit is present and allowed to release the gifts of God in us, creativity will flow from our innermost being.

ii. **Initiative:** When we believe God has given us an idea, a dream, a plan, DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.

iii. **Effectiveness:** The Holy Spirit enables us to be effective in what we do.

B. The Spirit of Love

Perfect love casts out fear.

Love and passion go hand in hand.

Romans 5:5 AMP - Such hope never disappoints or deludes or shames us, for God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit Who has been given to us.

C. A Disciplined Mind

A disciplined mind enables us to give direction to our passion and energy.