

b) We Are To Do God's Will With Our Passions

Ephesians 6:6, NIV – "... doing the will of God from your heart."

4. How Do We Know When We Are Serving God From Our Heart?

a) Enthusiasm

2 Corinthians 8:17, NIV – *For Titus not only welcomed our appeal, but he is coming to you with much enthusiasm and on his own initiative.*

- When we are doing what we love, no one has to motivate or challenge or check up on us, we do it out of sheer enjoyment.

b) Effectiveness

1 Corinthians 16:9, NIV – *A great door for effective work has opened to me, and there are many who oppose me.*

- Whenever we do what God wired us to do, we get good at it.
- Passion drives perfection.

c) Fulfillment

Ecclesiastes 3:13, NIV – *That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil -- this is the gift of God.*

- There is a satisfaction or fulfillment that comes, when we are serving according to our passion.

SUMMARY

- Your passions reveal the real you – what you truly are, not what others think you are, or what circumstances force you to be.
- Your passions are what you love to do – what God gave you a heart to do.

ENTERING INTO DESTINY

Part 3 – Defining Your Passions

David Hibbert – March 09, 2008

REVIEW

1. The Wonderful News About Your Destiny

- a. God Works For You To Fulfill Your Destiny – Rom. 8:28
- b. God Works In You To Fulfill Your Destiny – Phil. 2:13
- c. God Works Ahead Of You To Fulfill Your Destiny – Eph. 2:10
- d. God Works Behind You To Fulfill Your Destiny – Jer. 15:11
- e. God Works Through You To Fulfill Your Destiny – 2 Thess. 1:11

2. You Are Created For A Unique Purpose

- a. Each Of Us Was Created For A Unique Purpose – 2 Cor. 5:5
- b. God Is Empowering Us And Working With Us To Fulfill Our Purpose – Rom. 8:28

3. Diagnostic Indicators To Your Purpose

- Passions
- Underlying (Core) Values
- Reoccurring Experiences
- Personality / Temperament
- Overriding Motivation
- Spiritual Gifts
- Extra Resources

DEFINING YOUR PASSIONS

1. God Uses Our Passions To Move Us Toward Our Purpose

a) Two Kinds Of Passions

Galatians 5:24, NIV – *Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires.*

Romans 7:5, NIV – *For when we were controlled by the sinful nature, the sinful passions aroused by the law were at work in our bodies, so that we bore fruit for death.*

b) God Created Our Core Passions

Psalm 139:13, NIV - *For You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.*

- Our inmost being is that core place in our lives, that gets excited or stirred up, when our passions are touched.

Proverbs 23:16, NIV – *My inmost being will rejoice when your lips speak what is right.*

c) God Works With Our Passions

Titus 2:11-12, NIV – *(11) For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. (12) It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age.*

- The more we say yes to our godly passions, the more we come into line with God’s will purpose for our lives

d) God Stirs Up Our God-Given Passions, So That We Will Fulfill Our Purpose

Philippians 2:13, NIV – *“... it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose.”*

- God created us for a purpose, then He put our passions within us so that we would enjoy our purpose, and then He works in us, and stirs up our desires or passions, so that we would be motivated to fulfill our purpose.

2. Our Passions Are Our Emotional Heartbeat

- The Bible uses the term “heart” to represent the center of our motivation, desires, hopes, interests, ambitions, dreams, affections, and inclinations.
- Our heart represents the source of all of our motivations – what we love to do, and what we care about most.
- Our heart determines three key things:

a) Our heart determines why we say the things we do.

Matthew 12:34, NIV – *“... For out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.”*

b) Our heart determines why we feel the way we do.

Philippians 1:7, NIV – *“It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart ...”*

c) Our heart determines why we act the way we do.

Proverbs 4:23, NIV – *“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.”*

- What is in your heart, will determine what you do, and how far you go in life

3. Our Service For God Should Flow Out Of Our Passions

a) We Are To Serve God With Our Passions

Romans 1:9, NIV – *“God, whom I serve with my whole heart ...”*

1 Samuel 12:20, NIV – *“... serve the LORD with all your heart.”*