Something to be passionate about

**Experience passion for the things of God**

**Monday**

Read Jeremiah 23:4, Ephesians 4:11-16

* *Journalize which of the things you read about produces passion in your heart.*

**Tuesday**

Read Jeremiah 10:21, 1 Peter 5:2-4, 1 Corinthians 11:1

* *As you read these scriptures, journalize what you want your example to be.*

**Wednesday**

Read 1 Timothy 4

* *Meditate on the things that you need to eliminate from your life and on the things that need to take a greater spiritual priority. Do you sense a greater passion?*

**Thursday**

Read Matthew 28:18-20, 1 Timothy 4:13-16, Matthew 25:21

* *Discipleship has to do with devoted faithfulness to Jesus. Ask Jesus how He wants you to be more faithfully devoted to Him…passionate for Him.*

**Friday**

Read Acts 20:28-29, 1 Samuel 17:34-36, 1 Corinthians 10:3-5

* *How passionate are you to rescue those you know, love and care for?*

Something to be passionate about

Matthew 18:15 “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. 16 But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ 17 If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

Jeremiah 23:4 NKJV

“I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking,” says the LORD.”

**Feed** - receive, to fill up (because all we can do is receive), find someone who is empty and fill them up with what God has given you

**Remove fear** - anxiety, panic, worry (don’t live by how you feel; listen to the truth God is whispering into your soul)

**Dismayed** - discouraged - encouraged and strengthened, overwhelmed - confident, depressed - joyful, despair - hope

**Lacking** - wealth doesn’t come to you, but rather wealth comes from you in abundance (springs of living water), gift of faith

Ephesians 4:11-16 NIV

“So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip (the Word, connection to the Holy Spirit, identity and position in Christ) his people for works of service (predestined potential, your unique calling and gifting, no one is sitting around in the Kingdom of Heaven), so that the body of Christ (its not about me, its about us) may be built up (building the church, against which the gates of hell will not prevail) until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God (what experiential knowledge do you have of God that you didn’t have a week ago?) and become mature, (able to cope with life) attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ (all we can do is receive, get filled up with Christ). Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful (identify lies and know God’s truth) scheming. Instead, speaking the truth in love, (friendship is the most wonderful platform to be honest, you are not preserving any relationship by not telling the truth…but do so in love) we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him (belonging to God) who is the head, that is, Christ (living in full submission to Christ, instead of making our own decisions). From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

Jeremiah 10:21 NIV

“The shepherds are senseless and do not inquire of the Lord; so they do not prosper and all their flock is scattered.”

Exhibit common sense, wisdom, spiritual sense, inquire of the Lord

1 Peter 5:2-4 NIV

“Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve (DISC profile, be humble and serve, do what no on else is willing to do); not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock.

1 Corinthians 11

11:1 Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

I don’t remember many things my parents told me, but I do remember their example.

Being an example really doesn’t scary me that bad. Why? I’m not worried too much of what you think about me, but I have really grown concerned about what God thinks about me (fear of God).

As long as this is my attitude, my example will take care of itself. I’m really not faking anything.

1 Timothy 4:12

12 Don’t let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity.

1 Timothy 1:3 As I urged you when I went into Macedonia, stay there in Ephesus so that you may command certain people not to teach false doctrines any longer 4 or to devote themselves to myths and endless genealogies. Such things promote controversial speculations rather than advancing God’s work—which is by faith. 5 The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. 6 Some have departed from these and have turned to meaningless talk. 7 They want to be teachers of the law, but they do not know what they are talking about or what they so confidently affirm.

Matthew 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

1 Timothy 4:13 Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, …16 Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Faithful, Available, Teachable, Trajectory

Matthew 25:21

21 “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood. 29 I know that after I leave, savage wolves will come in among you and will not spare the flock.

1 Samuel 17:34 But David said to Saul, “Your servant has been keeping his father’s sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, 35 I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. 36 Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear;

How passionate are you about rescuing those around you? How far are you willing to go to collaborate with God to save someone?

2 Corinthians 10:3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 The weapons we fight with (are you fighting for those you care about and love?) are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.

Matthew 18:15 “If your brother or sister sins, go and point out their fault, just between the two of you. If they listen to you, you have won them over. (objective, caring, sincere purpose of restoration) 16 But if they will not listen, take one or two others along, so that ‘every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ 17 If they still refuse to listen, tell it to the church; and if they refuse to listen even to the church, treat them as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

Bringing sin to people’s attention is important as long as it is done lovingly, with the purpose of restoring

So far, I have had three different experiences with this process:

1. The person acknowledges and turns around
2. The person doesn’t accept the truth that I offer and unfortunately leaves
3. They listen and keep listening but the change takes a long, long time.