



Dgroup Discussion Guide for September 27, 2015

Passion + Purpose = Mission

As we think about how we're working our life with God while He tries to accomplish His will in us, it's important to define and understand three things: our passion, purpose and mission.

Passion: what burns inside an individual

God always starts with our heart, because it is the seat of our entire being that controls everything that we are. God aims to create a passion in us for Him that is so strong that it overwhelms every other drive that we have, even the "good ones." Everything must take second place to Him.

Three truths about our heart:

1. *God placed in our heart the reality of eternity.* Ecclesiastes 3:11 says that **He has put eternity into man's heart.** Only with Jesus in our hearts do we gain an understanding and acceptance of eternity.
2. *God measures us by our heart.* According to 1 Samuel 16:7, **The Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.** Whatever accomplishments we have is nothing in comparison to having a heart for God. Our God is not interested in human glorification, but rather in us having a heart that burns for Him. While that may be the case, it also follows that if you seek after Him, you will also seek excellence in life.
3. *God knows that what has our heart has us.* Luke 12:34 says, **For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.** God knows that whatever our heart is trained to is what we will invest our time and efforts into. If you put your treasure in Him, that is where your heart will also be.

Purpose: not something to "do," but something to "be"

When our passion for God controls our heart, it produces the path to our purpose. This is why being controlled (filled) with the Holy Spirit is essential. When we are yielded to the Spirit of God, we can begin to see our lives from His perspective. 2 Corinthians 5:9 says, **So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please Him.** We do not have to *do* anything to live out God's purpose for our life; all we are called to do is *be* pleasing to Him wherever we are planted.

God desires to make us someone that is unlike anybody else. According to Mark Twain, "The two most important days in your life are the day you were born and they day you find out why." Because the one who made us is the only one who can tell us what we're here for, we won't know our purpose in life until we enter into a relationship with God.

As a church, our purpose is made clear in Matthew 28:19-20: **Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.** Additionally, Jesus says in Acts 1:8 that **you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the Earth.**

Mission: any important task or duty assigned, allotted, or self-imposed; a purpose that is accompanied by strong conviction; a calling or vocation

When our passion and purpose become a reality then we will sense our mission. 1 Corinthians 9:16-17 says **For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! if I do this of my own will, I**

have a reward, but if not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. We are honored that God has trusted us to carry out His mission into the world.

Truths about our mission:

We don't have to have all the answers. When the Holy Spirit intervened and prevented Paul in Acts 16:6-10 from preaching the Word in Asia and Bithynia, they just kept moving forward until they found the place where God wanted them to preach the good news. We might not have all the answers, but we can live in the assurance that we serve a God who does.

We can experience real peace. Jesus promises us in Matthew 28:20, **And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.** As children of God, we are never alone. Apart from God being with us, we have the opportunity to form communities through small groups.

God has given us a clear purpose and entrusted us with a clear mission—to share the good news wherever we go. He has also promised us guidance, that He will be with us all the way to the end. The only thing left that we need to be concerned about is our passion. The Holy Spirit desires to fill our hearts with passion for God. If we guard our heart, God will guard the rest.

APPLICATION:

Patently listen as God reveals where you can apply the passage's lesson in your life. Write down specific action points to what He has revealed to you.

Read Luke 12:34 and 2 Corinthians 5:5-9.

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|  | <p>Personal: What is your heart beating for? Are you seeking after God? What is your passion? What is your purpose? What is your life's mission? What do you consider are your treasures? Do we live a life that is Spirit-filled?</p> |
|  | <p>Family: How are you as a family seeking after God's heart? Are you all that God wants you to be? What is your family's purpose?</p> |
|  | <p>Discipleship: It is God's purpose for us to Go and Make Disciples. What are you doing about it? Have you accepted your mission? Are you in a dgroup?</p> |
|  | <p>Church/ Ministry: God's desire is for everyone to know of His great love and mercy. What are you doing in order to share this to others? God commands " Go and multiply! Go and make disciples" Have you responded "yes Lord!" What are you doing to obey His command?</p> |

PRAYERS:

Lift all the things that you learned back to God. Share your thoughts to Him. If He is impressing a sin in your life, confess it to Him. He is always ready to forgive.