

Passion Information

Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4

Passion will lead you to compelling action. It can be described as the degree of difficulty you are willing to endure to accomplish a purpose. Your energy is your heart for people, issues, functions, or causes. You can identify your passion and understand God's purpose for your life when you follow the command in Romans 12 to "offer your [body as a living sacrifice]."

*"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind
Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - His good, pleasing and perfect will." Romans 12:2*

Your passion can be evidenced in many ways. According to Aubrey Malphurs, the author of *Maximizing Your Effectiveness*, there are four evidences of passion:

1. **Need:** A need captures our attention and presses our hearts toward action.
2. **Object:** A person, cause, issue, situation, condition, particular pursuit, place, etc. upon which we focus
3. **Fervency:** "A burning desire"
4. **Tenure:** The desire stays with you for an extended period of time.

Passion Consultation

What role does passion play within the diagnosis of my ministry?

Although passion is not the most important factor in diagnosing your ministry, it can be the most reflective of where God may be leading you. As stated in Psalm 37:4 (above), your desires will align with His when you delight in Him.

Can my passion change over time?

Your passion can change throughout your life due to various experiences God may allow you to encounter. People who have been through traumatic events are often better able to minister to others in similar situations once they have recovered themselves. In addition, birth, marriage, death, or other common life events can alter your environment and open you to new experiences resulting in a changed passion.

What if I cannot identify my passion?

Your passion can often be discovered through prayer, reflection, and your effectiveness when serving in ministry. Identifying your passion for ministry is directly tied to your relationship with Him. As you get to know Him, He will begin to evidence His will to you more and more. Don't rush this process! It is an integral part of your ministry within the church.

Passion Assessment

The following questions are meant to guide you in the assessment of your passion. This is often the most difficult area for people to diagnose. However, recognizing your passion is clearly tied to your relationship with God and identifying your passion is a process of knowing Him. Take a few moments in prayer before you read through these questions. Talk to God about your passion for ministry and your service within the church.

Passion Assessment

Motivated Passion Areas

Please select the areas for which you have a heart or for what motivates you.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Acquire/Possess | I love to shop, collect, or obtain things. I enjoy getting the highest quality for the best price. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Design (Art) | I love to conceptualize, picture, draw, paint, photograph, compose, or make renderings. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Create | I love to make something out of nothing. I enjoy getting something started from scratch. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excell | I love to be the best and make my team the best. I enjoy setting and attaining high standards. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Follow the rules | I love to operate by policies & procedures. I enjoy meeting the expectations of an organization. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improve/Develop | I love to make things better. I enjoy taking something designed and improving it. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Influence | I love to convert people to my way of thinking. I enjoy shaping the attitudes of others. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lead/Be in charge | I love to lead the way, oversee and supervise. I enjoy determining how things will be done. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Operate/Maintain | I love to efficiently maintain something that is already organized. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Organize | I love to bring order out of chaos. I enjoy organizing something that is already started. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Perform | I love to be on stage and receive the attention of others. I enjoy being in the limelight. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Persevere | I love to see things to completion. I enjoy persisting at something until it is finished. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pioneer | I love to test and try out new concepts. I am not afraid to risk failure. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prevail | I love to fight for what is right and oppose what is wrong. I enjoy overcoming injustice. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Repair | I love to fix what is broken or change what is out of date. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve/Help | I love to assist others in their responsibilities. I enjoy helping others succeed. |

People Passion

What people(s) do I have a leaning toward? (Limit answers to five)

Abuse Victims	Divorced	Men	Parents	Street Kids
Adults	Empty Nesters	Middle Schoolers	Parents of Teens	Teen Moms
Business Professionals	Engaged Couples	Minorities	Poor	Teens
Career Women	Grieving	Missionaries	Prisoners	Unemployed
Children	Homeless	New Believers	Seekers	Visitors to Church
College Students	Hospitalized	New Church Members	Seniors	Widows/Widowers
Couples	Infants	New Parents	Single Parents	Women
Disabled	Internationals	Newlyweds	Singles	Young Adults
Other: _____		Other: _____		

Issue Passion

What issue(s) or concern(s) do I feel most strongly about? (Limit answers to five)

Abortion Awareness	Discipleship	Housing	Marriage Issues	Racism
Addictions	Divorce Care	Human Rights	Ministry Involvement	Reaching the Lost
Administration	Economics	Hunger	Missions	Social Issues
AIDS	Education	Injustice	Parenting	Technology
Arts	Environment	International Issues	Politics	Teen Concerns
Child Care	Family Issues	Interpersonal Relations	Poverty	Terminal Illnesses
Counseling	Financial Issues	Legal Issues	Practical Projects	Violence
Creative Projects	Health Care	Literacy	Prisons	Worship
Defending the Faith	Homosexuality	Other _____		

Passion Questions

How and where do I spend my spare time?

If someone asked my friends to describe what energizes me, how would they respond?

What church issues, ministries, or possible needs excite me or concern me the most?

If I had unlimited resources and knew I couldn't fail, what would I do for the Kingdom of God?

Passion Summary

Narrow down your selections to one or two within the following passion areas:

Motivated Passion: _____

People Passion: _____

Issue Passion: _____

Based upon my responses to the passion areas and question, I would say that I have a passion for....

After you have identified your potential passion for ministry, you may want to write a passion statement.

Here are a few examples:

- I am a natural leader and feel compelled to lead others in some particular way.
- I cannot think of any other priority than putting Christian values into the minds of children.
- My desire is to help low-income, deserving families within the community.