

IGNITE

A Passion for God – Week 1

Announcements

Small Group Week of Serving -- July 13–20, 2013. Wrap up the summer semester by serving those in need. Bring your group together, find a need and meet it! Your small group will never be the same.

The Global Leadership Summit 2013 -- Thursday–Friday, August 8th–9th | All campuses | You're invited to gather with thousands of leaders across North American for the Summit simulcast hosted by Church of the King. Register at ChurchoftheKing.com/summit. All COTK members and attendees may use the Discount priority code: **13GLOBAL**

201 Dream Team Orientation – Sunday, July 14, 2013 at 5:00 pm. Come and find your place to serve on the Dream Team.

Warm-up

What do you feel most passionate about? A hobby, local sports team, something or someone else? How is that passion expressed?

Passion is an intense emotion compelling feeling, enthusiasm, or desire for something or someone. Nothing great is ever accomplished in life without passion – passion is what energizes life. Today, we are going to explore why passion for God is important and how to ignite that passion.

Word & Application

Read Mark 12:30, preferably in the Message paraphrase. Why do you think Jesus emphasized loving God with “all of your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy”?

Nothing else matters in life if you don't love God passionately. Placing some emotion into our relationship with God energizes our walk and that vibrancy spills out into all areas of life.

Read Colossians 3:18-23. When we seek God passionately, we want to serve and obey Him wholeheartedly in all areas of life. In what aspects of our life do we most need to demonstrate passion for God?

We can learn how to ignite that passion for God and why that fire can die by studying two related Old Testament stories. One concerns the prophet Isaiah who ministered during and after the life of Uzziah, a godly King of Judah, about 760 years before Christ. Let's start with Isaiah.

Read Isaiah 6:1-8. How does God reveal Himself to Isaiah?

What passions are ignited by God through this personal vision and encounter?

Read 2 Chronicles 26:3-5. Jeremiah 29:13 promises “You will seek me and find me when you seek for me with all your heart.” How does this verse apply to King Uzziah?

What has God caused to prosper in our lives only because of our passion for Him?

Read 2 Chronicles 26:16-18. Unfortunately, Uzziah’s pride stole this passion for God later in life. What other things can turn our passion away from God?

How can we maintain or regain passion for God in our lives?

Though we can never predict when we’ll experience a personal encounter with God, maintaining the disciplines of prayer, Bible reading, worship, and fellowship will keep the fires burning in your life.

Prayer

Pray for everyone in your group to develop and express our passion for God.