

- I. Understanding Passion.**
  - A. A passion is a powerful emotion ...an intense desire.**
  - B. If you have a passion for something you are excited about it ...you are zealous and enthusiastic about it.**
  - C. Passions are God-given, but not all passions are from God; some come from our sinful nature.**
  - D. Followers of Jesus must make sure that they are pursuing their God-given passions.**
  - E. Our life and spiritual gifts enable us to do what God wants us to do; passion provides us with the motivation to get God's job done.**
  - F. If you're passionate about something, you will invest your time, talent, and treasure in it (see Matt. 6:21).**
  - G. The word "enthusiasm" (a synonym for passion) comes from the Greek phrase "en theos" meaning "with God."**
  - H. If you are enthusiastically pursuing a passion that God has put in your heart you are doing it "with God" – God is working in you and through you.**
- II. Determining Your God-Given Passion.**
  - A. Know who God is.**
    - 1. Spend time in prayer, study, and worship.**
    - 2. Enhance your relationship with the Lord.**
    - 3. To bear fruit for the Lord we need to remain in the Lord (see John 15:5).**
  - B. Know what God wants.**
    - 1. Look for ways to be God's hands.**
    - 2. Keep working on your relationship with God.**
    - 3. The more you grow in the faith the easier it is to discern God's will (see Rom. 12:2).**
  - C. Know what you can do for God.**
    - 1. Without pride or false humility, know what you're good at – know your God-given gifts.**
    - 2. Be ready to "rock" when opportunity knocks.**
    - 3. The self-discovery messages and exercises should give you a basic understanding of who you are and what you do best.**
- III. Discovering Your God-Given Passions: Four Approaches.**
  - A. See Handout**
  - B. Your homework.**