



## Get the Passion Back – Series

Pastor Larry Vriezelaar "Passion Action" Week 1 | April 11, 2021 | [www.firstchurchtoledo.com](http://www.firstchurchtoledo.com)

Are you stressed out and burned out? Feeling overwhelmed? Do you barely have enough energy to get through the day? What about your passion for God? Do you feel that's diminished? Have you lost your joy and enthusiasm for walking with Jesus?

There are a variety of reasons why you may have lost your enthusiasm and your passion....doing too much, going too fast, never taking time to rest , or simply doing things your own way.

Never forget that God made you to love you, and He made you to love others. And that's hard to do when you're rushing through life, loading up your schedule, and using up all your energy on things that won't matter in the long run...things that won't matter in eternity.

So, for the next few weeks I want to give you some things to think about...perhaps it will help you to re-energize your life.

**Encouragement from the Lord.** God, who got you started in this spiritual adventure, shares with us the life of His Son and our Master Jesus. He will never give up on you. Never forget that. 1. Cor. 1:9

Helen Keller once wrote: "Life is either a daring adventure or it's nothing".

Jesus said, My purpose is to give you life in all it's fullness. John 10:10 TLB

God wants you to enjoy life.

He wants to use you to do significant things that will have a lasting impact.

God doesn't want you to endure life...He wants to bring adventure to your life and give you **vitality and energy**.

**Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.** Joshua 1:9

Eight things that may be stealing your passion for life!

1. An \_\_\_\_\_ will cause you to lose your passion.

**I have worked hard for nothing. I have used my strength, but I didn't accomplish anything.** Isaiah 49:4

*If your life goal is whoever has the most toys in the end wins...that's a pretty puny purpose.*

2. An \_\_\_\_\_ will cause you to lose your passion.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 **everything has its own time, and there is a specific time for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to pull out what's planted, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build up, a time to cry and time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to hug and a time to stop hugging, a time to start looking and a time to stop looking, a time to keep and a time to throw away, a time to tear apart and a time to sew together, a time to keep quiet and a time to speak out, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace.**

Your schedule may be unbalanced because of all the good things you're trying to do! You're always **serving**, you're always **sharing**, you're always **caring**, you're always **giving**, you're always **thinking of others**, you're always **care-giving**, and you never take time to re-charge. That's not healthy for you. You need to balance your life, and you need rest in order to maintain your passion.

The truth is, meaning and significance both come from service, but if you don't have downtime, you're going to experience what is commonly called **compassion fatigue**.

3. An \_\_\_\_\_ will cause you to lose your passion.

Job 5:2, **Surely resentment destroys the fool, and jealousy kills the simple.** (NLT)

**Resentment** is allowing people to continue to hurt you over something that's in your past. Resentment drains your passion.

**Jealousy** works the same way unless you let it go. Job 18:4 **You are only hurting yourself with your anger**

### Forgiveness is the answer:

The Bible says the best way to get rid of resentment is to forgive. Forgiveness is by no means saying that the other person was right.

4. An \_\_\_\_\_ will cause you to lose your passion.

God created us to need each other. We were made to live and learn. **Two are better off than one. Because together they can work more effectively. If one of them falls down, the other can help him up. But if someone is alone and falls, it's just too bad, because there is no one to help him.** Eccl. 4:9-10

Here's another scripture that emphasizes the importance of relationships.

*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another.*

Hebrews 10:24-25