

Series: 6:8@Six:Eight	Reference: Various Passages	Title: Passion	Date: 11.18.18
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Community Group Questions

Take time to pray through the Six:Eight Prayer Foci for 2018/19

*If the Holy Spirit gives anyone a specific word for the church
share them with the other Community Group Leaders.*

1. **FREEDOM:** Pray against spiritual attack on our church body & it's members, so that kingdom ministry goes unhindered.
2. **SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION:** Pray we'd abide in the Presence of Christ, honoring the Word & Spirit of God, being transformed & becoming more effective in witness. That we'd be drawn deeply into worship & prayer in powerful ways this year.
3. **LEADERSHIP:** Pray for leadership to be filled with the knowledge of the Word & power of the Spirit, operating out of the two as gracious strong servant leaders.
4. **MINISTRIES:** For all 8 church ministries to run smoothly, having all current & future resources provided for them to thrive (*Kids, Community Groups, Kingdom Opportunities, Stewardship, Impressions, Worship Arts, Prayer, Missions*).
5. **LOCAL EVANGELISM:** That we'd preach the Word boldly & minister in the power of the Spirit to see people come to faith & publicly declare that through baptism. - for divine openings with neighbors, coworkers, friends & Community Partners.
6. **CROSS-CULTURAL MISSION:** To be a *'House of Prayer for all Nations'* (Isaiah 56:7), obedient to the Great Commission (Mt 28:18-20), overflowing to our Kinship Network relationships reaching Arab world Muslims, and other mission endeavors of the church.
7. **GIVING:** Pray that we'd be stretched in faithful giving of our financial resources in order not to be hindered in our kingdom ministry as a church.

Study Questions

1. We said, *passion is synonymous with worship* - we all have passions with a small 'p', as well as passions with a capital 'P'.
 1. What are your Passions?
 2. How do your Passions drive you?
2. How do you worship best? What puts you in a worshipful mood?
3. Have people read out loud Matt 18:2-3, Jn 1:11-13 & Ps 131:1-3, then answer the following questions in light of them.
 1. How are we to be childlike, but not childish, in our worship of God?
 2. How does worry & anxiety kill joy & our ability to worship?
 3. How does giving ourselves over to God (trusting), even before we fully understand, kill worry & anxiety? Think about this in the context of a child to father relationship.
4. Look at & discuss Proverbs 4:23 & 2 Corinthians 10:5...
 1. How do you do this?
 2. How does *Confirmation Bias* derived from our cultural narrative or certain influencers in our life kill our ability to see and hear Jesus clearly in his Word?
 3. We said when a child is diverted from its parent (losing childlikeness in our relationship to God) it is then easily deceived, how has that happened to you? And how do you seek to keep your gaze on Jesus?
5. What is your best definition of worship?
 1. How do Romans 12:1-2, Matt. 6:33-34 inform that definition?
 2. Are there other Scriptures which speak of worship, if so, what are they?
6. Read again the *Passion Matters* paragraph along with the *Mature Christian Profile* which accompanies it...
 1. ***Passion Matters:*** *In response to the grace extended through Jesus, we value a lifestyle of holistic passionate worship. We seek to offer ourselves as living sacrifices to him in all areas of life: corporately & individually. One experience of this can be found in our weekly gathering in which we strive to create an open, relaxed, interactive & creative atmosphere. However, our worship extends into every aspect of our personal lives in what we believe, value, how we live, think & treat others. We avoid busyness, but work hard for the joy that's been set before us in Jesus. Our passion for worship extends to the holistic value of God's creation in its entirety.*
 2. ***Mature Christian Profile as it pertains to Passion:*** *The mature Christian in the issue of passion sees all of life as their spiritual act of worship. They have grown past the empty notion that worship is found only in song on Sunday mornings. They value creation, people, and all of life. Their decisions, inner thoughts, and heart life, are all a sacrifice to God. They have come to realize that consistent good treatment of others, and how they interact with the Holy Spirit are more profoundly worshipful experiences than occasional 'worship gatherings'. They make Kingdom Choices, which may seem illogical on a worldly standard, and are based on their calling and Scripture. However, these choices are not in isolation, they are based on God's Word, interaction with the Holy Spirit, and the faith community. Worship and passion for God, as reflected in Christ, is a lifestyle, not an event for them. Their passionate worship in all areas drives them outward to take the good news to their neighbors, family and friends.*
7. From all these ideas & verses, come up with a working definition of true worship as a group and elect one person from your group to share that definition on Sunday Morning when asked to do so. Keep it short & to the point.