

A PASSION FOR GOD

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Why have you come to church today? Because it's Sunday? Because you are a member of Cottonwood? Because you wanted to fellowship with other Christians? Because you wanted to feel the presence of God? Because you wanted to hear a message from the word of God?

Would you like more of God? To get more of God will cost you something. To get more of God you have to be willing to give God more of yourself. You've got to make room for more of God and you have to want Him more than anything else in the world.

Our desire for God has to be stronger than our desire for the things of this world.

Jer 29:13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

If we want more from God we need to seek God more passionately. But most of the time, bad passions are stronger than good passions. We want more money, a new car or house, or a different job, more than we want a closer walk with the Lord. Most people seek for these things with a greater passion and desire than they seek a closer walk with God.

People are willing to go to work early and stay late to obtain favor with the boss but how many are willing to come to church early to pray and linger around the altar afterwards to draw closer to the Lord?

Bad passions are strong because good passions are weak. Maybe the real problem is not too much desire but too little. A greater desire for things that are temporal instead of seeking things that are eternal.

We've got to get to a place in God where holiness becomes more attractive than sin; where knowing God is more important than knowing each other; where no cost is too great to pay for the privilege of intimacy with the Lord.

When our relationship with God is what it should be, we will want Him more than anything else in the world. We will be willing to lay anything and everything aside in our pursuit of Him.

The flesh is constantly at war with the spirit. Instead of wanting to pray, our flesh wants to play. Instead of pushing away from the table for a time of fasting, our flesh would rather enjoy a time of feasting. Instead of spending more time in the presence of the Lord, our flesh wants to spend more time in presence of family and friends.

Phil 3:7-8 I once thought all these things were so very important, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the priceless gain of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.