

# Lost Excitement and Passion

Pastor, are you excited about the ministry into which God has placed you?

Pastor, are you passionate about your preaching each week from God's word?

**Ecc. 9:10** Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.

**Col. 3:17/23** And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;

If these questions are not answered with a yes, then you need to find out why and ask God's help in getting back to the place where you are excited and passionate in the ministry. Here are a few suggestions to help you find the refreshment and calling you once had.

## 1. Are you having that special time with the Lord every day?

(Not sermon preparation)

We all have time schedules and commitments in the ministry that can and will take up our time to the point of not getting with God as we should. Many pastors can get so caught up in doing the "work" of the Lord that they forget the "Lord" of the work. As the pastor of the church you can only lead, teach, and preach from the reservoir of your own heart. If you fail to get with God and to from God what is need for yourself, then you will be lacking in giving the church what they need from God in the preaching and teaching in the ministry.

**1Chron. 22:19** Now set your heart and your soul to seek the LORD your God;

**Ps.105:3** Glory ye in his holy name: let the heart of them rejoice that seek the LORD.

**Ps. 105:4** Seek the LORD, and his strength: seek his face evermore.

## 2. Have you lost your vision or even had a vision for the ministry to where God has called you?

First let's be clear on what is a vision, (vision) – a mental picture, an image or concept in the imagination / the ability to anticipate possible future events and developments (Encarta Dictionary).

It is what you believe that God can do with you and through you in the church that He has called you to serve. It means that you can envision what God has for the church to accomplish in the place where He has placed it to serve in the community as well as the world. Also it has to do with what ministries God impresses upon you and the church to be involved with at any season of time in the church, for the best way in spreading the gospel and build up the believers. You may need to take some time off or just get away alone to seek God's leading and insight for yourself and the church.

It may be that you just need to be reminded of what God has shown you for the ministry of the church and get back on track in fulfilling that vision that you once had for the ministry. Prayerfully seek God's vision for the church and then go cast it into the hearts of the members.

**Pro. 29:18** "Where there is no vision, the people perish"

**Acts 16:9-10** And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

### **3. There has to be honesty and humility with our lives and ministries.**

Concerning honesty we need to make sure that we are doing our best for the Lord and His church. The Lord does not bless half-heartedness or laziness in the ministry, with pastors or churches as a whole. If there is any known sin in the church or its leaders the Lord will not fill them with the Holy Spirit, which give us the power to do the work of the ministry. There has to be an honest examination of the heart and soul to see if there is anything that is hindering the Spirit of God in filling and stirring the man of God. Then we have to be willing to confess and forsake "all" known sins and this may include sins of omission as well as commission.

**Ps. 139:23-24** Search me, O God, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: And see if there be any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

Then we all have to deal with certain areas of pride which can affect our ministries if it go's unchecked. The Lord wants His servants to be humble servants as they lead His church as His under shepherds. The pride in our lives will cause us to lose sight of the vision and therefore lose the excitement and passion that one used to have as a humble servant of God. Remember that God resists the proud and gives grace to the humble servant who seeks and follows His word.

**2Chron. 32:26** Notwithstanding Hezekiah humbled himself for the pride of his heart, both he and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the wrath of the LORD came not upon them in the days of Hezekiah.

**Pro. 11:2** When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is wisdom.

**Pro. 13:10** Only by pride cometh contention: but with the well advised is wisdom.

**James 4:6** But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

Pastor please remember that you can have that same excitement and passion you once had if you are willing to do whatever it takes to get it back. We need excited and passionate pastors in our churches today that will be willing to pay the price to keep on serving the Lord with zeal.