



SPG SERIES – Study 2
Unquenchable Passion

In the first study, “Why Live by the Spirit”, we discovered that the Spirit of God does so much for us. He overflows within us, bringing forth an abundance of joy, peace, patience, meekness that fosters kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness and self-control! These are the fruit that come only from the Spirit of God and we get to be full of them. We get to experience and appreciate every spiritual blessing. We are to be captivated by being in fellowship with the Father and the Son. Our wrong desires are to be passing away. We are to be continually in the middle of the will of God. We are to be in Him and not sinning. We are to be bearing imperishable fruit, experiencing true freedom, having a thirsting hope for Jesus’ return, being part of a holiness movement to the heart of God. We should be performing miracles, driving out demons by the Spirit, and being transformed into the likeness of Jesus by the Holy Spirit. WOW, this is the abundant life!

We have learned that we think too seldom about these things. We don’t allow ourselves to grow in our hunger and thirst for these things. Our lives are too busy to hope that these would be in abundance within us. If we did dwell on these things, we would begin yearning for God far beyond where we presently are. In our most recent Adventure Breakout session, we concluded that we are to be full of passion about these things.

The reality is that we are to have an unquenchable passion for our magnificent God, a passion that draws us to the heart of God.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled.”
Matt. 5:6

- Blessed means “supremely blessed”.
- Hunger means “famished, crave”
- Thirst means “suffering thirst”
- Righteousness means “uprightness of heart”
- Shall be filled means “supplied in abundance”

Please write a sentence restating this verse with these expanded definitions:

Journal on how your life measures up to what God is offering:

If you are hungering and thirsting, spoken of in this verse, then you have an unquenchable passion for God and the things of God. Think of ways of describing unquenchable passion in everyday life.

You are one who:

- has a burning desire within
- can't stop thinking about it
- it becomes the only priority & staying on track is paramount
- is confident of the outcome
- has a peace/satisfaction that rests on you
- is willing to sacrifice, even at all cost
- look at life differently, having a unique perspective
- is undeterred in advancing
- has excitement about the journey
- laughs about setbacks
- has high anticipation in getting somewhere
- has a hope that fuels your heart
- yearns to be before and with our Lord

Biblical illustrations of this quality:

Add your own: _____

Journal regarding thoughts on "unquenchable passion":

"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing.
 He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father."
 John 14:12

As we are being transformed into His likeness (2 Cor. 3:17, 18) we will become more like Jesus in every way. Doesn't that foster a passion within you to love like Jesus? Let's consider how we cultivate an unquenchable passion. We need to:

- alert our senses to the things of God: taste it, feel it, see it, touch it, hear it, visualize it, embrace the benefits Ps. 34:8
- abide/dwell in Him: in the vine every moment of every day John 15:1-17
- get away: to contemplate & hear the voice of God to gain perspective & direction Matt. 14:23, Mark 4:34
- cut off wrong passions: we have things in our lives that we do and they don't contribute, in fact detract from building passion for Him 1 Peter 2:1, Col. 3:5,
- observe when and where God is working: in you, through you or in your community, be where God is at work Phil 2:13
- fellowship: hang out with others that are journeying to the heart of God at all cost 1 John, 1 John 1:3

- share with others the things of God: poor in spirit, unreached, and/or the poor, widowed and orphaned Acts 4:32-35, Matt. 28:19, James 1:27
- seek Him with all your heart: don't allow anything to get in the way until you find Him Deut. 4:29
- trust in God for all things: receive hope from the Holy Spirit Rom. 15:13

Journal on your thoughts about cultivating passion: _____

How does one begin this cultivation process? _____

It begins with intentionality and the leading of the Holy Spirit. Messages from the Holy Spirit are gained through practiced listening to His messages in your life. We will look more deeply into practicing listening later. Let's focus on intentionality. One of the falsehoods of life is that we don't have time. If we say we don't have time, we are placing other things as more important than Him. There is nothing more important in all of life than following Him. He will lead you to the right choices in life, how to treat people as Jesus would. We must begin considering how to make more time for God because He will multiply your time. You can't experience the Fruit of the Spirit when constantly in the midst of the tyranny of the urgent. Stop and consider where you are currently spending your time, which parts have no value for the Kingdom of God. You must seek to cut off at least 10% of the time that doesn't contribute to living with unquenchable passion for Him. Remember, that being too busy for God quenches the work of the Spirit in your life. Stop & make these decisions right now on how you are going to make time for the Spirit to work in you. _____

What is your plan to increase your passion toward unquenchable passion? _____

Choose a transformation challenge from God that He has chosen for you. _____

“...set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things for you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God.”
Col. 3:1-3

Set means to seek, worship, plot, be disposed intensely with your affection on things above.

Having unquenchable passion is what will draw you through and past the things of this world. They will not matter any longer (1 John 2:15,16). If you take these things seriously, God will bless it beyond what you hope for.

“Now to Him Who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or image, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church

and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever!”
(Eph. 3:20)

In closing, read Paul’s prayer in Ephesians 3:14-21, several times this week!

What thoughts were you left with as you meditated on this prayer? _____

Be blessed!!