

A Passion for God—A Passion to Claim Him

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I. Introduction.

- A. Jesus ought to be our favorite subject.
- B. Text: Colossians 1:28-29.
- C. Paul's passion was to proclaim Christ.

II. Our passion should be born out of our conversion by Jesus.

- A. Paul always brought people back to his own conversion experience. (Acts 22, 26)
- B. Paul never got over the grace given to him. (I Corinthians 15)
- C. God's grace ought to motivate us to share with others.
- D. God saved us because He loves us and wants to live His life in us.

III. Our passion should be born out of our convictions about Jesus.

- A. Paul's passion came out of his personal knowledge of Christ.
- B. The more about Jesus Christ that Paul knew, the more he was committed to telling it.

IV. Our passion should be fueled by our co-crucifixion with Christ. (Galatians 2)

- A. A person can be free from sin now because of the work of the cross in his life. (Romans 6:11)
- B. Co-crucifixion means that God placed every believer on the cross spiritually and positionally. On the cross, Christ took care of both the penalty and the power of sin.
- C. Paul wanted to experience the resurrection power of Christ above all else because he was crucified with Him (Philippians 3). Christ's desire is to live through the person.
- D. Christ's crucifixion set us free from the penalty of sin, and our crucifixion set us free from the power of sin. This fuel Paul's passion to preach Christ.
- E. All of Paul's persecutions only fueled his passion as a result.

V. Our passion should be fueled by our commission from Him. The world is the mission field. (Matthew 28:9-10)

Application questions:

1. How would you evaluate your own passion for Christ at this time in your life?

2. Which way of fueling your passion stands out to you? What strikes you?

3. What could you do to ignite your flame for Christ this week in a practical and provable way? Explain.
