

Get Your Passion Back

Part 3 | Tie Your Shoes

Connect with us - Next Steps Form

- Text “Element” to 97000

Today is Together Sunday

- Sign up to join a together home group for March 20th

NOTES ARE IN APP - Not on screen - Download

- <https://theelement.church/app>

Masks optional @ Kellogg

Easter - April 17th

- Egg hunt

All campus worship night - April 23rd

GIVING TIME:

- **4 WAYS TO GIVE**
- ONLINE: <https://theelement.churchcenter.com/give>
- APP: Give Tile
- TEXT: Text an “amount” to 84321
- MAIL: PO Box 52 East Lansing MI 48826

Partner Spotlight:

- Abbey Dewey EP came out FRIDAY

INTRO - GET YOUR PASSION BACK

- Memes - Cotton Candy girl

YES There are Real Problems!

- People sick
- People dying
- Jobs Vanishing
- Economies Struggling
- Our Nation divided
- War in Eastern Europe
- Brink of WW3?
 - Anxiety - Overwhelm
 - Easily angered
 - Easily discouraged

I am feeling passion & unshakably optimistic about the future!

Romans 8:28

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

All else being equal, one thing I know for certain...
A negative outlook never leads to a positive life.

First week - Optimites (Optimism)

Second week - Reframe

TODAY: Tie Your Shoes

- Enthusiasm isn't a plastic, surfacey veneer over real life.
- Enthusiasm is En Theos.

Latin Root Words:

- Theos - God
- En - In
- mid 16th century (in [enthusiasm](#) (sense 2)): via late Latin *enthusiasmus* 'inspiration, frenzy' from Greek *enthousiasmos*, from *enthousiazein* 'be inspired or possessed by a god' (based on *theos* 'god').
- **En theos—In God, filled with God.** (in theos, in God)

Tie Your Shoes

Church at Ephesus

Revelation 2:3-5 (NLT)

"I know all the things you do. I have seen your hard work and your patient endurance. I know you don't tolerate evil people. You have examined the claims of those who say they are apostles but are not. You have discovered they are liars. You have patiently suffered for me without quitting. "But I have this complaint against you. You don't love me or each other as you did at first! Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first.

You lost your passion/enthusiasm?!

Get it BACK!

HOW?

Go back to the basics.

God IN YOU.

God WITH YOU.

Let's get back to basics

ILL. Book Great by Choice - Jim Collins - Chapter "How to tie our shoes"

- John Wooden, the great UCLA basketball coach who produced 10 NCAA championship teams in 12 years during the 1960s and 1970s, perfectly exemplified the power of consistency. In the fascinating film documentary The UCLA Dynasty, one player recalled, "There was a way to do everything. You could have taken UCLA people who played in '55, '65, '70, and '75; put them on the same team; and they would have been able to play with each other, instantly."
- "The coach comes out and opens the first moments of practice in a quiet voice, 'We will begin by learning how to tie our shoes.' You look over to a couple of famous seniors, All-Americans who've already won national championships, thinking this must be some kind of freshman initiation. But no, the seniors calmly begin taking off their shoes and preparing for the shoe-tying lesson. "First, put your socks, slowly with care, over your toes," says the coach. The seniors diligently follow instructions. "Now, move your socks up here...and here...smooth out all the wrinkles...nice and tight...take your time," the coach intones his lesson, like some sort of far-out Zen master teaching you how to make tea as a path to higher enlightenment. "Then lace your shoes from the bottom, carefully, slowly, getting each pass nice and tight...snug! snug! snug! snug!" After the lesson, you ask one of the All-American seniors what that was all about, and he says, "Get a blister in a big game, and you're gonna suffer. Shoes come untied in a close game...well, that just never happens here. [no flopping around in a game. No tripping. No sprained ankles]." One year later, you come to practice, having helped create yet another national championship, noting the surprised looks on the freshmen's faces when the coach announces, "We will begin by learning how to tie our shoes."

Revelation 2:4-5 (NLT)

"But I have this complaint against you. You don't love me or each other as you did at first! Look how far you have fallen! Turn back to me and do the works you did at first.

You lost your passion/enthusiasm! Get it BACK!!

5 basics to help us turn back to our first love...

1.) God is faithful

We don't understand the mess.

- I view messes as interruptions
- I view messes as a loss of control
- I view messes as failure

Proverbs 14:4

Where there are no oxen, the manger is empty, but from the strength of an ox come abundant harvests.

ILL. Dream of toilets - the messes lead to the good

- God seems to reveal the good things prepared for us through the process of dealing with the messes

ILL. ABC News - June 29th 2016

- Childhood home
- Things begin to break
 - Oil Tank
 - Sewer pipe
 - cracks in the walls
- Hidden room part of resistance in underground railroad

You discover treasures when you deal with the mess.

Deal with enough mess and you learn God is in the middle of them.

A. Pay attention to the pain

B. Explore the iceberg

- a. what am I angry about?
- b. what am I sad about?
- c. what am I anxious about?
- d. what am I glad about?

God seems to reveal the good things prepared for us
through the process of dealing with the messes

sometimes my messes overwhelm me... but I'm loved in the middle

2.) Jesus Loves & Saves

ILL. Mona Lisa value?

- who made it
- who found it
- Love is looking at the value in what is under the muck and endeavoring to draw out the beauty that has been lost along the way.

Mark 10:46-52

46 Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means "son of Timaeus"), was sitting by the roadside begging. 47 When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" 48 Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 49 Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called to the blind man, "Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you." 50 Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus. 51 "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him. The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see." 52 "Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

Jesus loves you right where you are, just as you are and loves you too much to leave you there.

Repent

Receive

Replace

3.) The Holy Spirit empowers

We are not the byproduct of your own strength, but the strength of our God.

ILL. Power steering

John 15:26 AMP

“But when the Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor—Counselor, Strengthener, Standby) comes...

Helper = paraklete (one who assists)

- Lifts the other side of the log

ILL. Counselor Story: The remedy for burnout is not a vacation

burnout is about HOW you are carrying the weight

1. Are we working without Him, for Him or alongside Him?

John 15:5

“I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing.

ILL. John Piper - Paralyzed (John 15:5)

Suppose you are totally paralyzed and can do nothing for yourself but talk

- Suppose a strong and reliable friend promised to live with you and do whatever you need done.

Q: How could you glorify this friend if a visitor came to see you?

- Would you glorify your friend's goodness, generosity & strength by trying to get out of your bed yourself and carry him?
- NO
- You would say, friend please come lift me up, and would you please put a pillow behind me to prop me up so I can see my visitor and would you please put my glasses on for me?...

Your visitor would learn from your request that you are helpless and that your friend is strong and kind.

- You glorify your friend by needing him and counting on him.
- John 15:5 - Without Christ we are capable of no Christ exalting good.
- Romans 7:18 - nothing good dwells in me, that is my flesh.
- John 15 - we are to bear fruit! - Just not ALONE

As our strong and reliable friend - He promises to do for us and through us what cannot do for ourselves.

John 15:7 - If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit,

Prayer is the open admission that without Christ we can do nothing.
Prayer is the turning away from ourselves to God trusting
he will provide the help we need.

You are not the byproduct of your own strength, but the strength of our God.

Q: Are we working without Him, for Him or alongside Him?

4.) The Church endures

Ekklesia - a people on mission

comfort over calling
pleasure over purpose

PERSONAL

ILL. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

(Human Behavior - Motivation is "meeting needs")

Deficiency Needs

- 1.) **Physical Needs** - Water, air, food
- 2.) **Safety Needs** - to be protected, lock doors, insurance
- 3.) **Love Needs** - relationships, love,
- 4.) **Esteem Needs** - complemented, hair looks nice

Growth/Fulfillment Needs

- 5.) **Cognitive Needs** - we need to understand stuff, to grow, to learn
- 6.) **Aesthetic Needs** - for things to be beautiful, paint walls, beaches
- 7.) **Self Actualization** - to fulfill our potential, to win
 - a.) Only about 2% experiencing this
 - i.) Muscle bound guy at the beach kicking sand in the face of the skinny guy building a sand castle
 - b.) Maslow thought this was the pinnacle of life
 - c.) There was another one added to the model

- 8.) **Transcendence** - to take self actualization and make a difference on the planet
(living a life beyond yourself)
- a.) How do you go beyond you?
 - b.) “I will take you and make you my people...”
 - c.) I’ve got something for you beyond you
 - d.) Something that will change lives, leave a mark & I will be in the middle

Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs - Internet?

- Ninth Need?
- Internet?

Transcendence (living a life beyond yourself) isn’t possible alone,
in your living room...
Church matters

ILL. American Embassy

- American laws & rules take effect on the Embassy’s soil, not the country’s laws & rules that the Embassy is in
- The Church is heaven’s embassy
- Church is drawing eternity into time and space
- Apostle - Greek
- Every Christian should be involved in a local church - it is participation in a different culture.

It isn’t just **WHAT** you do, but **WHO** you do it for that makes it meaningful.

- Others
- God

1 Cor 15:57-58 NLT

But thank God! He gives us victory over sin and death through our Lord Jesus Christ. So, my dear brothers and sisters, be strong and immovable. Always work enthusiastically for the Lord, for you know that nothing you do for the Lord is ever useless.

Ephesians 4:16 NIV

From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

5.) God's promises are true

“The success of your life will be dependent upon your ability to hear God's promises and cling to them” - Ronnie Johnson

Hebrews 11:1,6 (Revised Standard Version)

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen... And without faith it is impossible to please him. For whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

- Noah waited for a long time for the rains to come after build ark
 - but it did rain
- Abraham and Sarah waited 25 years for God's promised son
 - but Isaac (laughter) was born
- Joseph waited 20 years in pits, as potipher's slave and in prison
 - but he did reign in the palace
- Moses waited 40 years in the desert and 40 years after exodus
 - but he did lead them out, and sat with God in the ultimate promised land
- Hannah waited years for an answer to her prayers for a child
 - but samuel was born and served as a prophet
- Job waited years for God to reveal himself
 - but did receive double of everything
- The apostles waited confused between the Crucifixion and Pentecost
 - but did become recipients and stewards of eternal life

Israel compared Goliath to themselves

David compared Goliath to God

1 Samuel 17:45-46

David said to the Philistine, “You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. 46 This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the

Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel.

- Not human confidence
- Raw, unparalleled spiritual passion
- EN THEOS!!

We can have enthusiasm because...

5 reasons - one of them is FOR YOU!

- God is Faithful
- Jesus Loves & Saves
- The Holy Spirit empowers
- The church endures
- God's promises are true

It might sounds like tying your shoes, but that is where champions start.