

**JESUS AND CHURCH – 1**  
**“Passionate About God”**  
**January 8, 2023**

Matthew 16:18 *“I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”* (NIV)

Matthew 15:8-9 *“These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. 9 They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.”* (NIV)

Romans 12:11 *Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord.* (NIV)

John 2:14-17 *In the Temple area he saw merchants selling cattle, sheep, and doves for sacrifices; he also saw dealers at tables exchanging foreign money. 15 Jesus made a whip from some ropes and chased them all out of the Temple. He drove out the sheep and cattle, scattered the money changers’ coins over the floor, and turned over their tables. 16 Then, going over to the people who sold doves, he told them, “Get these things out of here. Stop turning my Father’s house into a marketplace!” 17 Then his disciples remembered this prophecy from the Scriptures: “Passion for God’s house will consume me.”* (NLT)

**Four Areas of Passion**

**1. Passion for prayer.**

Matthew 21:13 *“It is written,” he said to them, “‘My house will be called a house of prayer,’ but you are making it ‘a den of robbers.’”* (NIV)

James 5:16 *The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.* (NLT)

**Make prayer our first response, not our last resort.**

**2. Passion for worship and praise.**

Mark 12:30 *“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”* (NIV)

Psalms 103:1 *“Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.”* (NIV)

2 Samuel 6:20-22 *When David returned home to bless his household, Michal daughter of Saul came out to meet him and said, “How the king of Israel has distinguished himself today, going around half-naked in full view of the slave girls of his servants as any vulgar fellow would!” 21 David said to Michal, “It was before the LORD, who chose me rather than your father or anyone from his house when he appointed me ruler over the LORD’s people Israel—I will celebrate before the LORD. 22 I will become even more undignified than this...”* (NIV)

**We give God what He deserves, not what we feel.**

**3. Passion for purity.**

Psalms 51:10 *Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.* (NIV)

Colossians 3:5 *Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry.* (NIV)

**4. Passion for people.**

John 3:16 *“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”* (NIV)

Acts 20:24 *But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.* (NLT)

**Remember, a life not lived for others is not a life.**

Revelation 2:4-5 *Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken the love you had at first. 5 Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place.* (NIV)