

Encounter Church
Wednesday April 03, 2024

Healthy Leadership Attitudes

Attitude is HUGE. A bad one can ruin your day. A good one can make a disaster turn into a funny story. A bad attitude can completely ruin your health and a good attitude can help you get through a very traumatic time. It's powerful and you get to choose the attitude you're going to have every single day.

Basically your attitude is how you see life and live life!

"Ability is what you're capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it." -Lou Holtz

In February we talked about the Healthy Leadership Attitude of Excellence.

A person with an excellent spirit always wants to do things differently. He or she is not looking out for a short cut but is willing to do things right no matter the sacrifice it entails.

Excellence is giving your best!

Acts 18:24-28- "Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John. He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately. When Apollos wanted to go to Achaia, the brothers and sisters encouraged him and wrote to the disciples there to welcome him. When he arrived, he was a great help to those who by grace had believed. For he vigorously refuted his Jewish opponents in public debate, proving from the Scriptures that Jesus was the Messiah."

"And he spoke with great fervor."

"fiery in his enthusiasm."

"He was spiritually passionate for Jesus and a convincing teacher," (His spirit boiled!)

Today we're talking about the Healthy Leadership Attitude of **Passion!**

Romans 12:11- "Be enthusiastic to serve the Lord, keeping your passion toward him boiling hot! Radiate with the glow of the Holy Spirit and let him fill you with excitement as you serve him."

Passion- a strong feeling of enthusiasm or excitement either for something or about doing something.

True passion goes beyond our emotions.

Leaders and people with a desire to be successful in life and business need to understand what passion is.

The word passion is actually derived from the Latin word “passionem” which means suffering and enduring. This is why Jesus’ crucifixion is referred to as the Passion.

Your passion for something is a reflection of your value for something.

There’s nothing apathetic about passion!

What are you passionate about right now?

Passion will make you unreasonable!

THE POWER OF PASSION

1. Passion will help you start.

Your passion for something will help you take the first step. Passion is the first step to achievement.

Passion will cause you to take the initiative. To begin something.

Zechariah 4:10- “Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin,...”

If you never begin, it could be because you lack passion!

Nehemiah 1:3-4- “They said to me, “Things are not going well for those who returned to the province of Judah. They are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem has been torn down, and the gates have been destroyed by fire.” When I heard this, I sat down and wept. In fact, for days I mourned, fasted, and prayed to the God of heaven.”

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN NEHEMIAH’S HEART? PASSION IS BEING BIRTHED!

Nehemiah 2:18- Then I told them about how the gracious hand of God had been on me, and about my conversation with the king. They replied at once, “Yes, let’s rebuild the wall!” So they began the good work.”

Passion will help you start.

2. Passion will help you stay.

Passion will help you stay when things get difficult. And my friend, they will get difficult.

“Let’s get the hard stuff over with first so we can get to the easy stuff.”

In reality, *“Let’s get the hard stuff over with first so we can get to the harder stuff!”*

“Everything worthwhile is uphill.” - John Maxwell

Passion will help you stay on the uphill climb! Remember the true meaning of passion is suffering and enduring.

Nehemiah 4:14- “Then as I looked over the situation, I called together the nobles and the rest of the people and said to them, “Don’t be afraid of the enemy! Remember the Lord, who is great and glorious, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes!”

Nehemiah didn’t just “start” rebuilding” the wall, he “stayed” rebuilding the wall. Even after being threatened by the enemy.

Consistency is always better than intensity! Shooting stars are also falling stars!

Nehemiah 6:2-3- “So Sanballat and Geshem sent a message asking me to meet them at one of the villages in the plain of Ono. But I realized they were plotting to harm me, so I replied by sending this message to them: “I am engaged in a great work, so I can’t come. Why should I stop working to come and meet with you?”

Nehemiah 6:9- “They were just trying to intimidate us, imagining that they could discourage us and stop the work. So I continued the work with even greater determination.”

Passion will help you start and passion will help you stay!

3. Passion fuels your confidence and conviction.

You don’t have to believe in me but I have to believe in me!

In fact it doesn’t really matter if you believe in me when it’s God who’s called me and given me a mission to be passionate about!

But I need to believe in me because it’s God who called me.

AND CONFIDENCE IS CONTAGIOUS!

When you’ve confident and filled with conviction you don’t need to take a survey! Well what do you think, what do you think, what do you think?

If you keep asking people what they think, then you won't know how to think, for yourself or about yourself!

Nehemiah 4:3-4- “Tobiah the Ammonite, who was standing beside him, remarked, “That stone wall would collapse if even a fox walked along the top of it!” Then I prayed, “Hear us, our God, for we are being mocked. “

Nehemiah 4:6- “At last the wall was completed to half its height around the entire city, for the people had worked with enthusiasm.”

Passion will help you start. Passion will help you stay and while staying passion will fuel your confidence and conviction.

4. Passion produces energy.

No passion equals no energy.

Nehemiah 4:10- “Then the people of Judah began to complain, “The workers are getting tired, and there is so much rubble to be moved. We will never be able to build the wall by ourselves.”

Nehemiah 4:14- “Don't be afraid of the enemy! Remember the Lord, who is great and glorious, and fight for your brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives, and your homes!”

Nehemiah 8:10- “And Nehemiah continued, “Go and celebrate with a feast of rich foods and sweet drinks, and share gifts of food with people who have nothing prepared. This is a sacred day before our Lord. Don't be dejected and sad, for the joy of the Lord is your strength!”

It's amazing the number of people who burn-out who have never been fired up!

Passion produces energy that helps you through the difficult days!

5. Passion sets you apart.

Passion sets you apart from average.

John 2:14-17- “As he went into the temple courtyard, he noticed it was filled with merchants selling oxen, lambs, and doves for exorbitant prices, while others were overcharging as they exchanged currency behind their counters. So Jesus found some cords and made them into a whip. Then he drove out every one of them and their animals from the courtyard of the temple, and he kicked over their tables filled with money, scattering it everywhere! And he told the merchants, “Get these things out of here! Don't you dare commercialize my Father's house!” That's when his disciples remembered the Scripture: “I am consumed with a fiery passion to keep your house pure!”

Jesus was consumed with a fiery passion for his Father's house!

Many say that when the disciples witnessed Jesus doing what he did it set him apart as the Messiah in their eyes.

Look at the following scripture that a portion is quoted in what we just read.

Psalm 69:7-9- “Because of my love for you, Lord, I have been mocked, cursed, and disgraced. Even my own brothers, those of my family, act as though they don’t want anything to do with me. My love for you has my heart on fire! My passion for your house consumes me! Nothing will turn me away, even though I endure all the insults of those who insult you.”

Jesus was a person of passion. A fire burned in his heart for the house of God.

A fire burns in his heart for you!

Conclusion: Passion will set you on fire for God’s purpose in your life and it will set you apart from average.

Apollos was named among Jesus, Paul and Peter. I wonder if it was because he was a man of PASSION!