

Sermon Notes

“A God-given Burden”

Nehemiah 1-2

July 29, 2018

c. The thing I would like to do for others is:

d. The people I would most like to help are:

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> infants/toddlers | <input type="checkbox"/> orphans |
| <input type="checkbox"/> preschoolers | <input type="checkbox"/> girls |
| <input type="checkbox"/> elementary children | <input type="checkbox"/> boys |
| <input type="checkbox"/> teenagers | <input type="checkbox"/> women |
| <input type="checkbox"/> college students | <input type="checkbox"/> men |
| <input type="checkbox"/> young adults | <input type="checkbox"/> the poor/homeless |
| <input type="checkbox"/> young marrieds | <input type="checkbox"/> the unemployed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> single parents | <input type="checkbox"/> the disabled |
| <input type="checkbox"/> parents of young children | <input type="checkbox"/> the hospitalized |
| <input type="checkbox"/> empty nesters | <input type="checkbox"/> the unchurched |
| <input type="checkbox"/> the elderly | <input type="checkbox"/> new believers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> shut-ins | <input type="checkbox"/> potential leaders |
| <input type="checkbox"/> singles | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> divorced | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> widowed | <input type="checkbox"/> _____ |

e. In my church experience, I have been most passionate about:

f. If I could learn to do any ministry, it would be:

Let's Pray:

Introduction

1. Definition

Passion is the God-given desire that compels us to make a difference in a particular ministry. (Bruce Bugbee, Don Cousins, Bill Hybels, Network: Leader's Guide, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI, 1994, p. 56.)

2. Example

3. Assessment

Conclusion

Growth Group Homework

For the week of 07-29-18

Getting Started:

1. In what ways is serving in a ministry as a mere duty different from serving because of an internal sense of passion?

Digging Deeper:

2. Read Nehemiah 1:1-4.

- a. What is Nehemiah's burden?

- b. What would be some other words for "burden"?

3. Read Nehemiah 2:1-18.

- a. How do these passages (1:1-4; 2:1-18) show that Nehemiah's burden is God-given?

- b. How does this burden answer the "where" question, as in "where should one serve"?

- c. How do you think one could differentiate between a burden given by God, and one that is not given by God?

4. Read Nehemiah 6:15-16; 7:1-5; 11:1-2; 13:1-31.

- a. After the wall is completed, how does Nehemiah's God-given burden shift, change, or expand?

- b. How have you seen your own God-given burdens morph (or remain the same) over time?

5. How might we discern what burden God has given to us? Consider this exercise. Reflecting on your life, answer the following questions.

- a. At the end of my life I would like to know I made a difference by:

- b. If I asked my friends what I am passionate about, they would probably say: