



THE CASE FOR PASSION

KEY TAKE-AWAYS:

- Understanding how your heart drives the course of your life.
- Learning how Jesus uses your heart to transition you toward LifeMission.

SUMMARY

Emily Dickenson wrote, “the heart wants what it wants – or else it does not care.” God has hardwired our hearts to our ability to charge forward. If your heart’s not in, it will be difficult to go there. This is the case with LifeMission and Passion. You may have natural talent (potential), or the task may include your purpose. However, you won’t get the desired results if you’re not passionate about the mission.

After the resurrection of Jesus, and over a forty-day period, He appeared many times to His disciples, speaking to them about the Kingdom (Acts 1:3). Despite this, we find Peter leading some of the disciples to go fishing. Something was amiss with his heart. He was supposed to be waiting in Jerusalem to fish for men but was in a boat instead. He had the vision and training for the task but needed his heart to be transitioned to a passion for the mission.

Jesus doesn’t want us to ignore our hearts. He wants us to aim our passions at the Kingdom. Most heart blocks originate from fear of the adventure to which Jesus calls us. We may not believe we are worthy. We may be afraid of our passions. Jesus invites us to use our hearts as a credible compass, to create a compelling destiny, to respond to His call, and let our passion play out in life to the full.



HEART WORK

1. Write down 3 of your most dominant passions.

2. If you were convinced these passions were God-ordained, how could they fuel, guide, or point you toward a LifeMission?

BATTLE READY Living:

- You are constantly in touch with your heart and how it's helping or hurting.
- You actively cultivate and refine your Kingdom passions to ensure they sustain the energy behind your LifeMission and Launch.



DISCOVERING YOUR HEART

KEY TAKE-AWAYS:

- Understanding the **BATTLE** over your heart.
- Learning about the masculine heart and what it needs.

Resource: For Men: *“Wild at Heart: Discovering the Secret of a Man’s Soul,”* by John Eldredge

For Women: *“Captivating: Unveiling the Mystery of a Woman’s Soul,”* by John & Stasi Eldredge

SUMMARY

“The difference between your mind and your heart: your mind tells you what’s smart... and your heart tells you what you are going to do, anyway.” -unknown

The president has a situation room under the White House for strategic, world-concerning decisions. Your situation room is composed of your Mind, Heart, and Will. Your advisors are the Father, Jesus, and Holy Spirit. Opposing forces militate against your thought process, including the world, your flesh, and the demonic. In most cases, your heart will win the day. Most of your decisions will be automatic. It all depends on what you’ve stored in your heart. What’s your heart’s focus?

John Eldredge’s *Wild at Heart* describes God’s design of the masculine heart. Drawing on scripture, he points out that every man has a battle to fight, an adventure to live, and a beauty to rescue. He speaks of the wild heart that God gave man and the need to intentionally direct the heart’s focus lest it goes astray after a perverted form of these things. A healthy heart is needed for your LifeMission. If not healthy, your heart can abort or not be able to sustain the launch of the mission.



MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. What stirs your heart?

2. What's your greatest battle?

3. What's the adventure you're on?

4. Who or what is your beauty?

BATTLE READY Living:

- You have clarified and intentionally aimed your heart's focus in a healthy way.
- You conscientiously focus your heart on the right battles, adventures, and on beauty.



THE POWER OF THE FATHER

KEY TAKE-AWAYS:

- Understanding the father's wound and what's at stake.
- Learning about the power of blessing and the destruction of the curse.

SUMMARY

Most men have deep-seated wounds in their hearts. It comes from a message they received in youth. It's a lie they believed about themselves. The enemy helped to establish and affirm the wound. When a man believes the lie, he makes a vow that results in him living a false self. Our Heavenly Father also has a message for each of us. His message is a blessing that enables a man to fulfill his true self.

The Father said of Jesus, "This is my Son, whom I love; with Him, I am well pleased." We have a message from the Father too. Ask Him to reveal it to you. The devil attacked the truth of the Father's word of blessing to Jesus. The devil will do the same for us. We must first understand the lie we believe and how it drives our false selves' decisions. The Father's blessing is usually related to or opposite the lie. Your LifeMission is too big for the false self. The false self will self-destruct it. Start by exploring any pain associated with your father. If your father was not part of your life, explore other strong mentorship relationships of your youth.



DEALING WITH THE WOUND

1. What did your father say about who you are?

2. What is the core message (lie) that you received?

3. What is the heroic role you're out to fill in your life?

BATTLE READY Living:

- You have to clarify and intentionally aim your heart's focus.
- You conscientiously focus your heart on the right battles, adventures, and on beauty.



FINDING YOUR NEW NAME

KEY TAKE-AWAYS:

- Discovering your new name in Heaven.
- Learning how to deliver a meaningful blessing.

Resource: *“The Blessing: Giving the Gift of Unconditional Love and Acceptance,”* by John Trent and Gary Smalley.

SUMMARY

God has a habit of renaming people. So did Jesus. What’s remarkable is that the meaning of the names contained the promise or destiny of each person’s calling. John Eldredge discusses the power of a new name in his book *Wild at Heart*. He says God’s new name for you is the opposite of the lie and false self. It defines your true self. Discovering the meaning of your new name in Heaven can be a powerful inspiration toward the Purpose in your LifeMission. We’ve included it on the dashboard, so start asking the Father what He calls you.

As a parent, we want to counteract the curse and maximize the blessings. John Trent and Gary Smalley’s book, *The Blessing*, teaches the five elements of a powerful blessing. The five elements are most effective if repeated over time.

Extending the Blessing: the five elements of a powerful blessing:

1. Meaningful Touch
2. Spoken Message
3. Attach High Value
4. Picture a Special Future
5. Active Commitment



MAKE IT PERSONAL

1. Do you sense that you've been given a new name or name meaning?

2. If not, ask the Father to reveal your new name in Heaven.

3. If you're familiar with your false self, how would you describe the opposite characteristic (likely your true self)?

BATTLE READY Living:

- You have asked the Father to give you the meaning of your Heavenly name.
- You understand how and practice extending a blessing to your children and others.