



# Embrace

## Jumping In! [PASSION] [I Peter 2:5]

*The things that excite us, the things that give us joy, the things that bring us energy, and sometimes the things that keep us awake at night. The things we are passionate about are not by accident. The better we understand and follow our passions the more fulfilled we are in joining in God's work. - Doug Fields/Erik Rees*

### 1. MADE FOR THIS [I PETER 2:5]

The core problem is not that we are too passionate about bad things, but that we are not passionate enough about good things. - Larry Crabb

### 2. LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS [I PETER 2:9]

God's call is twofold and is confirmed in two ways. There is a **general calling** He offers to everyone; anyone who responds to Him is considered the "called" (Is. 6:8). But a second call is more specific. This **specific call** is given to individuals who are meant to serve in a particular role (Acts 9:3-6). This calling is confirmed both by an inward witness of the heart and an outward recognition by the body of Christ. - John Maxwell

### 3. THE CHOICE [I PETER 4:10]

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make straight your paths. - Solomon*

### ONE MORE THING : HOLY DISCONTENT [Our Passion Creates this Tension]

- [a] Ignore
- [b] Complain
- [c] Do Something
- [d] Submit to God

*Life is not tried it is merely survived when you're standing outside the fire. - Garth Brooks*

**I Peter 2:5** . . . you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

**I Timothy 6:17-19** [NLT] Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup> Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and generous to those in need, always being ready to share with others. <sup>19</sup> By doing this they will be storing up their treasure as a good foundation for the future so that they may experience true life. [apolausin = full] enjoyment]

**I Peter 2:9** . . . you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

**Isaiah 6:8** And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "Here I am! Send me."

**I Peter 4:10** As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace . . .

### Discussion Questions/Prayer

- [1] Read I Peter 2:5 and I Timothy 6:17-19. What kind of sacrifices is God asking of us? According to Paul what does a life of sacrifice lead to? [see v. 19]
- [2] Read I Peter 2:9. Do you remember the day you made Jesus Lord of your life, your first calling? After you made that decision did you take the next step into the specific calling he had on your life? Why or why not?
- [3] Pray for God to use the passions of your heart for His glory.

## HEART

**Use the question below to help you discover the passions of your heart**

- What do your dreams and desires drift toward?
- What needs do you love meeting for others and why?
- What causes or makes your heart race?
- What age and affinity groups do you most enjoy working with?

**Begin the journey! Start your S.H.A.P.E Inventory today!**