



[study guide]

LINKED: Week 1

9.02.12

[warm up]

Who are one or two people who have impacted your life in a positive way? When and how did they influence you?

How would you describe the current (the values and passions) in the life of a person who has impacted your life for Christ?

Consider the following statement: "God uses passionate people to restore the broken and change the world." Do you agree or disagree? Why or why not?

Would you consider yourself more on the nice/normal/neutral side or on the passionate/powerful/productive side of the continuum? Why?

[digging deeper]

Read Mark 1:16-39 - a day in the life and ministry of Jesus. What are 3-5 words you would use to describe this day?

As you read the Mark 1 story, what are the underlying passions - the values, the current - that caused Jesus to live like He lived?

Re-read Mark 1:21-22. Passion 1 could be defined as "Living Truth" - the Word of God that has authority in our lives and through our lives. We are to learn it and to live it. How do Hebrews 4:12, Isaiah 55:10-11, and James 1:22 teach us to live out this passion of "Living Truth"?

Re-read Mark 1:35. Passion 2 could be defined as "God Dependence" - the trust in and connection to God that gives us direction and power for fruitful living. We are to pray and abide in Christ. How do John 15:5, Isaiah 40:31, and Ephesians 5:18 teach us to live out this passion of "God Dependence"?

Re-read Mark 1:29. Passion 3 could be defined as "Caring Community" - the God-designed need that we all have for loving Biblical relationships. We are to serve and be served. How do Hebrews 10:24-25, Galatians 6:1, and John 13:34-35 teach us to live out this passion of "Caring Community"?



Re-read Mark 1:30-33. Passion 4 could be defined as “Linked Generations” - the need that we have to be mentored by the generation more experienced than us and to mentor the generation coming after us. We need to teach and be taught. How do Psalm 71:18, Deuteronomy 6:7-9, and Psalm 89:1 teach us to live out this passion of “Linked Generations”?

Re-read Mark 1:17. Passion 5 could be defined as “Equipped Leadership” - the truth that we all are leaders at some level and that we all need to be better equipped. We are to be equipped and to be equippers. How do Ephesians 4:11-12, Colossians 1:28-29, and II Timothy 2:2 teach us to live out this passion of “Equipped Leadership”?

Re-read Mark 1:37-38. Passion 6 could be defined as “Missional Living” - the truth that we are call missionaries who are cleverly disguised... We are going to heaven and taking as many people with us as we possibly can. How do Acts 1:8, John 20:21, and I Peter 3:15 teach us to live out this passion of “Missional Living”?

[living it out]

As you look at the passion in your life in light of the passion in the life of Jesus, what area of your life needs to change the most?

Read Revelation 3:15-16. How might this apply to your life today?

What kinds of changes do you need to make to move more and more away from the nice/normal/neutral side toward the passionate/powerful/productive side of the continuum?

Who do you want to hold you accountable? How will they hold you accountable?