

KINGDOM ADVANCING PRAYER

Mark: 1:35 & Matt: 11: 11-12

From the desk of Elder Michael Scantlebury

Magnificent Obsession

The dictionary describes an obsession as “the complete domination, fascination, fixation, preoccupation, or passion of the mind on one thought.”

One of the most powerful characteristics of the breakthrough believer’s anointing is **passion**. These kinds of believers are filled with what I call a “**Magnificent Obsession**” which is a deep passion for the Lord and for the accomplishment of His Will. As we read through the scriptures, there are several examples of this kind of passion or obsession, and as we press forward in our Kingdom Advancing Prayer we need to capture that passion.

In the books of **Genesis and Hebrews**, we read about Abraham being obsessed with the idea that God had a country and city that transcended anything he had seen on earth. He was so obsessed that he sought after it, knowing that it was a heavenly country, and passed on that same obsession to his sons.

We also have another tremendous example in the life of Saul (Paul). When he was Saul, he had such a demonic obsession: his mind was occupied with the one thought of destroying the people of God. But when he was converted and renamed Paul, that demonic obsession was destroyed and he became obsessed with the desire to serve and bless the people of God. He was totally motivated by the kingdom. As a matter of fact he expressed it this way in **Philippians 3:13-14**:

“Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

In the book of Revelation, the Spirit of God has a serious dislike for people who are lukewarm and declares that He would vomit them out. The Lord

There is so much that can be said about the passion that Jesus displayed when He walked the face of the earth. At one time He was so consumed with the Father’s business that He did not have time to eat and His disciples became very worried. Jesus declared to them that His food was to do the will of His Father (**John 4: 31-38**).

As we press forward in the plan and purpose of God we need to understand the difference between a wish and passion or obsession.

A wish is a passive mental thought pattern, with the expectation of seeing its fulfillment sometime in the future. There is no set a time-frame for its fulfillment, but allows circumstances and situations to take their natural course towards that particular event or answer that is being wished for. It is mostly a mental exercise with very little effort involved in working towards its fulfillment. The fear of doing something that hinders the reality of its fulfillment prevents any action or active involvement with a wish.

Conversely, passion is a driving force of spiritual energy that shapes a person’s lifestyle, thinking and action until that person sees a total fulfillment of what they are passionately pursuing. Every ounce of energy and thought is propelled into that single course of pursuit; aggressively removing all barriers and self-limitations that prevents its ultimate fulfillment. Their entire thought pattern revolves around their passion, their dreams, conversations and priorities revealing that which is their desire. They derive their drive, motivation and inspiration by stirring their passion within their hearts and minds. They become renewed and re-energized to seek for wholesome ways of how they can bring their passion to satisfied fulfillment.

The only thing that matches passion’s strength and driving force is lust. Lust is passion that has gone wrong in its motivation, its principles of

is always looking for people with passion to fulfill His will.

because the flesh has no ability to please God (**Romans 8:6-7**) or find life and peace.

As we seek to fulfill God's will in our lives in this territory and in the regions to which He is sending us, we must believe that God is looking for more than just wishful thinkers. The Father is drawn to those who are hot in passionate pursuit of Him. God wants us to love Him with all our **heart**, soul and strength. This can never be fulfilled without engaging in a passionate pursuit of Him.

This type of "passion or obsession" is created or stirred into our hearts when we know the sense of the urgency of time. Jesus declared this to His disciples in order to stir the passions for souls in their hearts. **John 4: 27-35**

This type of "passion or obsession" comes out of developing a sense of intensity of pursuit in seeking to fulfill the will of the One we love.

This type of "passion or obsession" is created or stirred into our hearts as we sense the deep satisfaction it will bring when we have accomplished what we set out to do. It was said of Jesus, that "for the joy that was set before Him, He endured the cross." **Hebrews 12:2**

Passion grows as we continue to think and plan to reach out to those things that are being stirred in our hearts. Our thought pattern must revolve around the things that are being stirred in our hearts and we must set our focus and priority in wanting to achieve our desired goal.

Our passion provides the driving force of inner motivation; inspiration and strength to launch what our hearts have set out to do. With this kind of passion we can become "high achievers", as we will possess the initiatives and discipline to launch ahead for greater exploits. We want this region for the Lord!

Five areas of passion that are important as we press forward in our Kingdom Advancing Prayer are:

1. A Passion for JESUS, which is grown and maintained through the atmosphere of our praise and worship, prayer life and unconditional obedience to His commands.

operation and its desired result. It is founded on self-gratification, impatience, selfishness and ungodly principles. Lust never brings wholesome satisfaction

3. A passion for souls, which is grown through the stirrings of Christ's compassion for the lost sinner and our sense of the immediacy of the harvest.

4. A Passion for ministry excellence, which is grown and maintained through our desire to honour and fully represent and serve Jesus.

5. A Passion for purpose and the fulfillment of destiny, which is grown and maintained through our prophetic stirrings to reach our maximum potentials so that we can give our best to Him.

With this kind of breakthrough anointing we are propelled into a passionate pursuit of God and His purposes. There is an intensity that is created in our hearts, similar to the zeal that consumed Jesus. (**John 2:17**)

As we press for the glory of God to be manifested in Vancouver, British Columbia, through out the entire land of Canada and in all the nations of the earth, we must understand that passive resignation will not accomplish it. This can only be accomplished through a people that are consumed with this "**Magnificent Obsession**" which is a deep passion for the Lord and for His will, being accomplished.

As we continue to pray, I ask you today, what is your burning passion? What motivates you? Is zeal for the Lord's Purpose, eating you up? Let us truly rise to the call in fulfilling the Will of God in our generation. **This is the time! Now is the moment! Be encouraged. We are into significant labour with the Lord for this and every territory! Hallelujah!**

PRAYER FOCUS

- Let us prayer resolutely for Dominion-Life International at this time. As more people are being added to us we ask that they be stirred with passion and zeal and wisdom for the Lord and the vision of the house.
- Elder Michael and Br. Sehon met with Pastor Kumar from India this week, and were asked to come and minister in India. This is about

2. A Passion for each other, which is grown and maintained through the bonds of covenant relationship and fellowship that we establish.

the tenth time in the last two years that he has been invited to India, but we do not sense that the time is right. Pray for Pastor Kumar and for God's timing for us to accurately enter India.

Dominion-Life International

October 12th, 2002