

## **SESSION 3: IDENTIFY YOUR PASSION**

### **Welcome, Review Study/LIFE Starter Journaling: 20 minutes**

Discuss your TOP values and how you will use as a decision-making tool.

### **Session #3 Teaching: Identify Passion Areas: 10 minutes**

Now that you have a better idea of your personal core-values, think about those core values and combine them with the things you love to do and come easy to you. We are all born with a deep and meaningful purpose that we have to discover. Your purpose is not something you need to make up; it's already there. Remember how Romans 8:28 told us that our purpose is HIS purpose. You have to uncover it in order to experience the life God created you for.

"For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well."  
Psalm 139:13-14

I believe that God uniquely created each of us with different passions and giftings. Think of knitting, the illustration used in Psalm 139. Knitting is something I've never known how to do, but one thing I do know about it is that it painstaking and slow. Methodical and intentional. It isn't haphazard and flippant. When God made you, He KNIT you. Carefully. Intentionally. The smallest parts and the most obvious ones. The smallest cell and grandest passion. All of it. Our job is to find out what did God so intentionally knit into us, individually.

Today, we are going to really think about and discuss as a group what do you love to do. What comes easily to you? Finding your passion could be easier than you think. By answering these questions honestly, you could work out what to do with the rest of your life. What subject could I read 500 books about without getting bored? What could I do for five years straight without getting paid? What would I spend my time doing if I had complete financial abundance to do anything? When you look back at last week's session on personal core values, ask yourself what values do you enjoy expressing the most in the world? What are two ways I most enjoy expressing these values? It's time to get vulnerable and share with each other about your passion(s). Confirm with each other what you think others in the group are gifted at, and then finish this session in prayer. Pray for each other's passions to come alive through the remaining sessions. The Holy Spirit is much like a GPS system you use in your car or on your phone. It tells you how to get from point A to point B. When you get in your car and are heading to a specific destination, what is the first thing you input into your GPS? First, it finds your current location. Once it's determined where you are, it gives you directions to where you are heading. For the system to work, it simply needs to know your beginning location and your end destination. The navigation system figures out the rest by the use of an onboard computer that receives signals from multiple satellites and calculates your exact position. Then it plots a perfect course for you. All you have to do from that point on is follow the instructions it gives you to reach your destination.

Don't get too twisted up if you are struggling at this point. Inspiration may strike some people in an instant. Suddenly, they know what they should be doing with their lives. For others, it takes work and more time.

For homework this week, I'm going to ask you to Spend 20 minutes each day this week in "Listening Prayer," thinking about today's study and group feedback. Also think about the things that have interested you recently, or any opportunities that you have spotted. Your true passion may not be found overnight, but is realized through series of discoveries of small interests. Focus on the LIFE Starters Journaling Method and it will give you more insight to your passions!

### **Small Group Discussion: 15 minutes**

Think about your values and the discussions you've had in your group up to this time and answer the following questions and share with each other about your passion(s):

1. What do you love to do?
2. What comes easily to you?
3. What subject could I read 500 books about without getting bored?
4. What could I do for five years straight without getting paid?
5. What would I spend my time doing if I had complete financial abundance to do anything?

**Confirm** with each other what you think others in the group are gifted at.

Finish this session in **prayer**.

Pray for each other's passions to come alive through the remaining sessions.

Don't get too twisted up if you are struggling at this point. Inspiration may strike some people in an instant. Suddenly, they know what they should be doing with their lives. **For others, it takes work.**

### **Small Group Wrap-Up: 10 minutes**

What did you cover in your small group time? What were the biggest take-aways and action items?

### **Discuss This Week's Homework: 5 minutes**

Spend 20 minutes each day this week in "Listening Prayer," thinking about today's study and group feedback. Also think about the things that have interested you recently, or any opportunities that you have spotted. Your true passion may not be found overnight, but is realized through series of discoveries of small interests.

Focus on the LIFE Starters Journaling Method and it will give you more insight to your passions!

# SESSION #3

## WK. 3 DEVO 1

### Read Matthew 6

*Find Your Passion and You Find Out What You Value. Finding your passion in life is not hard. The hard thing about finding your passion is that when you find it you may not like it. Most people value material things over spiritual things. The trouble with material things is that they rust, get old, and eventually fade away. Matthew 6:21 advises us that what we treasure is also our passion.*

**L=Listen:** in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal.

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**I = Investigate** the context around today's Scripture reading. To whom was this written? Why? How does this passage fit with what comes before and after it? What is the Holy Spirit communicating through this text? Feel free to use Bible study tools for commentary: [Bible Study Tools](#), or [Easy English Bible](#)

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**F=Focus:** to the text to make it applicable for your own life. What is God saying to you personally through this passage? How can you apply what you've read?

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**E = Engage** God. This can either be a short prayer or an action that you can take that day after reading the text. Is there a command to follow in the text? How are you different because of what you've learned?

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# SESSION #3

## WK. 3 DEVO 2

### Read Proverbs 23

*Seek God, not Man, to Find Your Passion. Seeking what others have leads to envy and disappointment in life. For the great issues of life, why would we seek what the ungodly possess in life? They may have cars, money, houses, and fame, but what they do not have is God. Without God, we are nothing and have nothing. Only through God can we find our real passion and happiness in life. Proverbs 23:17 advises us not to envy and chase after others, but to fear God.*

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# SESSION #3

## WK. 3 DEVO 3

### Read Proverbs 16

*Following Your Heart is Not Enough to Find Your Passion. Your heart is not always your best source for finding your passion. Many times your heart can lead you astray. Passion is a good feeling. It is where you find purpose, energy, and life. Our heart does not always lead us to good things. There are things we crave such as alcohol, drugs, sex outside of marriage, and so on that can lead us to bad things such as addiction and self-destruction. Proverbs 16:9 advises that our heart will lead us astray while God will direct our steps.*

**L=Listen:** in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal.

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# SESSION #3

## WK. 3 DEVO 4

### Read Proverbs 12

Finally, remember this: “. . . the wise listen to advice” (Proverbs 12:15). God has placed people in your life to serve as wise guides, advisers, and encouragers. Use your LIFE Study group for counsel and guidance.

**L=Listen:** in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal.

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