



"Passion is the fuel of life. It is the great source of energy and drive. It's what makes us explore new vistas, develop new relationships, and seek solutions to perplexing problems."

Bob Buford, Halftime



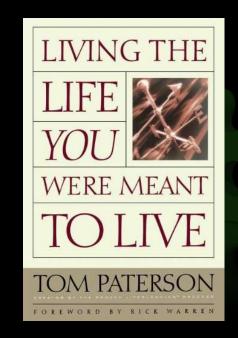
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"The core problem is not that we are too passionate about bad things, but that we are not passionate enough about good things."

Larry Crabb, Finding God



Col 3:23-24 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, <sup>24</sup>knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.



"Heart is where you are centered, where you desire to serve, the altar upon which you wish to place your talents. Giftedness is what you are. Heart is where you will most likely apply what you are. Heart refers to empathy, attraction, or "draw" towards a group of people, a field of expertise, or a particular type of service. Evaluating your heart helps you determine where you might best use gifts, where you wish to serve, and whom you wish to serve."







Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life. Prov 4:23

So a man's heart reveals the man. Prov 27:19

For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. Mt 12:34



But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. <sup>19</sup> For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness blasphemies.

Mt 15:18-19

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my strength and my Rede<u>emer</u>.

Ps 19:4

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Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart! Ps 119:2

Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You. Ps 119:11



If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear. Ps 66:18

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Mt 5:8

For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. Rom 10:10



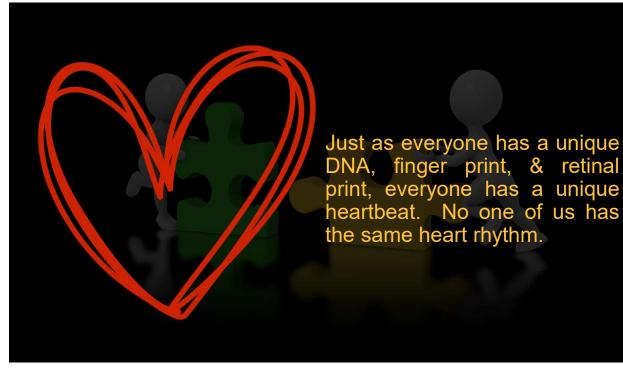
But he who is of a merry heart has a continual feast.

Prov 15:15

A merry heart does good, like medicine Prov 17:22

So teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom. Ps 90:12

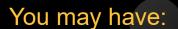






The same is true for your "spiritual" heartbeat. Everyone is passionate about different things and in different ways. The key in determining the arena in which we use our spiritual gifts is to discover what we are passionate about. The Bible makes it very clear that your heart was designed by God. But, **you** make the choice to use it for good or evil, for selfish purposes or for service.

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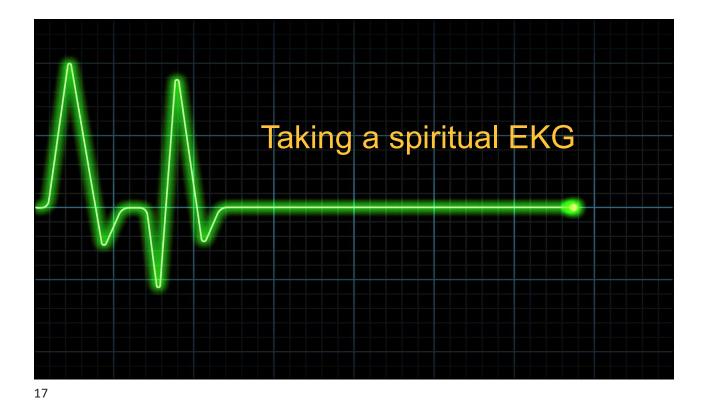


"selfish ambition in your heart" Js 3:14

## Or you may:

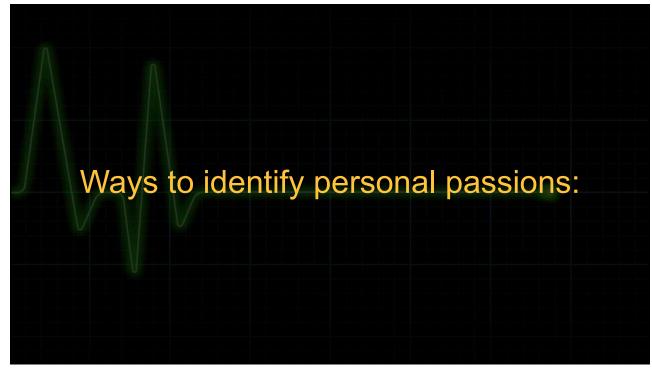
"serve the Lord with all your heart" 1 Sam 12:20

"do the will of God from your heart" Eph 6:6

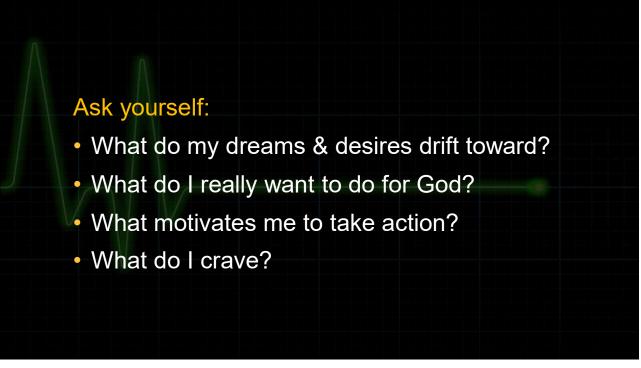


If you are like most people, you have never taken a "spiritual EKG" to sort out and identify the things you are passionate about and motivated to accomplish. As a result, it is unlikely that you are consciously aware of these desires as completely as you should be.

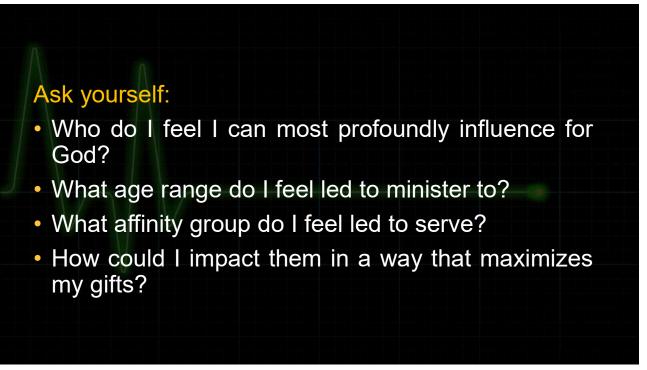
The key to understanding your "spiritual" heartbeat is to look at the things you do that charge and drain your "spiritual batteries."

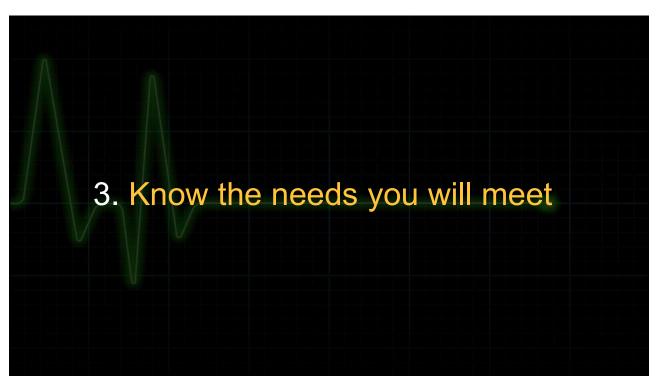




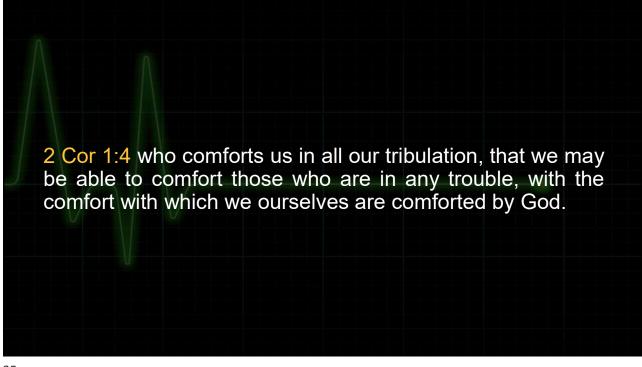


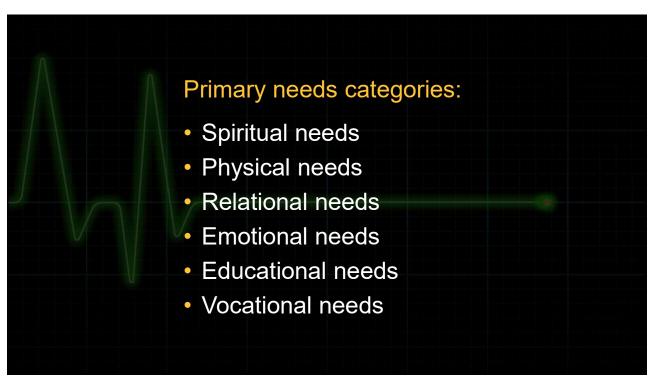


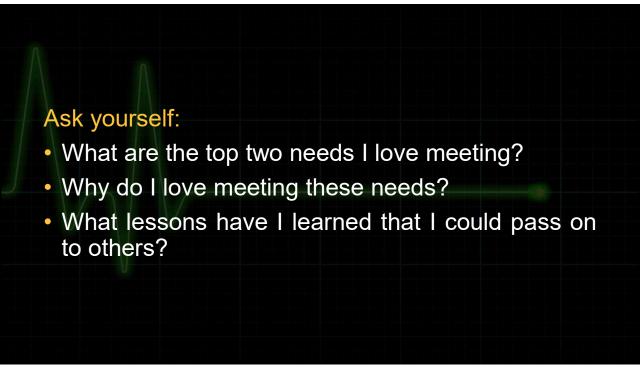


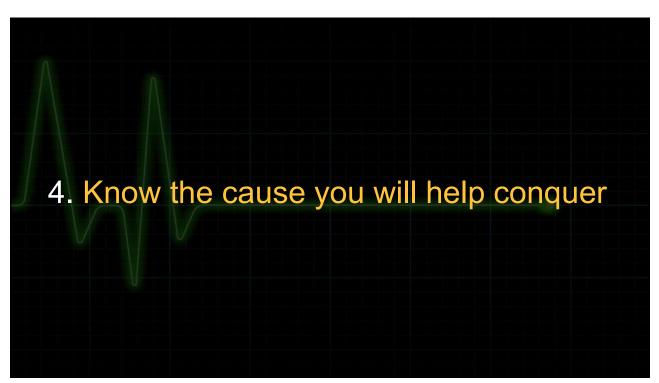








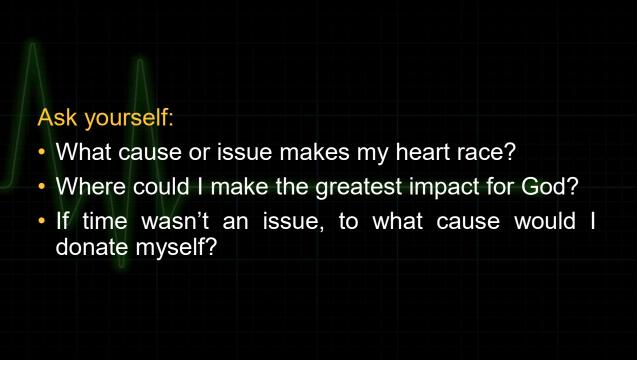




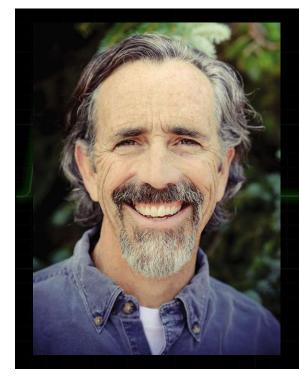
## Causes some have sought to conquer:

abortion
abuse/violence
alcoholism
at-risk children
Christ-centered parenting
physical disabilities
divorce/recovery
drug abuse/recovery
educational issues
ethics
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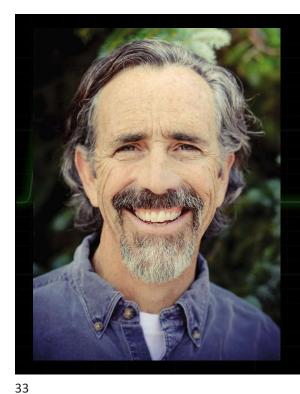
financial stewardship health/fitness AIDS homelessness law/justice system marriage/family politics poverty sanctity of life sexuality/gender issues







"Our goal here is to recover that adventure God wrote on your heart when He made you. Your deepest desires reveal your deepest calling, the adventure God has for you. You must decide whether or not you'll exchange a life of control born out of fear for a life of risk born out of faith. ... So, if you had permission to do what you really want to do, what would you do?



Just start making a list of all the things you deeply desire to do with your life, great and small. And remember – 'Don't ask yourself, How?' How? is never the right question; How? is a faithless question. How? is God's department. He is asking you what? What is written on your heart? What is written on your heart? What makes you come alive? If you could do what you've always wanted to do, what would it be?" John Eldredge, Wild at Heart

## Ask yourself:

- What pursuit would release the passion in my life for God?
- What God-centered dreams can I identify that have been buried by life?
- What would I attempt to do for God if I knew I could not fail?



Mk 7:6 'This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me."

1 Jn 3:20-21 For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things. <sup>21</sup> Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.

Ps 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me.