

Passionate Pursuit for God

A Passionate Pursuit for God

"Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, 'Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.'"

- Revelations 21: 1-4

My passionate pursuit of God came from my eagerness to enter the kingdom of heaven. Having struggled with desiring the kingdom of heaven the past year, it was the reminder of God's creativity which gave me the desire to seek and anticipate of how amazing and exciting the holy city of the kingdom of heaven He designs will be as He dwells among us. Everyone seeks the kingdom of heaven through a different lens, mine was my love for God's creativity in his creation, for others it could be peace or comfort. What about the kingdom of heaven ignites your passionate pursuit of God?

Evaluating the Costs

"Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, 'If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it?'"

- Luke 14: 25-28

"Great crowds" had a passionate pursuit to follow Jesus, yet His response was to question whether they had evaluated the costs of following him. It is often easy to have a desire for God, like we have a desire to want to build a tower but following Christ doesn't mean a trouble-free life; we must carefully evaluate and count the cost of discipleship so that we know what we are getting into and won't be tempted later to turn back. Love and passion alone are not enough, sadness and rebuke are also how God tries to mold us for his ministry. My own cost was to humble myself and be obedient to God.

A Passionate Pursuit of God Together

"And now, dear lady, I am not writing you a new command but one we have had from the beginning. I ask that we love one another. And this is love, that we walk in obedience to his commandments. As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love."

- 2 John 5-6

I love that we must love one another because I love loving one another! CCF has always been recognized and seen as a very community-based fellowship, but at times, I wonder if our community is based upon only our love for one another or upon God's love for us, overflowing from each of us into one another? I have committed into prayer for the people in CCF to desire an individual pursuit of God that is encouraged through the accountability of a Christ-centered community to build each other up in God's love, encouragement, and rebuke.

Personal Evaluation

What are one or two strengths (skills/qualities) you possess, and how have you demonstrated these in the past?

As an extrovert, I am someone who loves talking, interacting, and caring for people because it brings me a lot of joy! I can also be very creative in certain ways when trying to ignite a passion for God's word in VitaMin through using ice breaker games that would be related to the passage, to discover new ways of reading the passage so it's more intriguing and creative.

What weakness do you possess that may hinder you in your chosen role, and how will you commit to improving in this area while you are serving on committee?

Some of my many weaknesses include selective listening, wonky work ethic, time management, prioritizing, organization, stubbornness, and pride. At first, I was very overwhelmed by my numerous weaknesses and hindrance, however, these weaknesses shouldn't be what scares me away from leadership but rather being aware of them would allow God to help me grow and learn to overcome them. I believe that being aware of these weaknesses would help break down my own pride to humbly serve God and rely on God every step of the way! God will give me strength!

What can you personally offer to help the other members of committee in their difficulties next year? What is your personal commitment to ensure that committee works well together as a team?

Joy and care. My understanding of joy is that everlasting joy only exists because of God's everlasting love for us, and although this joy does not mean that I will be 100% happy 100% of the time, but rather, it's a reassuring promise of hope from God that whether it is through highs or lows, ups or downs and even during my rough times of stress and sadness, I have reassurance of God's everlasting hope and love for me. I really like to care for other people and seeing how God works in the lives of others really brings me so much joy!

If you are not elected to your chosen role, how will you still serve and carry out your vision at CCF next year?

I would see myself as a participant of CCF, to be serving God and caring for people in the background. My vision for CCF came from my own personal "life vision" which is living out a passionate pursuit of God to ignite other's passion for him too! Without taking on any leadership roles next year, I believe I would have more time to care, encourage, and meet up with both people from this fellowship and my non-Christian friends around me.