

discovering your
SHAPE

**PART
5**

March 1, 2015 | Wawasee Community Bible Church | Milford, Indiana | Pastor Josh Weiland

DISCOVERING YOUR HEART

A DEFINITION OF HEART (PASSION)

Your heart/passion is the God-given desire(s) of your heart to make a kingdom difference somewhere. This will glorify Jesus and edify others.

YOUR HEART IS...

1. A heart God **UNIQUELY** created.
2. A heart with which he intended to **LEAD** you toward ministry.
3. A heart meant to draw you to the **FOCUS** of your ministry.
4. A heart overflowing with emotional energy – your **PASSION**.

YOUR THING, MY THING, OUR THING

A FEW EXAMPLES OF HEART/PASSION IN THE BIBLE

1. **Paul:** *a heart for Gentiles and a passion for preaching and bringing the Gospel to them.*
2. **Nehemiah:** *a heart for the city, to rebuild Jerusalem, and for God's people to get back to their land, out of captivity – political freedom.*
3. **Elijah:** *a passion for God's glory before a people full of idolatry.*
4. **Ruth:** *a heart for her widowed mother-in-law who was alone and disadvantaged.*

7 PASSION INDICATORS

1. What do you get **FIRED UP** talking about?
2. What captures your **IMAGINATION**?
3. What are your most **ENJOYABLE** achievements?
4. What are you gladly giving your **TIME** to now?
5. Where are you **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**?
6. What **ENERGIZES** you?
7. What **PATTERNS** do you see?
– *Do they glorify Jesus?* – *Do they edify others?*

THE WHAT AND THE WHERE

Your Spiritual Gifts & Abilities answer the “**What** should I do?” question.
Your Heart answers the “**WHERE** should I serve?” question.

MINISTRY CATEGORIES

Celebration Ministries	The heart of these ministries is directed toward God by engaging the church in the Word, worship, song, the arts, etc.
Outreach Ministries	The heart of these ministries is focused on relating, reaching, and connecting unbelievers and the unchurched to a relationship with Christ and His church.
Connecting Ministries	The heart of these ministries is assimilating visitors, attenders, and members into a relationship with Christ and the church through hospitality, fellowship, belonging, and encouragement.
Equipping Ministries	The heart of these ministries is maturing believers in the area of their gifts, ministry, training, and leadership. It serves a variety of life-stage and affinity-based groups for growth, accountability and service.
Caring Ministries	The heart of these ministries is assisting people in the church and community with their physical, emotional, relational, and spiritual health through the grace, love, and resources of the Kingdom.
Supporting Ministries	The heart of these ministries is freeing other people, leaders and ministries from practical concerns to keep focused on their ministry goals. They involve structuring the systems and procedure to serve and support people and ministries

HOMEWORK



Open Your Group in Prayer. *Use the Prayer Guide on the next page for Suggestions.*

1. Take some time as a group to review this week's message. What stood out to you? What did you agree with? What didn't you agree with? Why?
2. Pastor Josh mentioned that a potential trap in discovering our passions is that we might expect "my thing" to be "our thing" as a church. What did he mean by that? How have you seen that play out in the past?
3. What has been the greatest source of confusion for you in identifying your heart/passion for ministry?
4. Pastor Josh touched on a few examples from Scripture of people with differing ministry passions. Can you think of other examples in Scripture?
5. How did you answer the 7 "Passion Indicators"? Review your answers with your group.
6. So far you've taken time to start identifying your Spiritual Gifts and your Heart for ministry. What relationship do you see between them? Does it reveal anything to you yet about where you're currently serving and/or where you should be serving?
7. Which of Bruce Bugbee's six Ministry Categories (or "Passion Categories") best captures the area of your ministry passion?
8. How can there be unity in a church when people have so many different kinds of ministry passions?
9. Imagine a church where all the people were pursuing their God-given ministry passions – their "heart" for ministry. What would the church look and feel like?

Much of this content is influenced by and borrowed from Chapter 6 of Bruce L. Bugbee, What You Do Best in the Body of Christ: Discover Your Spiritual Gifts, Personal Style, and God-given Passion (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2009).

Each week people from Wawasee Bible meet in small groups in various homes to learn about Jesus, pray, eat, laugh, and live life together. We call them 1:10 Community Groups (the "1:10" comes from Colossians 1:10). The questions here are based on the sermon each week, and guide each group's study. If you're interested in connecting with a 1:10 Group, let us know on the Connect Card in your bulletin.

