

# What is Your Ministry Burden or Passion?

In Romans 15:15-20 the apostle Paul portrays his deep desire for Gentiles to come to Christ. It was not that he disliked the Jews. Rather, he was passionate about giving his life for the Gentiles, even if it meant going to Spain as he mentions later in chapter 15. Given this reality in Paul's life, what about you? What is your ministry burden or passion?

**Ministry burden or passion defined:** the vision or heart concern that captivates one's whole life and motivates him or her to extraordinary levels of sacrifice.

**Where does it come from?** For some people, ministry burden or passion comes out of the core of heart emotion and is hard to explain why it is there. For others it is woven through years of experience, sometimes tied to pain or joy in one's history. For yet others, it is tied directly to spiritual gifting like teaching, encouraging or helping. As you think and pray about this, consider the following possibilities of what ministry burden or passion God has placed in your life:

- Describes what you really care about in serving
- May reflect a specific activity or tied to a specific location or type of people
- Willing to sacrifice a great deal to do this in time, money, or creativity
- May realize you are willing to give your life for this activity or people
- May create a brand new ministry or program if it is needed to fulfill this heart burden
- For those with supporting gifts, may be serving the vision or passion of another
- Not often that a married couple share the same passion, though both are doable
- May take weeks or months to fully consider what this may be for you...that's okay

**Samples? Here are some examples of a person's ministry burden or passion:**

- My passion is to support young mothers who need help with the practical tools of motherhood.
- My burden is to bring conversations around to Jesus into every chat room I frequent.
- I live to equip church planters to start churches in the mountains of north India.
- My ministry passion is to tutor a small group of Hispanic mid-schoolers in our fledgling charter school, helping them to take one academic step at a time to achieve their dreams.
- My wife and I both share a burden to love and serve the many elderly people in our neighborhood, responding to their isolation.
- I love to see the New Testament come alive as I mentor one individual or a teach group of people through a particular book.

**My ministry burden or passion is:**