

THE PASSION THAT DRIVES US

I read recently about a teacher who quizzed her class with this story:

He drove straight to his goal. He looked neither to the right nor to the left, but pressed forward, moved by a definite purpose. Neither friend nor foe could delay him, nor turn him from his course. All who crossed his path did so at their own peril.

Then the teacher asked her students: “What would you call such a man?”

One of the classmates replied, “A truck driver!”

Let’s hope we don’t meet that truck driver on the highway. But it is certain that those who possess even a fraction of that man’s passion often get where they want to go.

Wikipedia defines passion as “a feeling of intense enthusiasm toward or compelling desire for someone or something. Passion can range from eager interest in or admiration for an idea, proposal, or cause; to enthusiastic enjoyment of an interest or activity; to strong attraction, excitement, or emotion toward a person.”

Research shows, according to *Wikipedia*, that when “people genuinely enjoy their profession and are motivated by passion, they tend to be more satisfied with their work and more psychologically healthy.”

Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1986, spent the years after his time in the Nazi concentration camps trying to give back to others. He got it right when he said:

- *The opposite of love is not hate, it’s indifference.*
- *The opposite of art is not ugliness, it’s indifference.*
- *The opposite of faith is not heresy, it’s indifference.*
- *And the opposite of life is not death, it’s indifference.*

Nothing will kill a dream or douse a fire of a good idea more quickly than indifference. To whatever endeavor you commit yourself, be on guard primarily against that spirit-quenching attitude of apathy.

“Each one of us has a fire in our heart for something,” said former Olympic gymnast Mary Lou Retton. “It’s our goal in life to find it and keep it lit.”

And that is the challenge for those of us in Life Care and in Century Park. We need to keep encouraging that fire within.

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men (Colossians 3:23 ESV).

– Beecher Hunter