

# Study #7 Aaron Ironside

# THE REAL PASSION

## WARM UP

The pollster George Gallup did a survey of 13,000 people in 130 countries. It is the only time he has taken a survey that could be considered more-or-less worldwide. It was a survey of people who used to go to church but no longer do. There were a number of questions in the survey. One of the questions asked, "What would need to happen for you to return to church?" The number one answer was, "Passion in the lives of the members and leaders".

## BACKGROUND

Webster defines "passion" as "emotion, the state of being acted upon resulting from external forces, an intense driven feeling; can be either an outbreak of anger or ardent affection".

Sometimes in the Bible the word "passion" is used in the negative, such as any bodily desire which leads to sin. Galatians 5:24 "Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires."

Spiritual passion: While secular passion is an emotion that results from external forces, spiritual passion is an act of will, an act of obedience to Christ based on my encounter with Him and the presence of God's Holy Spirit living in my life.



**READ 2 Chronicles 15:15**

## QUESTIONS FOR INTERACTION

1. List the things that you are passionate about in life.
2. How can you know if you lack passion?

3. Why do Christians lack zeal?

4. What can you do to stir passion in others?



## IT'S TIME FOR PRAYER

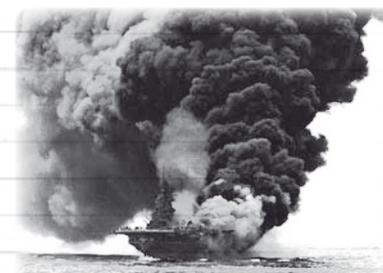
## MY RESPONSE AS A PROMISE KEEPER

I will encourage my brothers to keep the fire of passion for God burning.

## CONSIDER THIS

Gordon McDonald in the book, "Renewing Your Spiritual Passion", gives the following breakdown of five kinds of people who affect spiritual passion:

1. The very resourceful people: they ignite our passion.
2. The very important people: they share our passion.
3. The very trainable people: they catch our passion.
4. The very nice people: they enjoy our passion.
5. The very draining people: they sap our passion.



## WRAP UP

John 2:17 says, "Then his disciples remembered this prophecy from the Scriptures: "Passion for God's house burns within me".