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## Theme for 2018 WE ARE THE ARMY OF GOD & WE ARE ARMED AND DANGEROUS!

"For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ." 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV)



## This Week's Thought – August 19, 2018

"For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline." 2 Timothy 1:6-7 (NIV)

Are you living your passion? In other words, do you merely tolerate your daily tasks, obligations, work, career, etc.; or are you compelled to complete your tasks and get whatever the job is 'done' with energy, enthusiasm and a sense of purpose? Life is too short for you, me, any of us, to grind out good results day in and day out, engaged in activities, work, career, etc., that aren't aligned more with our 'giftedness'; when we can enjoy the best outcome in our area of passion. Why settle for less than the Lord's very best!?! He gifts us where He calls us.

Think about it...the gift of God in the heart of His children can become dormant and underutilized. Like an unused arm or leg, it can atrophy and become unusable. God's gifts need the flame of faith to ignite their potential much like oxygen gives life to fire. The Holy Spirit is blowing across the 'ship of your sanctification', but is your sail hoisted up toward heaven to capture His power? God's gifts are given for His glory and your enjoyment.

What is your gift that needs clear definition and focused development? Is it writing? Is it music? Maybe in your heart you are a woodworker, a seamstress, a teacher, a coach, a cop, or a counselor. You may ask, "How can I make a living around my passion?" You will never lack for opportunity when God's gift is your guiding force.

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Live out your passion before you run out of passion. Passion produces ongoing energy. When you focus on your strengths you become strong. When you focus on your weaknesses you become weak. God's will is for you to work in your strengths so you can be a blessing to those you influence. Your influence will expand exponentially when it launches from a heart empowered by its passionate desires.

Ask the Almighty to align your heart desires with His desires, and enjoy this combustion for Christ. Live out your passion so you die with no regret. Passion lived out is powerful in God's Hand. By faith unleash the passionate gift the Lord has put in your heart.

"May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed." (Psalm 20:4)

**Application:** Ask yourself, "Am I living out my passions with my God-given purpose?" If not, then ask yourself, "When can I start?"

Prayer of reflection you might pray this week: "Heavenly Father, I pray You will lead me in where I should go and in what I should do. Help me do today the things that matter and not to waste any of the time I have. I realize that the moments I have are precious, so teach me to number my days and spend them right. Fill me this day with Your kindness, that I may be glad and rejoice all the days of my life. Assist me to live a holy life and to grow in goodness and grace that I may be strengthened throughout each day of the rest of my life. I await Your Voice. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus. Amen!"

"And then God answered: "Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what's coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn't lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It's on its way. It will come right on time." Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King