

What is Passion?

What is passion? Recently after a presentation, I was once again thanked for my passion. The compliment was genuinely given, as was my returned thank you. However, as the day progressed, my thoughts kept returning to what really is passion? For the next several days as I pondered this question, other questions surfaced. What does it mean when one has passion? What separates people with passion from those without passion? Is passion always positive? Could passion be negative? Is there a relationship between passion and purpose? How does all of this fit me?

Sometimes the best place to begin to define a word is with my friend Mr. Webster. Webster's dictionary states that passion is an emotional response.

Being an intellectual conceptualizer or more simply stated a heurist, I started wrote down 3 words – passion, purpose and performance.

Consider the following: imagine someone standing with out stretched arms and open hands with one hand holding the word passion and in the other hand holding the word purpose.

What I would like you to consider is that passion is the present where others as well as ourselves see our emotions. Purpose is the future, our true north, where we constantly strive towards to reach our vision. And the performance is the individual with the outstretched hands. Performance is the collection of all past experiences and current actions where we continually apply knowledge as we hold our passion and purpose.

Passion exists with our purpose and performance as a partner to help achieve the present and the future that we desire for our families our friends our communities and ourselves.

Word Count: 268

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