EASTER SERMON

OUTLINE

* INTRODUCTION
  + Welcome
  + Inspirational quotes
    - Billy Graham
    - John 10:10
    - St Irenaeus

• WHAT IS PASSION?

* Contemporary definition
  + - Meaning of passion to Jesus
    - Latin meaning of passion
    - Distinction between ancient and modern definitions.
      * No ambiguity
      * Commitment
    - William Booth “warning” quote
* IMPORTANCE OF PASSION
  + - Ordinary people/ extraordinary achievement
    - Nothing can be achieved without it.
    - Essential for a life of meaning and purpose.
* SUSTAINING PASSION
  + - Surge of enthusiasm for shiny new things but novelty wears off
    - New car
    - Parenthood
    - New romance/marriage
* SUSTAINING PASSION FOR GOD AND FAITH
  + - GK Chesterton quote: Struggle for existence
    - Sustaining faith is like climbing a hill
    - Finding the way to reconnect with passion
* FINDING THE INNOCENCE
  + Matthew 18:3- Become like little children
  + GK Chesterton – Exult in monotony
* BE WILLING TO DIE TO FIND YOURSELF
  + Sean discovers his faith
  + Eugene Peterson- Dying to self.
* DEPENDENT RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS
  + Seminary professor- develop deeper trust in God
  + It’s better to be connected
  + Be open to opportunity
* REMAIN FOCUSED
  + We are works in progress.
  + No great work of art is ever complete
* SERVE OTHERS
  + Elvis- possessions over purpose- unfulfilled
  + Nelson Mandela overcame adversity for a purposeful life
  + Jennifer Bricker- demonstrates God’s work and purpose
* CONCLUSION
  + Meaning of Easter:
    - Renewal, rebirth, rededication
  + Discover the passion within for a meaningful life
  + Thank you