

MOMENTUM BUILDERS

DIGGING INTO THE HEART OF THE MESSAGE.

"ALL IN-THE PASSIONATE PURSUIT"

KYLE IDLEMAN

Kyle Idleman shares what it means to passionately pursue Jesus. It's time to define the relationship. Are you all in?

MESSAGE OPENER: THE MEANING OF THIRST

Do you know the importance of water to our physical bodies? When our bodies fail to retain the right amount of water, dehydration sets in. It is the water in our body that determines the vitality, strength, and energy associated with daily living. Think about these facts associated with our body and water: The human body is $\frac{2}{3}$ water. The body absorbs cold water faster than hot water. By the time you are 70-years-old, you will have required 1½ million gallons of water. If you lose 2% of your body's water supply, your energy will decrease by 20%. A 10% decrease in water, you will be unable to walk, and a 20% decrease – you're dead.

Well, I think you get the point. And what is true of the physical is also true of the spiritual. Because God has made you with a spirit, soul, and body that get thirsty, if you fail to satisfy that thirst, your spirit, soul, and body become dehydrated. Do you know where to look for satisfaction?

(Text Illustration shared by Kenneth Squires, Marysville First Assembly June 2003) <http://www.sermoncentral.com/illustrations/sermon-illustration-kenneth-squires-statistics-jesuschrist-eastergoodfriday-13453.asp>

READ: Luke 9:23-24

WATCH: Kyle Idleman—Momentum 2014. Minutes. <http://onmissioninsights.com/thepassionatepursuit>

KEY POINTS:

Friends with Benefits. We want to be close enough for the benefits of Christianity, but not so close that we have to sacrifice for it. It's time to define the relationship and commit.

Come after. When Jesus speaks of "coming after" Him in Luke 9:23-24, He is talking about passionate pursuit. The type of following in which your mind, heart, emotions, and entire being is all in.

Knowledge vs. Intimacy. Kyle shares the story of a student who was "raised in church" but not raised in Christ. There is a difference between knowing all of the youth group lesson questions and having a heart which is engaged in everyday obedience and intimacy to Christ.

CLOSING CHALLENGES:

#DenyYourself Denial doesn't mean to think less of yourself. It means to not think of yourself at all. In what areas of your life are you thinking of yourself too much? Why is it important for you to put Jesus in priority?

Yes and No. Denying yourself to follow Jesus means saying no to one thing and yes to another. What do you need to say no to? What do you need to say yes to? **Bonus:** Ask a leader or mentor, "What did you have to say no to in order to become who you are?"

Take up your Cross. You can not carry a cross and be comfortable at the same time. Before you can take up your cross and make following Jesus a costly obedience in your everyday life—you need to reflect on the one who already carried a cross for you. As you go through your week, what specific time of the day can you set aside to spend time with Jesus and reflect on the pattern he gave us? Following Jesus is not easy, but we gather courage to continue as we remember the One in whose footsteps we walk. When can you spend time with Jesus today? Tomorrow? Each day this week?