

FERVENT IN SPIRIT
ACTS 18:25

I often think about the thing that excites me. The thing that will move me to act, the thing that I am passionately enthusiastic about. When I look at others and see some with so much and they are not excited or passionately enthusiastic it causes me to look a little closer with the intent of finding out why. Why aren't they excited? I often wonder why those who have so little in this country seem to glow in spite of their condition to exhibit enthusiasm in the face of possessing so little. As I think about this more and observe these individuals the answer becomes clear. There is something different about them. They have taken hold of something that stirs them internally. They have allowed something to take a hold of them. They are glad to have what they have. They cherish what they have. They know how to work what they have. I find they do not worry about what they do not have. They do not focus on how much they do not know. They are **"FERVENT IN SPIRIT"** about knowing that things are going to get better; it will not always be this way. They say to themselves if I work what I have it will produce more. It will create opportunities for more to come. They have a different state of mind. They have a different spirit. They understand something that many do not. They understand and put into practice what it means to be **"FERVENT IN SPIRIT"**. We can ask our friends, relatives and co-workers who say they want more why they don't have more. The answer will probably lie outside of them. Why is it that we are so quick to look the other way? Why do we look outside instead of giving much consideration to what's going on internally. People have many reasons as to why they don't go the extra mile. **Believers** have many excuses / reasons why they don't participate as much as they should in the things of the Lord. Have you ever asked another Christian the **why** question? Why don't you attend church more? Why don't you pray more? Why they don't love more? Why don't you sing more, clap your hands more, praise God more, witness more? We must take the time to look at ourselves and consider the state of our spirit when it comes to the way of the Lord. In the book of (**Acts 18:25**) there was a man named Apollos, a certain Jew the bible calls him indicating that he could have been any Jew. The bible states that this man was born in Alexandria, the second largest city in the Roman Empire. He was an eloquent man, (**one who was known for saying something in a forceful, expressive and persuasive way**). Apollos was known for (**expressing a feeling or thought, clearly, memorably and moving**). What was it that he spoke about with such passionate enthusiasm? What was it that moved him? (**Acts 18:25**) tells us he was instructed in the way of the Lord. Apollos was instructed just as you and I in the way of the Lord. He did not know as much as you and I about the way of the Lord. He did not receive complete instruction about the way of the Lord. Apollos came from an area that was conducive to studying and learning Scriptures. Apollos could have been a member of **The Love Center**. Some might wonder why I would say that well; this is an environment that is conducive to the studying and learning Scripture. The bible says that Apollos came to Ephesus. History states that Apollos could have been a commercial traveler. Today Apollos could have been a school teacher, a cook, a grandparent, sanitation worker, store clerk, a member of this church, a high school

coach or the person seating beside you. There was something that made Apollos stand out in the crowd. It wasn't his bank account. It wasn't the car he drove. It wasn't the clothes he wore. It wasn't the neighborhood he stayed in. (**Act 18:25**) states that he was "**FERVENT IN SPIRIT**". The bible says that as a result of being "**FERVENT IN SPIRIT**" he spake and taught **DILIGENTLY** (**showed persistence and hard-working effort in doing something**) the things of the Lord. What was it that Apollos knew that moved him to be "**FERVENT IN SPIRIT**"? (**Acts 18:25**) states that he knew **ONLY** the baptism of John. (**Acts 18:26**) states that as a result of being "**FERVENT IN SPIRIT**" Apollos began to speak **BOLDLY** (**willing and eager to face danger or adventure with a sense of confidence**) in the synagogues (**church, community, city, county, state**). Notice how being "**FERVENT IN THE SPIRIT**" intensifies his approach to witnessing. By being "**FERVENT IN SPIRIT**" Apollos moved from **DILIGENTLY** to **BOLDLY** speaking, teaching and witnessing what he knew. Can't you hear Apollos right now teaching, sharing and witnessing what he knew (**Matt 3:1-6**)? What do you know about God / Jesus that moves you to be **FERVENT IN SPIRIT**? What has God done for you that will move you to be **FERVENT IN SPIRIT**? Has He made a way out of no way? Has He healed your body? Has He moved in your relationship? Has He blessed with a good job? I don't know about you but I am **FERVENT IN SPIRIT** about the goodness of God. That He looked down through the lens of time and saw that I needed His help. He picked me up, turned me around as the older saints would say place my feet on a solid ground. Look at what happened in (**Acts 18:26-28**) as a result of Apollos being "**FERVENT IN SPIRIT**". Aquilla and Priscilla, a husband and wife team, heard him speak and when he fell short they pulled him aside and thoroughly instructed him in the way of the Lord. As a result of Apollos being "**FERVENT IN SPIRIT**" he drew men and women unto Christ. (**Acts 18:27**), Apollos when preparing to leave Ephesus received a letter of recommendation from the brethren in Ephesus to the brethren in Corinth stating that Apollos was now fully informed in the way of the Lord. Being "**FERVENT IN SPIRIT**" opened doors for Apollos. Being "**FERVENT IN SPIRIT**" created an opportunity for Apollos to greatly assist the brethren in Corinth. Apollos as a result of being "**FERVENT IN SPIRIT**" began to (**Acts 18:28**), **MIGHTLY** convince the Jews when he arrived in Corinth and he did so publicly. He let all know that Jesus was the Christ. You see it is not about how much you know. It is not always about who you know. But It's about being "**FERVENT IN SPIRIT**" about what you know. If you are going to make it in this life and achieve the success that God has planned for you be: **passionately enthusiastic, be excited, let your light shine, and be "FERVENT IN SPIRIT"**