

## Five Kinds of People We Encounter as a Church

1. **People who IGNITE our passion:** These people are very resourceful people who always make a positive contribution to our world. They rarely leave without leaving us feeling uplifted, impelled to great growth, and more aware of further possibilities. They are our models; we study their ways and customize them for ourselves. We lean on them for direction. We are energized by their courage and maturity. They are clearly an addition to who we are and what we are doing.
2. **People who SHARE our passion:** These are our teammates, and together, we know the whole is greater than its parts. We do not spend a lot of time trying to get along or determining who is in charge. We are bound together for a purpose, and together, we stimulate each other for better outcomes. Together, we rejoice in our successes and weep in our disappointments. These people make a positive contribution to our lives.
3. **People who CATCH our passion:** These are very trainable people who catch our passion. Although this requires energy on our part, we are glad to cooperate because we sense the possibilities in them. It is in the sharing of ourselves that we stir our own passion to serve and grow because we see the immediate effect it has upon them.

4. **People who ENJOY our passion:** These are very nice people. They come in large numbers, and we love to have them around. They clap, laugh, and build our egos. They fill the pews, the rooms, and programs. But the truth of the matter is they contribute very little. They do not add to our passion, nor do they seriously diminish it. They simply enjoy it.

5. **People who SAP our passion:** These are very draining people who consume our passion relentlessly. Every grouping of people (business, school, and church) has a percentage of these people. They will be drawn to a healthy group of people and will remain until they become self-sustaining or until they are pushed away. A healthy cluster of people will lose its vitality (passion) mysteriously and unpredictably because there are simply too many very draining people to sustain. The life of the group becomes 'problem' or 'crisis' oriented, and forward movement becomes impossible. If they are permitted to relentlessly drain leaders of their passion, it will ultimately create a climate where no one will want to serve in leadership. This is true on a personal level as well as a group level.

Elder William Davies

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