

## Passionate Spirituality

Last week Jody and I participated in a workshop sponsored by LSI (Lutheran Services in Iowa) at the Bremwood campus in Waverly.

I was encouraged by Dr. David Anderson's presentation on "Passionate Spirituality" to share some of our experiences so that the Holy Spirit may bless and encourage you. Through Baptism we become full members of the body of Christ, brothers and sisters in faith. We receive promises of being taught practices of the faith through regular involvement within the faith community. How we live what we believe is about our spirituality. How do we hold onto a passionate spirituality? Here's some encouragement. "Speaking the truth in love" also meant "doing the truth in love." Eph. 4:15 Study and pray daily to shape one's "conversation, conduct and concerns." (The book of Concord, The Large Catechism, p. 385) We don't eat at the grocery store. We buy the food at the grocery store and take it home to cook it up. We need to come to church to get the "food" and take it home and out into the world to "cook it up." (Dr. David Anderson)

I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother... and your mother... and now... lives in you... I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you... God (gave you) a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.  
2 Timothy 1:5-7 Share stories of faith with others.

Set aside time for personal study and prayer.  
Rely on rituals and traditions of your faith to guide your spiritual journey.  
Follow Jesus' example of serving others.

In encouragement and with blessings,  
Robin Souhrada  
Director of Youth and Family Ministry