



ADVENTURE

Why 40 Days?

Number “forty” + (time period)
is mentioned 146 times in Scripture.

It symbolizes trial and testing, probation,
or the fulfillment of promises.

What is an adventure?

Noun

an **unusual** and exciting, typically hazardous, experience or **activity**.

Verb

engage in hazardous and exciting activity, especially the exploration of **unknown territory**.

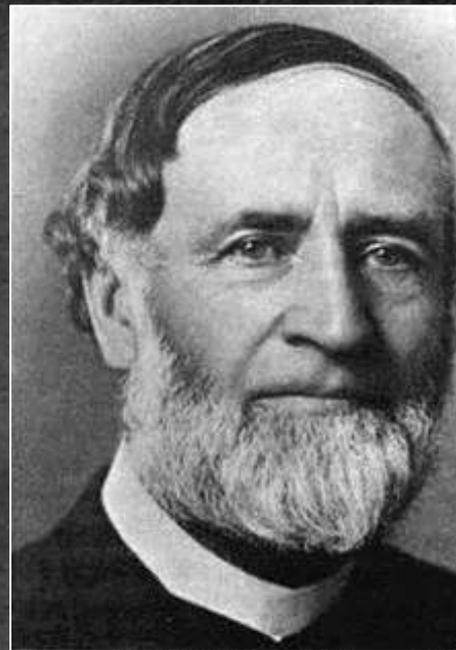
Wright Brothers



Orville Wright in
1876



Wilbur Wright
in 1876



Their father, Milton, was a bishop in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, a faithful pastor and devoted follower of Jesus.

Wright Brothers



Orville Wright in
1905



Wilbur Wright
in 1905

The Wright Brothers made the first controlled, sustained flight of a powered, heavier-than-air aircraft on December 17, 1903, just south of Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wright_brothers

On an adventure, you need a...

- Starting point
- Destination
- Map
- Route
- Leader
- Team
- Role

The Path of our Church

First Melissa's passion is to make disciples of Jesus who:

- reach intentionally
- connect authentically
- equip continuously
- live passionately

Live passionately

Steward your passions, live changed

Jesus Wants Passionate Followers

“To the angel of the church in Laodicea write: The Amen, the faithful and true Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God, says this: ‘I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I wish that you were cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth.’ ”

Revelation 3:14-16

Wright Brothers



December 17, 1903

The first flight, by Orville Wright at 10:35 am on December 17, 1903, traveled 120 feet in 12 seconds and flew at a speed of 6.8 miles per hour.

The next two flights covered approximately 175 and 200 feet, by Wilbur and Orville respectively. Their altitude was about 10 feet above the ground.

Importance of the Wright Brothers

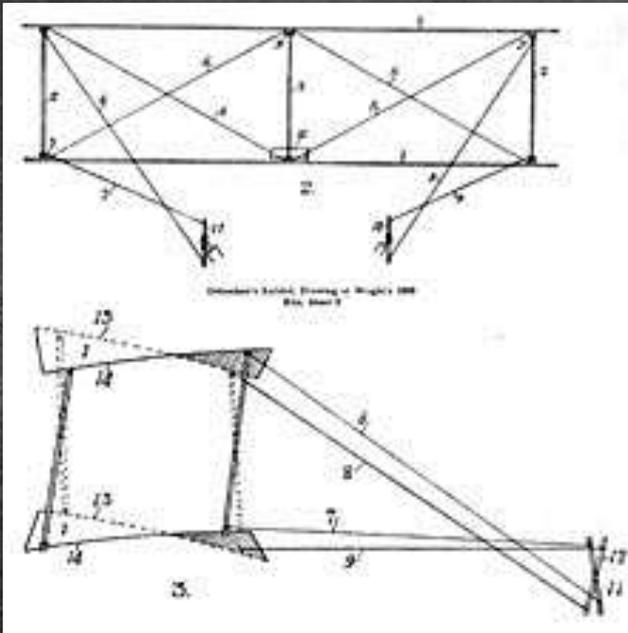
Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft, said:

“The Wright Brothers created the single greatest cultural force since the invention of writing. The airplane became the first World Wide Web, bringing people, languages, ideas, and values together.”

<https://artplusmarketing.com/5-lessons-from-the-wright-brothers-and-the-power-of-purpose-a9f49af89330>

Wright Brothers

Their passion for flight developed in earnest when the Wright brothers opened a bicycle shop in Dayton, Ohio, in December of 1892 (11 years before their famous first flight).



Wright 1899 kite

front and side views, with control sticks. Wing-warping is shown in lower view.

Source: Wright brothers drawing in Library of Congress

To determine my Passions, I need to ask...

- What motivates me?
- What energizes me?
- What am I focused on?
- Whose opinion matters to me?
- What do I spend my time and money doing?

Then ask...

Do these advance or hinder the cause of Christ?

What does it look like to
live passionately
for Jesus?

Live passionately = I am not my own

I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by **faith** in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

Galatians 2:20

Live passionately = I am not my own

Paraphrase of Galatians 2:20

“I have crucified my right to self-control in life, in the same way that Christ was crucified physically. He gave up his right to physical life; I gave up my right to self-life.”

-Holman New Testament commentary

Live passionately = I honor God with my actions

Whatever you **do**, **do** your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men

Colossians 3:23

Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you **do**, **do** all to the glory of God.

1 Corinthians 10:31

The Passion of the Wright Brothers

Milton Wright's preaching took him on the road frequently, and he often brought back small toys for his children. In 1878 he brought back a small model helicopter for his boys. Made of cork, bamboo and paper, and powered by a rubber band to twirl its blades, the model was based on a design by the French aeronautical pioneer Alphonse Pénauud.

Fascinated by the toy and its mechanics, Wilbur and Orville would develop a **lifelong love** of aeronautics and flying.

<https://www.history.com/topics/inventions/wright-brothers>

Live passionately = I desire time with God

As the deer pants for the water brooks, so my soul pants for You, O God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God; when shall I come and appear before God? Psalm 42:1-2

How lovely are Your dwelling places, O Lord of hosts! My soul longed and even yearned for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. Psalm 84:1-2

Live passionately = I desire time with God

O God, You are my God; I shall seek You earnestly; my soul thirsts for You, my flesh yearns for You, in a dry and weary land where there is no water. Thus I have seen You in the sanctuary, to see Your power and Your glory. Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, my lips will praise You. So I will bless You as long as I live; I will lift up my hands in Your name. My soul is satisfied as with marrow and fatness, and my mouth offers praises with joyful lips. Psalm 63:1-5

Live passionately = I am willing to obey God

Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I. Send me!”

Isaiah 6:8

“Do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

Nehemiah 8:10

Wright Brothers



Orville Wright in 1928

Wilbur died on May 30, 1912

Orville died on January 30, 1948

Orville expressed sadness about the death and destruction brought about by the bombers of World War II: “We dared to hope we had invented something that would bring lasting peace to the earth. But we were wrong ... No, I don't have any regrets about my part in the invention of the airplane, though no one could deplore more than I do the destruction it has caused. I feel about the airplane much the same as I do in regard to fire. That is, I regret all the terrible damage caused by fire, but I think it is good for the human race that someone discovered how to start fires and that we have learned how to put fire to thousands of important uses.”

What does it look like
to live passionately
for Jesus?

Acts 4

As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to them, being greatly disturbed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. And they laid hands on them and put them in jail until the next day, for it was already evening. But many of those who had heard the message believed; and the number of the men came to be about five thousand. On the next day, their rulers and elders and scribes were gathered together in Jerusalem; and Annas the high priest was there, and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of high-priestly descent.

Acts 4:1-6

When they had placed them in the center, they began to inquire, “By what power, or in what name, have you done this?” Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers and elders of the people, if we are on trial today for a benefit done to a sick man, as to how this man has been made well, let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by this name this man stands here before you in good health. He is the stone which was rejected by you, the builders, but which became the chief corner stone. And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4:7-12

Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed, and **began to recognize them as having been with Jesus**. And seeing the man who had been healed standing with them, they had nothing to say in reply. But when they had ordered them to leave the Council, they began to confer with one another, saying, “What shall we do with these men? For the fact that a noteworthy miracle has taken place through them is apparent to all who live in Jerusalem, and we cannot deny it. But so that it will not spread any further among the people, let us warn them to speak no longer to any man in this name.”

Acts 4:13-17

And when they had summoned them, they commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said to them, “Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge; for we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

Acts 4:18-20

Live passionately

You Are Invited



During our 40 Days of Adventure, First Melissa asks that you will commit to:

- Praying and studying every day using the 40 Days Daily Workbook
- Attending worship each Sunday
- Attending a Small Group
- Attending Adventure Wednesday Night each week

Lessons from the Wright Brothers

Courage

Their mission was exciting but it was dangerous. They were putting their lives at risk.

Determination

Their courage was driven by their belief and confidence in what they were doing. They knew how to deal with failure. Failure informed the process and thus spurred them on. Impossible problems are solved with hard work and attention to detail.

Life-Long Learning

Although neither brother went to college or even finished high school, they were well educated. Their father, Bishop Wright, kept the house well stocked with books.

https://www.leadershipnow.com/leadingblog/2015/12/leadership_lessons_from_the_wr.html

Lessons from the Wright Brothers

Communication

They knew how to communicate their ideas clearly and effectively.

Teamwork

The brothers worked well together and played to each other's strengths. They understood each other.

Character

It was their character that tied all of their strengths together. French aviator Léon Delagrangé wrote, "Wilber Wright is the best example of strength of character that I have ever seen. Their character shaped their attitude and approach to life. And it was formed in the home by their father, a faithful disciple of Jesus."

https://www.leadershipnow.com/leadingblog/2015/12/leadership_lessons_from_the_wr.html

Importance of the Wright Brothers

It's hard to overstate the importance of that moment because, as Wilbur Wright watched his brother guide their flying machine into the air, the past and the future separated and the world started shrinking. Left behind were weeks-long trips across the U.S. and months-long crossings of the Atlantic Ocean. Ahead lay transcontinental trips of less than a day, and eventually even the oceans would be crossed in a few hours. And then, one summer day a mere 66 years later, men would fly to the moon and walk around on it.

<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2003/12/air-travel-wright-brothers-history/>

Live Passionately

“He must increase,
but I must decrease.”

John 3:30