



Uncommon Passion | Ethan Matott | 10.19-20

Weekly Study

SHARE

Welcome, let's jump into our 7th week of our Uncommon series. This series has called us into an uncommon way of living which isn't a new thing at all. This way of living is actually how God originally designed us to live before sin entered the world. When Jesus lived on this earth, he was the first human to tangibly show us a different way of living!

In our journey through life, we often face challenges that can diminish our passion. However, it's essential to remember that true passion is cultivated through perseverance and a connection to God. As *Galatians 6:9* reminds us, *"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."*

GROW

Read 2 Samuel 6:12-23.

In this passage, we witness King David's passionate response to the return of the Ark of the Covenant. His excitement is palpable, as he dances with freedom before the Lord, showcasing a heart fully surrendered to worship. This moment serves as a powerful reminder that true passion stems from a deep relationship with God, born out of personal struggles and victories. David's journey from shepherd boy to king was filled with trials that shaped his character and faith. His willingness to express unfiltered joy contrasts sharply with his wife Michal's critical perspective, highlighting the tension between genuine worship and passive observation.

David's passion was rooted in his understanding of God's faithfulness throughout his life, from confronting Goliath to running for his life from King Saul. Michal's response, filled with cynicism and judgment, reveals how easily one can miss the divine celebration unfolding before

them. This story challenges us to examine our attitudes toward worship and our willingness to embrace vulnerability in our expressions of faith and deep passion towards God.

- What do you think fueled David's passionate worship at this moment?**
- How does Michal's reaction inform your understanding of the relationship between passion and worship?**
- Can you relate to either David's exuberance or Michal's skepticism in your own faith journey? How so?**

MOVE

Read Romans 5:1-5

This passage speaks to the transformative power of suffering in shaping our character and fostering hope. Paul articulates a profound truth: our struggles are not merely obstacles but opportunities for growth. *The process of suffering leads to perseverance, which then cultivates character, and ultimately, hope.* This hope is not fleeting but grounded in the assurance of God's love poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Just as David had to fight for his passion, we too must actively cultivate our connection to God and His purposes for our lives.

The challenge lies in not just enduring through our difficulties but also allowing them to deepen our relationship with God and dependency for Him. Following our passions might not always be wise; instead, we should seek to follow His passion, allowing it to shape our desires and motivations. Reflecting on our own struggles can lead us to discover profound truths about our identity in Christ and the calling He has placed on our lives.

- How does understanding that suffering leads to character development change your perspective on your current struggles?**
- Can you recall a time when a challenge you faced ultimately led to a deeper understanding of your faith or purpose?**

As we consider our journeys, let's remember that uncommon passion requires action and intentionality. It's not enough to simply acknowledge our struggles; we must actively seek ways to engage with God and His purposes in our daily lives. This week, challenge yourself to step out of your comfort zone and pursue an opportunity that aligns with God's passion for you. When we begin to seek God in all seasons and throughout the day even when we don't feel like it, Heaven begins to move in a different kind of way in our lives, not because we are doing "good" but because our awareness is on Jesus and our passion flows from Him.

- How can the example of David's passion inspire you to express your faith more openly in your daily life? Are there specific areas where you feel God is calling you to take a bolder stance?**
- Reflecting on Jesus's ultimate example of passion (His willingness to suffer and sacrifice for our sake) how does this shape your understanding of what it means to live passionately for Him? In what ways can you embody this kind of passion in your own life and relationships?**

P R A Y

Close your study by inviting everyone to share prayer requests. Encourage group members to pray for one another, asking God to ignite a passion within them that reflects His purpose. Pray for the strength to endure hardships and to remember that true passion often arises from our struggles.

Prayer Focus:

- Ask God to help each person find their passion and purpose in Him.**
- Pray for encouragement and support as everyone navigates their own struggles.**