

## The Overflowing Life: Letting Pursuing Your Passion

Ron Baum · 02/16/2025 · Ephesians 2:10

**WHAT IS PASSION?** *God has given each of us a unique emotional “heartbeat” that races when we encounter activities, subjects or circumstances that interest us. We instinctively feel deeply about some things and not others. This God-given motivation serves as an internal guidance system for our lives. It determines what your interests are, and what will bring you the most satisfaction and fulfillment. It also motivates you to pursue certain activities, subjects, and environments. This is what we refer to as a person’s “passions.”*

**THE PROBLEM:** Some of us have stopped overflowing. We have not ALIGNED our God-Given PASSION with a God-Sized PURPOSE.

**(Ephesians 2:10 NIV)** *For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

**(Psalm 139:13-14 NLT)** *You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. 14 Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!*

**THE POINT:** He uniquely crafted a masterpiece. **YOU!** You are complex, intricately designed, and uniquely fashioned for His purpose.

**(Proverbs 16:4 NLT)** *The Lord has made everything for his own purposes,*

**(Proverbs 19:21 NLT)** *You can make many plans, but the Lord's purpose will prevail.*

**(Proverbs 16:33 NLT)** *We may throw the dice, but the Lord determines how they fall.*

God simply calls us to be AVAILABLE to carry out His PLAN and PURPOSE.

**Sometimes it's just about EXCUSES.**

**(Luke 14:15-24) 15** .... a man sitting at the table with Jesus exclaimed, “What a blessing it will be to attend a banquet in the Kingdom of God!” **16** Jesus replied with this story: “A man prepared a great feast and sent out many invitations. **17** When the banquet was ready, he sent his servant to tell the guests, ‘Come, the banquet is ready.’ **18** But they all began making excuses. One said, ‘I have just bought a field and must inspect it. Please excuse me.’ **19** Another said, ‘I have just bought five pairs of oxen, and I want to try them out. Please excuse me.’ **20** Another said, ‘I now have a wife, so I can't come.’ **21** “The servant returned and told his master what they had said. His master was furious and said, ‘Go quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and invite the poor, the crippled, the blind, and the lame.’ **22** After the servant had done this, he reported, ‘There is still room for more.’ **23** So his master said, ‘Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full. **24** For none of those I first invited will get even the smallest taste of my banquet.’”

**Excuse #1 NEW STUFF**

- Do I allow POSSESSIONS to interfere with my assignment from God?

**Excuse #2 WORK STUFF**

- Do I allow BUSINESS to crowd the claims of Christ?

**Excuse #3 RELATIONSHIP STUFF**

- Do I allow RELATIONSHIPS to take the place of my mission?

**WHAT IF, the thing you are PASSIONATE about was aligned with a PURPOSE?**

**HOW?**

He gave you certain GIFTS.

**(1 Corinthians 12:7 NLT)** *A spiritual gift is given to each of us as a means of helping the entire church.*

Spiritual gifts are special ABILITIES used for spiritual PURPOSES.

**(Romans 12:6-8) 6** God has **given each of us the ability to do certain things well**. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, **speak out** when you have faith that God is speaking through you. **7** If your gift is that of serving others, **serve** them well. If you are a teacher, do a good job of **teaching**. **8** If your gift is to encourage others, **do it!** If you have money, **share it** generously. If God has given you leadership ability, **take the responsibility seriously**. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, **do it gladly**.

He gave you distinct ABILITIES.

**(1 Corinthians 12:4-6 NLT)** Now there are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but it is the same Holy Spirit who is the source of them all. **5** There are different kinds of service in the church, but it is the same Lord we are serving. **6** There are different ways God works in our lives, but it is the same God who does the work through all of us.

He gave you a unique PERSONALITY.

**(Ephesians 4:2)** "Generously make allowances for each other because you love each other."

He gave you individual LIFE EXPERIENCES.

**(Romans 8:28 NLT)** "And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them."

**(2 Corinthians 1:3-4 NIV)** ...the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."

He gave you a specific PASSION.

**(Mark 10:45 NLT)** For even I, the Son of Man, came here not to be served but to serve others, and to give my life as a ransom for many."

**(Proverbs 4:23 NLT)** Above all else, guard your heart, for it affects everything you do.

**Apostle Paul:**

**(Acts 20:24 NLT)** But my life is worth nothing unless I use it for doing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus...

### **DISCOVER YOUR PASSION**

1. Who do you prefer to work with?
2. Who are you drawn to and have the most concern for?
3. What are the issues/causes you feel strongly about?
4. What do you love to do?

Text the word **PASSION** to 951.425.4425 for the Passion Assessment.

### **TAKE YOUR NEXT STEP & APPLY YOUR PASSIONS**

Find a ministry (or two! or three!) to be a part of. Find your passions and use your gifts to serve at Cornerstone.

Text the word **SERVE** to 951.425.4425 to get started on serving at church.