

## Week 1 - Uncommon Obedience

James 1 (esp.19-25) - "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."

**Check-In** - What was one moment, message, or challenge from the Uncommon conference that stuck with you?

### **Commitment**

During the conference, did you sense God prompting you to:

- Start something
- Stop something
- Change something
- Pursue something

*Take a few minutes and let every man answer.  
Encourage them to be specific.*

*Examples:*

- Spend time with God daily*
- Lead spiritually at home*
- Confess a hidden sin*
- Repair a relationship*
- Get involved in serving*
- Stop compromising at work*

*If possible, have them write it down.*

*Leader - consider writing them all down so you can check in with how it is going.*

### **Read** - James 1

James warns that hearing truth without acting on it leads to self-deception. Real faith shows up in real decisions.

### **Discussion**

- What stood out to you in James 1?
- Where do men most often struggle to move from hearing to doing?
- Why do conferences or sermons sometimes create emotion but not lasting change?
- What helps someone actually follow through on spiritual commitments?

### **Commitment**

This week each man names one small step toward the commitment he shared.

*Examples:*

- Set a daily alarm for prayer*
- Schedule a conversation*
- Install accountability software*
- Start reading James*
- Prayer*

**Pray** - Ask for a volunteer to pray for your group to have courage to act.

Week 2 - Uncommon Speech  
James 3 (esp.1-12) - "The tongue is small, but it makes great boasts."

**Check-In** - How did it go taking your step this week?

What went well?

Where did you struggle?

**Read** - James 3

James teaches that spiritual maturity is revealed by our words.

Our speech shapes:

marriages

friendships

workplaces

our witness.

**Discussion**

What stood out to you in James 3?

Where do men most often lose control of their words?

Which is harder to control:

anger

sarcasm

criticism

complaining?

How have someone else's words shaped your life?

What kind of speech reflects an uncommon man?

**Challenge**

Practice intentional speech this week.

Choose one:

Encourage someone daily

Refuse gossip

Pause before responding in frustration

Speak faith instead of negativity

**Prayer** - Ask a volunteer to pray asking for God to shape the way we speak.

Week 3 - Uncommon Priorities  
James 4 (esp. 1-10) - "Come near to God and he will come near to you."

**Check-In** - What did you notice about your words this week?  
Did anything surprise you?

**Read** - James 4

James points to the real issue behind most struggles: competing loves. We say we want God, but other things quietly take His place.

**Discussion**

What stood out to you in James 4?  
What tends to compete for men's devotion today?

*Common answers:*

*success*  
*money*  
*comfort*  
*approval*  
*control*  
*entertainment*

When life gets busy, what usually gets pushed out first?  
How do we recognize when something has become too important?

Where might God be inviting you to realign your life?

**Challenge**

Identify one adjustment:

*time*  
*habits*  
*priorities*  
*influences*

*Examples:*

*carve out time with God*  
*reduce screen time*  
*pursue reconciliation*  
*step into leadership at home*

**Pray** - Ask a volunteer to pray that God will guide us to reshape our priorities.

## Week 4 - Uncommon Perseverance

James 5 (esp. 7-20) - "Encourage one another so that none of you may wander."

**Check-In** - Looking back over the past few weeks, what has God been doing in your life?

**Read** - James 5

James ends by emphasizing perseverance and community. Faith is not meant to be lived alone. We help each other stay faithful.

### **Commitment**

Four weeks ago we asked:

What commitment did you sense God asking you to make at Uncommon?

Let's revisit that.

Invite each man to share:

What was your commitment?

What progress have you made?

What has been hard?

What do you need going forward?

### **Discussion**

What stood out to you from James 5?

Why do men struggle to sustain change on their own?

What kind of brotherhood actually helps men grow?

What would it look like for this group to continue supporting each other?

### **Next Step**

Encourage practical follow-through:

exchange numbers

accountability partners

prayer texts

meeting monthly

continuing as a group

**Prayer** - Pray specifically for the commitments shared.