

6th/7th November 2013
Hamilton Road Baptist Church

Home Group Study Notes



Crazy Love (Chapter 7)

Your best life.....later?

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The Christian faith hangs on the resurrection of the dead. Paul says that **“If there is no resurrection from the dead....our preaching is useless and so is your faith....For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile:..... If only for this life we have hope in Christ we are to be pitied more than all men”** 1Cor15v13-19

1. Take a minute to imagine that there was no resurrection from the dead. How would it impact on the way you live?

2. How is the way you live your life shaped by your belief in life after death?

3. Take some time to consider the things you value and pursue with your time, money and energy, the things that you find fulfilment in. What part does Christ play in these?

4. Our studies to date have considered the importance of complete surrender to God. As Christians we want to please God, but often on our own terms and providing it doesn't cause us too much discomfort.

- Is it possible to please God without wholehearted surrender?
- In what ways do you try to please God?

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Hebrews 11:6 says it is impossible to please God without faith. After this potent statement the rest of the chapter contains a long list of faithful people and what they did for God through faith. None are perfect but they all surrendered themselves to God through faith and God used them to accomplish amazing things.

Read Hebrews 11

5. Try and identify some of the characters. Think about the things God used these people to do and how foolish they would be if life ended with death.

- Which examples of faith inspire you most and why?
- What are you doing right now that requires faith?

Frances Chan points out that the solution to lukewarmness and the appropriate motivation for wholehearted surrender to God is love, the greatest commandment. Love is real and concrete. Love transforms us from the inside out; it should spread to every aspect of our existence.

Read 1 John 3:16-20 and 4:19-21.

6. From these passages how should love be manifest in our lives?

Watch the video for session 7 now.

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7. How do you respond to the challenge of becoming enemies of the cross (Phil3:18) by making your family/house your "home" and becoming so comfortable you do not look forward to God's Home in heaven?

8. All we have has been given to us by God (1Chron 29v14) We are only stewards and a key question for a steward is *what does the owner want me to do with what he has given me?*

- Do we have any possessions or resources God might be calling us to give to someone in need?

End this session by praying that God will work in your heart.

- Ask Him to show you distractions in your life and expose things that you desire more than you desire God.
- Ask him to decrease your desire for these things and increase your desire for Him.
- Ask him to multiply your love for Him to such an extent that it spills out into every area of your life and into the lives of the people He has placed in your life.

The next home group meeting is on 20th & 21st November when we will be looking at Chapters 8 and 9 of Crazy Love.

Notes will be on our church website for downloading but we will still have the usual printed notes for those who require them. Speak to your HG leader for details.